Juror Statement

I am honored to serve as the juror for this year’s Juried International Exhibition at The Center for Contemporary Art. It was not an easy task to select forty works out of more than nine hundred submissions, but after reviewing the images several times, I came to settle on artworks which are visually arresting, intriguing, and well composed/constructed. Although there was a substantial number of photographic or digital works submitted, I made sure to balance my selection among a variety of mediums. The top prize winner, Jeremy Underwood, combines both photography and sculpture. He builds site-specific sculptures using debris, such as plastic bottles, found on the beaches and waterways of Houston, to address the issues of pollution. The second prize winner, Tae Eun Ahn, expresses various human conditions through bodily performance and interacting with clay. The third prize winner is Laura Ahola-Young, who uses mixed media on paper to reflect on environmental and biological concerns.