



Fulton-Montgomery
Community College

Linda Stein
Have Art: Will Travel! Inc.
100 Reade Street
New York, NY 10013

January 11, 2014

Dear Linda,

It has been over a month since the closing of *The Fluidity of Gender* in the Perrella Gallery here at FMCC and people are still talking about the impact your show had on them. Hopefully you could see the genuine interest and positive response that our students and community had to your presentation and to your powerful work in the exhibition when you were on campus in October.

Generally, our gallery is known only as venue for contemporary art, but your exhibition certainly expanded the boundaries and function of art on our campus. Your exhibition had a wide and diverse viewership and it could have found no greater opportunity to make an impact as it did here. More than 1000 people came through the gallery and viewed your art. Your work and presentation enabled our faculty an opportunity to use *The Fluidity of Gender* as a valuable learning resource for courses as diverse as sociology, psychology, criminal justice, art appreciation as well as providing challenging writing topics for English and creative writing classes.

The Fluidity of Gender allowed viewers here a way to re-visit their ideas about the meaning of femininity and masculinity in our society. Your work challenged students and members of our community to see the pitfalls of viewing gender roles as a black and white choice with no variations on how we must conform to be accepted by society. A highlight of the whole experience was when students, staff (even our college president Dusty Swanger) and community guests participated enthusiastically in wearing your body sculpture. I can still see individuals that otherwise would be introverts responding to wearing your art. Each and every participant was empowered, each in their own way. The heartfelt dramatic reading by one of our students at the opening reception illustrated your arts power to motivate and empower.

I would like to thank you for sharing your powerful art with us here at FMCC. Your work has made a meaningful and lasting impression on us all. I personally enjoyed working with you over the course of half a year. Your positive, energetic and calm personality has made you an absolute delight to work with. I wish that every artist I work with was like you. I would enthusiastically endorse *The Fluidity of Gender* or any future projects that you do to any venue that seeks insightful art. May you keep on spreading the message of **Have Art: Will Travel!** Thank you again.

Joel Chapin
Curator, Perrella Gallery
Professor of Fine Art