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**ARTISTS & CURATORS TO DISCUSS YOSHIDA AT PUBLIC PANEL;
"BEST SHOW OF THE YEAR" TO CLOSE FEB. 12**

The Peculiar and the Particular: A Conversation Inspired by Ray Yoshida
Thursday, February 3, at Noon at SAIC Sullivan Galleries

Chicago, IL — Curators **John Corbett** and **Jim Dempsey** will lead a public conversation in the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) Sullivan Galleries with artists **Art Green** (SAIC BFA 1965), **Tyson Reeder**, **Mary Lou Zelazny** (SAIC BFA 1980), and curator **Lisa Stone** (SAIC MSP 1998) on Thursday, February 3, at Noon. Held in conjunction with the exhibition ***Touch and Go: Ray Yoshida and His Spheres of Influence***, the panel will explore the impact of Ray Yoshida's unrelenting vision as an artist, teacher, and collector, and consider both its historical significance and its resonance in contemporary practices. The discussion is **free and open to the public**.

Touch and Go was named "likely the best show of the year in Chicago" by veteran gallerist and critic **Paul Klein** of the [Huffington Post](#) in November, and **Newcity** magazine selected the exhibition "[best art exhibit in the last year](#)" in its *Best of Chicago* issue published December 10. The exhibition is curated by John Corbett—an SAIC faculty member—and Jim Dempsey, house manager at SAIC's Gene Siskel Film Center.

Ray Yoshida's (1930–2009, SAIC BFA 1953) influence on generations of Chicago art students is legendary. **Art Green** was a student of Yoshida's and **Mary Lou Zelazny** worked closely with the painter, who was an SAIC faculty member for 44 years beginning in 1959. He was named Frank Harold Sellers Professor in the Department of Painting and Drawing at SAIC in 1971, retired as professor emeritus in 1998, and continued to teach until 2003. **Tyson Reeder** brings insight to the panel regarding Yoshida's continued influence on younger generations of artists, and **Lisa Stone**, curator of the [Roger Brown Study Collection](#), has extensive knowledge of the social and professional interactions among Yoshida and his peers.

SAIC's Sullivan Galleries are located at 33 South State Street, 7th Floor. *Touch and Go* remains on view there through February 12. Gallery hours are Tuesday–Saturday, 11 a.m.–6 p.m. For more information visit <http://www.saic.edu/exhibitions>

Ray Yoshida, a 72-page softcover **commemorative book** published in conjunction with the exhibition, is available at the Sullivan Galleries (\$35). The book features photographs of the artist's home-studio, images from his

sketchbooks, writings, and works-in-progress. With an introduction by SAIC Dean of Faculty Lisa Wainwright and an interview with the curators, it includes personal recollections by artist-colleagues Mark Booth, Susanne Doremus, Art Green, Ted Halkin, Philip Hanson, Richard Hull, Michiko Itatani, Thomas Kapsalis, Jin Soo Kim, Jim Nutt, Frank Piatek, Suellen Rocca, Barbara Rossi, Elizabeth Rupprecht, Rebecca Shore, Lisa Stone, Frank Trankina, Karl Wirsum, Jim Zanzi, and Mary Lou Zelazny.

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33 South State Street, 7th Floor

For more information: exhibitions-saic@saic.edu / 312.629.6635

About the School of the Art Institute of Chicago

A leader in educating artists, designers, and scholars since 1866, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) offers nationally accredited undergraduate, graduate, and post-baccalaureate programs to nearly 3,200 students from across the globe. Located in the heart of Chicago, SAIC has an educational philosophy that is built upon an interdisciplinary approach to art and design, giving students unparalleled opportunities to develop their creative and critical abilities, while working with renowned faculty who include many of the leading practitioners in their fields. SAIC's resources include the Art Institute of Chicago and its new Modern Wing; numerous special collections and programming venues provide students with exceptional exhibitions, screenings, lectures, and performances. For more information, please visit www.saic.edu.

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