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Minneapolis College of Art and Design Announces Erik Brandt as Chair of the Design Department

Minneapolis, MN—May 12, 2015—The Minneapolis College of Art and Design is pleased to announce the appointment of Erik Brandt as the chair of the design department. Brandt has been a faculty member at MCAD in the department for the past eight years, and most recently served as the interim chair of the department for the past two. With a studio practice that has encompassed all the areas of the department—graphic design, illustration, and comic art—Brandt has a unique perspective on MCAD’s strengths and possibilities. Along with department faculty, Brandt has already introduced curricular updates in digital publication, user experience, and professional practice.

With an international design practice and membership in Alliance Graphique Internationale (AGI), Erik brings a contemporary approach to design, and global connections for the department. Noted from the AGI mission: With membership by invitation only, the AGI unites the world’s leading graphics designers and artists in a professional association of common interest and achievement. Its members have been collectively responsible for the identity design of most of the world’s top corporations and institutions as well as for countless examples of globally known packaging, publications, illustration and posters. Along with two exhibitions of his work this summer in Moscow, Russia and Shenzhen, China, Brandt has been invited by Jianping. He will lead a nine-day workshop focused around his Ficciones Typografika project in Hangzhou, China.

Brandt holds an MFA in Visual Communication from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), and a BA in Philosophy from the College of William and Mary. Previous academic appointments include VCU Qatar and Pennsylvania State University. He maintains a practice in both applied and speculative fields, and has been internationally recognized for his graphic design practice and projects such as Ficciones Typografika. Brandt is the sole proprietor of Typografika: Visual Communication und Konditorei.

About the Minneapolis College of Art and Design

Recognized nationally and internationally for its innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to visual arts education, the Minneapolis College of Art and Design is home to more than 700 students and offers professional certificates, bachelor of fine arts and bachelor of science degrees, and graduate degrees.

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