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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
MINT GALLERY'S 1st ANNUAL JURIED EXHIBITION: "LIVE AMATEURS"**

Atlanta, Georgia – [MINT](#) is proud to announce *Live Amateurs*, our 1st Annual Juried Exhibition to be hosted at MINT Gallery in Atlanta, GA in January 2014. Juried by artist [Craig Drennen](#), *Live Amateurs* will showcase the work of more than 50 of the most exciting emerging artists currently living and working in the Southeast United States.

Over 200 artists from all over the Southeast responded to MINT's call for artists. Says juror Craig Drennen, "When I was approached by MINT jury the *Live Amateurs* exhibition, I was hoping that we would get at least 30-40 applicants. As it turns out we received over 200 applicants from all over the Southeast... [the] volume of entries, as well as the physical limitations of the space, meant that some very strong artists had to be turned away."

The final roster includes artists from all over the Southeast working in media ranging from drawing and painting to sculpture and installation to video and performance. A list of all participating artists can be found on the following page.

The exhibition will be hosted at MINT Gallery in Atlanta, GA from January 11-February 7, 2014. Artists traveling to Atlanta for the opening of the exhibition will be given discounted accommodation at, our partner organization, the neighboring [Highland Inn](#). One artist will be selected for a solo exhibition to take place at MINT Gallery for six weeks in July and August of 2014. The artist will receive an honorarium for supplies provided by [Binders Art Supplies and Frames](#), free accommodation at the Highland Inn during the week of installation, as well as other financial and practical assistance provided by MINT.

An opening reception for *Live Amateurs* be held at MINT Gallery on Saturday, January 11 from 7-11pm with many of the participating artists in attendance. A closing reception for the exhibition will be held on Friday, February 7 from 7-11pm; the winning artist selected for the solo exhibition will be announced at the closing reception.

JUROR STATEMENT – The term "live amateurs" originated in the early days of adult entertainment, but lives on in the online environment. The terms "live" and "amateur" are presented as a sexier alternatives to recorded, scripted professionals. Within the art world it's not uncommon for the unpolished directness of amateurs to be valorized as authenticity. There are also plentiful cases of professionals shamelessly plundering the traits of amateurs. But it may simply be that emerging artists are amateurs in the early stages of turning pro. This exhibition at MINT gallery is meant to showcase the very best artistic qualities that "live amateurs" can provide.

JUROR BIO – Craig Drennen is an artist based in Atlanta, GA. He is represented by Samsøn gallery in Boston and Saltworks in Atlanta. His most recent solo exhibition was at Ellen de Bruijne Projects in Amsterdam, and he has shown at the Aqua, NADA, Volta, and MACO art fairs. His work has been reviewed in Artforum, Art in America, and The New York Times. He teaches drawing and painting at Georgia State University, served as dean of the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture from 2010-2013, and is on the board of Art Papers magazine.

MINT is a 501(c)3 non-profit volunteer run arts organization dedicated to cultivating a stronger creative community in Atlanta and throughout Georgia. We engage emerging artists, patrons, and creative professionals by providing studio and exhibition space, curatorial opportunities, workshops and classes, conferences, and other resources. MINT believes that through these programs we foster a generous spirit, strengthen the regional economy, and enrich the creative community. MINT is located at 636 N Highland Ave NE, Atlanta, GA 30306.

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ARTISTS FEATURED IN *LIVE AMATEURS* at MINT Gallery

John Alexander (GA) Adam Williams (FL)
Ransom Ashley (LA) Sam Winks (VA)
Amanda Baldwin (VA) Jessica Wohl (TN)
Consuela Boyer (GA) Rhea Wojcik (GA)
Jaime Bull (GA) Ion Yamazaki (GA)
Samantha Burns (FL)
Sarah Butler (GA)
Catherine Callero (GA)
Amy Chan (VA)
Chung-Fan Chang (MS)
Namwon Choi (GA)
Sam Crosby (LA)
Valentina Custer (GA)
Jonathan Duff (VA)
Adam Forrester (AL)
Jane Garver (GA)
Maggie Ginestra (GA)
Brock Gordon (GA)
Liz Guzman (VA)
Ashley Hamilton (TN)
Ira Hill (FL)
Harris Johnson (VA)
Elizabeth Kleene (GA)
Aaron Koehn (VA)
Igor Korsunskiy (GA)
Andrew Kozlowski (AL)
Taylor Lacey (VA)
Paul LaJeunesse (GA)
Eric Landes (FL)
Sophie Lvoff (LA)
Chipper McCall (GA)
Cobra McVey (GA)
Christine Navin (VA)
Alexandra Ortiz-Rountrey (NC)
Shannon Palumbo (GA)
Eric Raddatz (NC)
Jesse Rappaport (GA)
Cynzia Sanchez (GA)
Estela Semeco (GA)
Bronwen Sexton (FL)
Matthew Shelton (VA)
Matt Sigmon (GA)
Aaron Skolnick (KY)
Jordan Stubbs (GA)
Courtney Thayer (FL)
Kathleen Thum (SC)
Tori Tinsley (GA)
Jake Weigel (MS)
Julie Weinberger (GA)
Ally White (GA)