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Exhibit brings larger-than-life ceramic figures to UM gallery

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NEWS RELEASE

Nov. 23, 2009

Contact: Gallery of Visual Arts Director Cathryn Mallory, 406-243-2813, gallery.visarts@umontana.edu.

EXHIBIT BRINGS LARGER-THAN-LIFE CERAMIC FIGURES TO UM GALLERY

MISSOULA –

“Empathetic,” the MFA Thesis Exhibition of Kensuke Yamada, will be at the Gallery of Visual Arts at The University of Montana Dec. 3-17.

The exhibition, presented by the Gallery of Visual Arts and the UM School of Art, will open with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, at the gallery. The gallery is located on the first floor of UM’s Social Science Building, and the reception is free and open to the public.

Yamada creates larger-than-life ceramic figures that convey common universal attributes. The figures portray multiple emotions and often express the artist’s sense of humor. The placement of these towering figures in relation to one another, as well as their interaction with viewers, creates a powerful dialogue.

Yamada, who was born in Kamakura, Kanagawa, Japan, is interested in creating a narrative through the emotional relationship that occurs between his figures and the viewer. His work has been exhibited throughout the Pacific Northwest. In January he will be an artist in residence at the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts in **Helena.**

Gallery of Visual Arts hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday. For more information, call Cathryn Mallory, gallery director, at 406-243-2813 or visit the gallery’s Web site at <http://www.umt.edu/art/galleries/gva>.

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