PRESS RELEASE

THOMA FOUNDATION AND SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS PRESENT
“BETTER WORDS ABOUT BITS” IN NEW YORK CITY
INAUGURAL ARTS WRITING AWARDS WINNERS TALK ABOUT CRITICISM IN DIGITAL ART

WHEN          Tuesday, December 15, 2015
              6–7:30 p.m.

WHERE        School of Visual Arts
             133/141 West 21st Street, Room 101C
             New York City

New York, NY – On Tuesday, December 15th the Carl & Marilynn Thoma Art Foundation and the School of Visual Arts present “Better Words About Bits,” a conversation on the important role of arts criticism about digital art and technology. Jon Ippolito and Joanne McNeil, the inaugural awardees of the Thoma Foundation Arts Writing Awards in Digital Art, join Christiane Paul, for this discussion at the School of Visual Arts.

“Better Words About Bits” discusses strategies for improving the strained relationship of digital art to the mainstream worlds of art and technology that it straddles. It also how to help artworks in ephemeral media take their rightful place in the textbooks, collections and discourse by which art history is passed onto the future. Ippolito and McNeil will discuss how art writers can and are changing the landscape of writing about digital art.

Jon Ippolito is new media professor at the University of Maine, former media arts curator at the Guggenheim Museum and recent co-author of the book Re-collection: Art, New Media, and Social Memory. Joanne McNeil is a New York-based writer, 2014 Eyebeam resident, 2012 USC Annenberg/Getty Arts Journalism fellow and has written for publications such as Dissent, Domus and Frieze. The discussion is moderated by Christiane Paul, adjunct curator of new media arts at the Whitney Museum of American Art and associate professor in the School of Media Studies at The New School.

The program is free and open to the public and is presented by the Thoma Foundation and the School of Visual Arts’ MFA Fine Arts and MFA Arts Writing.

ABOUT THE THOMA FOUNDATION

The Carl & Marilynn Thoma Art Foundation recognizes the power of the arts to challenge and shift perceptions, spark creativity and connect people across cultures. The Foundation lends and exhibits artworks from its collection and supports innovative individuals and pivotal initiatives in the arts. The Foundation’s Arts Writing Awards in Digital Art are merit-based awards for emerging and
established arts writers who are working to advance research, scholarship and dialogue in the field of digital art. The 2016 Arts Writing Awards in Digital Art will be announced in April 2016.

For more information, please visit www.thomafoundation.org.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS
School of Visual Arts has been a leader in the education of artists, designers and creative professionals for more than six decades. With a faculty of distinguished working professionals, a dynamic curriculum and an emphasis on critical thinking, SVA is a catalyst for innovation and social responsibility. Comprised of more than 6,000 students at its Manhattan campus and 35,000 alumni in 100 countries, SVA also represents one of the most influential artistic communities in the world.

For more information, please visit www.sva.edu.

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