Below is an overview of the impact of the Mollie Ruprecht Fund for Visual Arts in 2014-15. The Ruprecht Fund sponsored four Ruprecht Visiting Artists this year, three of whom coordinated their talks with local exhibitions of their work. In addition, the Ruprecht Fund brought three artists to campus for class visits, and co-sponsored a workshop performance and a scholarly panel at the Fleming Museum.

Judy Natal was the first Ruprecht Visiting Artist of the year. Natal is a Chicago artist, author of *EarthWords* (Light Work, 2004) and *Neon Boneyard: Las Vegas A-Z* (Center for American Places, 2006). Her photographs are in the permanent public collections of the Museum of Contemporary Art, California Museum of Photography, Center for Creative Photography, the International Museum of Photography and Film at George Eastman House, and the Museum of Contemporary Photography, among others. Her work has been exhibited at Projects International and Photograph Gallery in New York City, the Nelson Atkins Museum, Kathleen Ewing Gallery, Washington, D.C., and the Sao Paulo Biennial. She has received numerous grants and fellowships including a Fulbright Travel Grant, Illinois Arts Council Photography Fellowships, Polaroid Grants and New York Foundation for the Arts Photography Fellowships. Natal presented a public lecture, *Illuminating the Present, Imagining the Future*, on October 8th in Williams Hall. On October 8th and 9th, Natal conducted individual critiques with eight Studio Art students. On October 9th, she met four students over lunch. She also gave guest lectures in the Integrated Fine Arts 012 class and the ARTS 137 Photography class. Judy’s work was concurrently featured in Burlington City Arts’ *Of Land and Local* exhibition, which opened during the week she spent in Burlington.
On February 18th, Ruprecht Visiting Artists Laurie Simmons and Louise Lawler joined UVM’s Nancy Dwyer (Professor, Studio Art), for a panel discussion in Williams Hall. Simmons has had solo exhibitions at P.S. 1, Walker Art Center, San Jose Museum of Art, and the Baltimore Museum of Art, among other venues. Her work has also appeared in the Wiener Internationale Biennale, Whitney Biennial (1985 and 1991), Bienal de São Paulo, Austrian Triennial on Photography in Graz, Open Ends: Minimalism and After at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and Last Picture Show at the Walker Art Center. She received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts in 1984, a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship in 1997, and a Roy Lichtenstein Residency in Visual Arts from the American Academy in Rome in 2005. Lawler has exhibited extensively throughout the United States and Europe. Recent solo exhibitions of her work have been held in institutions such as the Wexner Center in Ohio, Dia Beacon, and the Museum for Gugenwartskunst, Kunstmuseum Basel in Switzerland. She has also participated in exhibitions in major institutions such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the National Museum of Art in Oslo, and the Musée d’Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. Lawler has participated in two Whitney Biennials, and her work has been featured in multiple publications. Lawler and Simmons both had work concurrently on view at Burlington City Arts, in an exhibition on the Pictures Generation co-curated by UVM’s Anthony Grudin (Associate Professor, Art History).

Bill Jacobson, a New York City based photographer, was the year’s final Ruprecht Visiting Artist. Jacobson received a BA from Brown University (1977) and an MFA from San Francisco Art Institute (1981). He has exhibited widely in the US and abroad, and his work is in the collections of the Guggenheim Museum; The Whitney Museum of American Art; the Metropolitan Museum of Art; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; The Brooklyn Museum; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the Victoria and Albert Museum, and many others. He has received fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation in 2012, the Aaron Siskind Foundation in 1995, and the New York Foundation for the Arts in 1994. He has been invited to multiple residences in the US, including MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, The Edward Albee Foundation, and Blue Mountain Center, and also the Civitella Ranieri and the Bogliasco Foundations in Italy. Four monographs have been published of Jacobson’s work: bill jacobson...

In addition to these major visits, the Ruprecht Fund brought Penn Chann, Caleb Charland, and William R. Ment to campus to give guest class lectures. The Fund also co-sponsored a workshop performance of Janice “Gal” Perry’s *Naked at the Met* at the Fleming Museum, and a scholarly panel on Kara Walker in conjunction with an exhibition of the artist’s work at the Fleming Museum. The panel drew an overflow crowd of students, faculty, and members of the Burlington community.