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**Faculty Enhancement Grant Proposal**

## **Portugal Exhibition Project**

### **Abstract**

This application for a Faculty Enhancement Grant (FEG) is to support the creation of an innovative new series of mixed-media sculptures that will examine issues of representation in contemporary culture. These artworks will be presented in a solo exhibition during the Summer of 2010 at Zaum Projects Contemporary Art in Lisbon, Portugal. I am seeking a grant in the amount of \$9,904 in order to help realize this important professional opportunity.

### **Proposal**

The Faculty Enhancement Grant funding (FEG) will support the creation of this new body of artwork, documentation of the artwork, crating of the artwork, and shipment of the artwork to Lisbon, Portugal. Zaum Projects Contemporary Art currently represents my artwork in Portugal and this will be my first solo exhibition at the gallery as well as my first solo exhibition outside of the United States. I recently participated in a successful group exhibition at the gallery entitled "Start" which ran during May and June of 2008. The gallery's mission is to provide exposure to and promote the work of mid-career and emerging artists embracing new media and contemporary art practice that stretches beyond the scope of conventional approaches.

The mixed-media sculptures that will be created during much of the grant's project period (July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010) will be the centerpiece of the June 2010 exhibition at Zaum Projects. These artworks will examine issues of representation in contemporary culture by exploring how we depict and interpret ourselves, the created environment, and the natural world. Visually, these mixed-media sculptures will reference museum dioramas, cinema special effects, and industrial design. I am interested in the inherent artifice of these working modes, as I believe they act as a metaphor for our own strategies to exist in an uncertain world.

I will travel to Lisbon in order to personally oversee the installation of the exhibition and attend the opening. I will also conduct a public lecture at the gallery in order to share the concepts of my work with the community. In addition to applying for a Faculty Enhancement Grant I will be applying for a Professional Travel Grant in order to seek funding for my personal travel to and from Lisbon.

I am also planning to apply for an Oregon Arts Commission Career Opportunity Grant as I seek funding for this project.