

KINSEY *Today*

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4th Annual KI Juried Art Show

The KI Juried Art Show expands to 120 pieces of exhibited artwork, and moves to the SOFA Gallery in its fourth year. The show runs May 29th - July 31st.

Above: Christine Golden, (Bloomington, IN); *Strawberry #1*, 2008; Ceramic.

The mission of The Kinsey Institute is to promote interdisciplinary research and scholarship in the fields of human sexuality, gender, and reproduction. The Institute was founded in 1947 by renowned sex researcher Alfred Kinsey. Today, the Institute has two components, an Indiana University research institute and a not-for-profit corporation, which owns and manages the Institute's research data and archives, collections, and databases.

When The Baby Blues Linger – Investigating Postpartum Depression



Photo by Tim Simpson/Flickr

The birth of a child for many couples and families is a time of celebration. Yet, 10-15 percent of new mothers are overwhelmed with negative emotions and anxiety and may have trouble sleeping or lose their appetite for an extended period of time. It's a condition known as postpartum depression (PPD), a condition that can interfere with a new mother's ability to care for her baby.

Heather Rupp, assistant scientist at The Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender and Reproduction, has received a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to study the mechanisms behind postpartum depression.

"Not only can postpartum depression interfere with a new mother's ability to care for her newborn, it can be confusing and misunderstood by the woman and her family," Rupp said. "My colleagues and I will be investigating whether oxytocin, a hormone that reduces the physiological stress response and promotes social bonding, buffers new mothers against depression through its influences on their

neural responsiveness to stress, and whether this process is disrupted in some way in women suffering from postpartum depression."

Co-investigators are Julia Heiman, director of the The Kinsey Institute; Thomas James, assistant professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences and Kinsey Institute research fellow; Dale Sengelaub, professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences and Kinsey Institute senior research fellow; Ellen Ketterson, professor in the Department of Biology and Kinsey Institute senior research fellow; and Beate Ditzen, researcher at The University of Zurich in Switzerland.

The prefrontal-limbic system is a part of the brain that may be involved in maternal behavior. New mothers generally show changes in the responsiveness of the prefrontal-limbic system to infants in ways that differ from women who have not just given birth. New mothers may also show less sensitivity to stress. Additionally, women who suffer depression outside of the postpartum period show heightened responsiveness of the prefrontal-limbic system in response to stress, suggesting an overlap in circuits critical to maternal behavior and those altered by depression. It is unknown whether changes in this prefrontal limbic system are related to postpartum depression (PPD).

The mechanism for altered neural responsiveness in the postpartum period may involve oxytocin, which also occurs at higher levels in new mothers. It is hypothesized that this makes the new mother less affected, generally, by negative stressors from the outside world, but more responsive to her infant.

The study will involve three groups of women -- new mothers who are not depressed, new mothers with PPD, and women who have never given birth. Using fMRI technology, Rupp and her colleagues will compare brain activity in the three groups in response to a series of images. Some of the women will also receive an oxytocin nasal spray. The study results will provide a better understanding of brain activity in women with postpartum depression, and the role of oxytocin in the early stages of motherhood.

Spring Research Update (cont.)

Developing Better Tools to Measure Female Sexual Response

One of the challenges of research into issues of female desire and sexual response is the lack of instruments that accurately capture the complex interplay of genital changes in women. Most research instruments are only able to monitor one parameter at a time and are not easily combined with additional sources of stimulation needed, for example, to study the role of sexual arousal in anorgasmia.

Kinsey Institute researchers Drs. Erick Janssen and Julia Heiman, together with Dr. Ben Sachtler of Corpora Systems, Inc. and Wendy Kinsey Corning, M.D., are pursuing a project to develop a new instrument that can monitor several parameters in female genitalia simultaneously. The new device facilitates clitoral and vaginal stimulation and measurements that are less intrusive during more advanced stages of arousal.

The project has already moved through Phase 1, which involved testing a fully functioning prototype. Users likened fitting the vaginal probe to inserting a menstrual tampon, which suggests it will be easy for subjects to use. In Phase 2, the system will be refined and tested more extensively, in a larger group of women. The result would be an instrument that could be used in both basic and clinical research, with potential for direct application in clinical practice as well. The study is funded through the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, NIDDK, a division of NIH.

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Justice Michael Kirby Honored by IU

On May 9th, 2009, noted international human rights advocate the Honorable Michael Kirby, recently retired from the Australian High Court and a former member of the KI Board of Governors, received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Indiana University, and addressed students at IU's graduation ceremony.

You can listen to an excerpt of Justice Kirby's 2009 commencement speech online at http://broadcast.iu.edu/ceremon/comm2009/kirby_short_2.asx

Michael Kirby served as a Justice of the Australian High Court from 1996 to 2009. As a prominent jurist, he asserted the importance of the independent judiciary: "Judges are not there to do the popular thing. They are to do what they consider is right and required by law. And the fact that other people may disagree with it doesn't disturb your psyche in the slightest. They may be right, they may be wrong, but your duty is to do what you think is right."¹

His strong voice for human rights has been a hallmark of his legal career, and at **Indiana University commencement**, on May 9,



2009, he spoke about his debt to Alfred Kinsey and to IU President, Herman Wells, who defended Kinsey's right to research sexual behavior, and to exalt The Kinsey Institute:

He spoke up for The Kinsey Institute as an international center of sex research:

"...let me tell you, the Kinsey Institute on Sex, Gender and Reproduction is not sufficiently loved and cherished and appreciated in Indiana University. Maybe some people still feel ashamed, embarrassed. So I have come back to Bloomington, once again, to tell them to get over it. And to tell you how important the research done in this place has been for me and for millions of people like me and their loved ones in the four corners of the world. For people you and I will never know. For people often threatened with violence and even death. For people who hide their face and who suffer stigma and who are outcasts, in a kind of international sexual apartheid. For people who are frightened, above all, about their own reality. It is Kinsey and Wells of Indiana University who brought those people hope and dignity. I can tell you, it is a most precious gift. It has helped to change the world. Indiana USA and its great University can be proud of the contribution."²

These strong words and bold public pronouncements are not new to those who have followed Kirby's support of human rights at home and abroad.

At home in Australia, he was part of seminal decisions regarding aboriginal rights, and in 1991, was awarded the Australian Human Rights Medal. In the international sphere, he served as the UN Special Representative for Human Rights in Cambodia from 1993 to 1996, and was a member of the UNESCO International Bioethics Committee from 1995 to 2005, where he chaired the group that drafted the Universal Declaration of Bioethics and Human Rights, adopted in 2005.

Mr. Kirby's influence has been felt in the domain of sexuality rights and research. He served as a member of the Inaugural Global Commission on AIDS of the World Health Organisation in 1988-92. From 1984 to 2001, he served on the International Commission of Jurists, an international human rights non-governmental organization, and as President encouraged the inclusion of human sexuality among human rights. In 2001-2 he was chairperson of the UNAIDS Expert Panel on HIV Testing of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, and in 2004 became a member of the UNAIDS Global Reference Panel on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights.

When asked in a 2004 interview what inspired him, Justice Kirby replied, ". . . Love of fellow human beings. Of an appreciation of justice. A feeling that I have a duty and an opportunity, within the law, to do what I can to prevent the pain and misery and sense of awfulness that injustice can cause. . ." ³

¹ *Interview with Justice Michael Kirby: Leadership*, High Court of Australia, 29 March 2004.

² *Indiana University Commencement Address, May, 2009*. (PDF)

³ *Interview with Justice Michael Kirby: Leadership*, High Court of Australia, 29 March 2004.

More About Michael Kirby Available On The Web:

Indiana University Commencement Address, May 9, 2009 (PDF)

<http://www.kinseyinstitute.org/newsletter/sp2009/Justice%20Michael%20Kirby%20-%20INDIANA%20UNIVERSITY%20COMMENCEMENT%20ADDRESS%20MAY%202009.pdf>

IU Home Pages, April 2009: <http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/normal/10575.html>

More About Michael Kirby Available On The Web, continued:

Australian High Court transcripts and list of speeches by former Justice Kirby:
http://www.hcourt.gov.au/publications_05_2.html#MichaelKirby

Watch Mr. Kirby's October 2006 Branigan Lecture presented at IU:

Alfred Kinsey and His Continuing Impact on the Human Rights of Sexual Minorities
http://video.indiana.edu:8080/ramgen/ip/ias/Michael_Kirby_Lecture.rm
(RealPlayer Video)

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KI Appoints Dr. Heather Rupp to Assistant Scientist



KI congratulates Dr. Rupp on her new appointment.

The Kinsey Institute is pleased to announce the appointment of [Dr. Heather Rupp](#) as Assistant Scientist. A graduate of Emory University, Dr. Rupp first joined The Kinsey Institute and Indiana University in 2007 as a Research Fellow at The Kinsey Institute and the Center for the Integrative Study of Animal Behavior at IU.

Through her postgraduate career, she investigated the influence of hormones in the brain on sexual behaviour. Her recent research has included an eye-tracking study comparing reactions to visual sexual stimuli in men and women, and a project using fMRI technology to track neural activation in women in response to pictures of men's faces.

Dr. Rupp is currently involved in a new investigation into possible hormonal factors that contribute to the development of postpartum depression in some new mothers. You can read more about it in our newsletter article on new research.

Spring Visitors to the Institute

In May, The Kinsey Institute welcomed Dr. Charlotta Löfgren-Mårtenson as Visiting Scholar from Malmö University in Sweden. Dr. Löfgren-Mårtenson is an Associate Professor in Health and Society with specialization in sexology, and is the program coordinator of the Masters In Sexology program at Malmö, established in 2007.

Dr. Löfgren-Mårtenson is interested in the sexuality of young people with intellectual disabilities, experience of pornography among youth in Sweden, and love and sexuality on the internet. She has published on her research, and has also written material for popular audiences, such as *A Handbook on Sex Education in Special Schools*.

At the KI, Dr. Löfgren-Mårtenson is collaborating on research and education between the KI and Malmö. While in Bloomington, she was conducting research on disability inclusion in original Kinsey data and codebooks, and attended seminars with researchers and students. She also presented a seminar, "May I?" *Sexuality and Love in a New Generation with Intellectual Disabilities* which will soon be available on the KI website.



KI Visiting Scholar Dr. Charlotta Löfgren-Mårtenson of Malmö University, Sweden.



Left to right: Anne Kinsey Call, Kevin Kinsey, Lisa Kinsey Weber, and Wendy Kinsey Corning, M.D.

In April, members of the Kinsey family came by for a tour of The Kinsey Institute. Alfred ("Prok") and Clara ("Mac") Kinsey's daughter Anne and grandchildren from Michigan, Ohio and Indiana toured the Institute, where they met with staff and researchers, sharing stories and viewing documents and photographs from the archives and collections.

April also brought the [The Kinsey Institute Board of Governors and Board of Trustees](#) to Bloomington for a semi-annual meeting. The Kinsey Institute boards draw their members from a variety of professions and expertise; they advise the Institute and oversee the growth, protection, and use of research and collections.

Lauren Robel, Dean of the Mauer School of Law at Indiana University, and Claude Cookman, professor in the Indiana University School of Journalism, lead the institute's Board of Governors and Board of Trustees. Michael Sherrod, chair-elect of the Board of Governors, specializes in digital communities, and has worked as vice-president at AOL, The Generations Network, and Examiner.com.

Spring Visitors to the Institute (continued)



Left to right: Board of Trustees Chair Professor Claude Cookman, Board of Governors Chair Dean Lauren Robel, and Board of Governors Chair-Elect Michael Sherrod.



Above: KI Senior Research Scientist Dr. Virginia Vitzthum speaks about her research at the fall 2008 Board of Governors and Board of Trustees joint meeting.



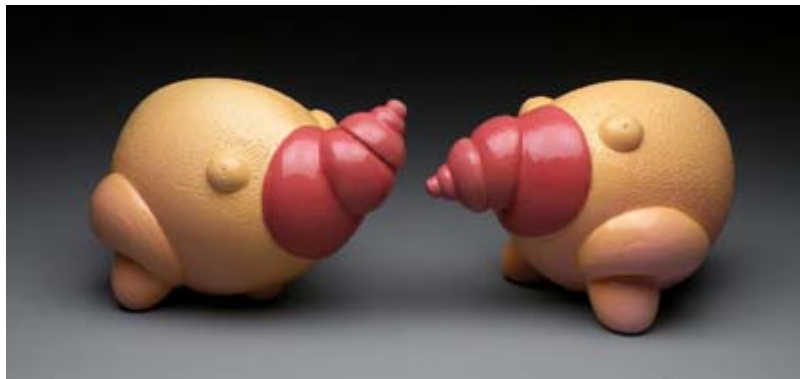
In February, members of the Kinsey Sicks Dragapella Barbershop Quartet were in town for the Midwest Bi Lesbian Gay Trans Ally College Conference, and came by to visit the Institute. Drawing their name from the "Kinsey scale," the group presents current issues in sexuality, gender and politics through music and humor. Even off the stage, they are entertaining, and certainly livened up the day as they toured the gallery and met KI staff.

Left: The Kinsey Sicks, with LZ Granderson of ESPN.

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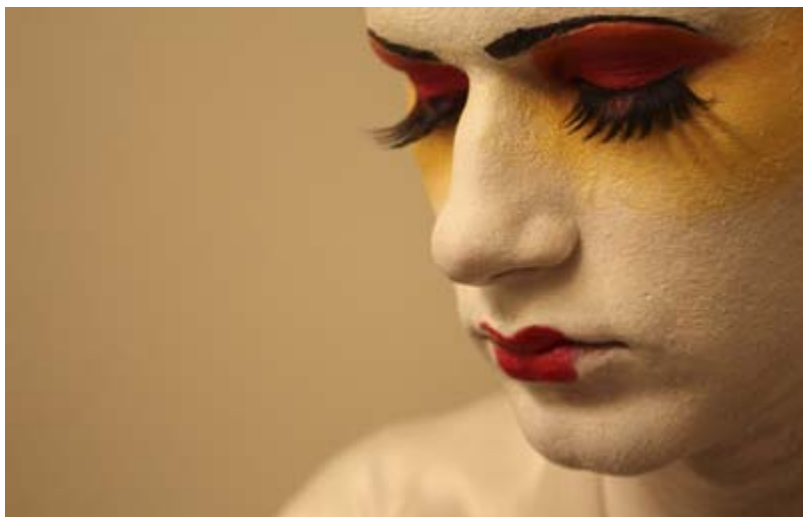
Fourth Annual Kinsey Institute Juried Art Show Opens May 29th

The Kinsey Institute 2009 Juried Art Show features paintings, prints, photographs, ceramics, wearable art, metalwork, fiber art, and video installations by a mix of local, national, and international artists. The artworks explore themes related to sex, gender, eroticism, reproduction, sexuality, romantic relationships, and the human figure. The juror for the 2009 competition was Jennifer Cahn, an art historian who is the curator at the Brownsville Museum of Fine Art in Texas.



Above: Cara Jung (Erie, Pennsylvania); *Tit Tats: Juicy Orange*, n.d.; Slip cast and assembled stoneware.

The Kinsey Institute Juried Art Show is marking its fourth year with a change of venue. Due to the ever increasing number of submissions, a larger space was needed to allow more works to be accepted for the exhibition. Moving the show from The Kinsey Institute to the Indiana University School of Fine Arts Gallery has allowed it to expand from 80 pieces in last year's exhibition to 120 artworks in this year's show.



At left: Sarah Taavola (Hartland, Wisconsin); *Will You Malign Me? (Part 2)*, 2009; Digital photograph.

The SoFA Gallery, located in the Fine Arts Building at 1201 E. 7th Street in Bloomington, is open noon to 4:00 Tuesday through Saturday. A public reception for the 2009 Juried Art Show will be held on Friday, May 29, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the SoFA Gallery.

In addition, The Kinsey Institute welcomes out of town visitors and others to see the *Eros in Asia* exhibition in The Kinsey Institute Gallery at an open house on Saturday, May 30.

Visit the Kinsey Institute Juried Art Show website for more information on artworks and planned events online at the Kinsey Institute website at www.KinseyInstitute.org/services/gallery/jeas.

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Documenting Same-Sex Marriage

As the debate and changes unfold at a dizzying speed around the right to marry, The Kinsey Institute is growing an archive of material on the topic for current and future scholars to document and analyze this social, legal, and cultural phenomenon.

Right: These same-sex marriage dolls, donated to the Kinsey Institute by Kenneth Anger, are designed to top wedding-cakes.



A search for titles in the library, using keywords 'gay marriage,' revealed over 60 entries, including George Chauncey's authoritative *Why Marriage: The History Shaping Today's Debate Over Gay Equality*; legal advocate Evan Wolfson's *Why Marriage Matters: America, equality, and gay people's right to marry*; Suzanna Walters' provocative *All the Rage: the story of gay visibility in America*; and an audio recording from the Brookings Institute, *A Matter of Faith: Religion in the 2004 Presidential Election*. Along with the published books, there are numerous magazines and pamphlets covering news, events, and legal decisions concerning same-sex marriage.

Besides these current holdings, the Kinsey library staff compiled more than 40 bibliographies in the 1980s, including a one entitled "Homosexual Marriages" (PDF).



At left: Eric and Sean, one of several photographs donated by photographer Herbert Ascherman Jr.

This document lists 118 citations, from articles, books and pamphlets on same-sex parenting, laws, sex, psychology, and other issues related to gay and lesbian relationships. Included in the citations is a 1943 article from *Psychoanalytic Review*, the "Psychological Implications of the Male Homosexual Marriage" and a *Journal of Family Law* comment on "Constitutional Aspects of the Homosexual's Right to a Marriage License."

Digging more deeply into the catalog, might reveal personal diaries of long-term same-sex unions, or cross-cultural accounts of commitment ceremonies.

The Kinsey Institute art collection holds a growing number of images of same-sex pairs. Cleveland artist Herbert Ascherman Jr. has been taking portraits of gay and lesbian couples for years, and he is now donating these prints to the Institute's contemporary photography collection. Our most regular contributor, Kenneth Anger, recently sent an addition to his archive - two pairs of three-inch tall same-sex partners, destined for the top of a wedding cake.

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New Gifts to the Art Collection

With the help of funds donated to support the art collection, the Institute has acquired a rare German Renaissance engraving by Hans Sebald Beham (1500-1550).

Titled *Chastity of Joseph*, the print depicts an event from the Book of Genesis, in which Potiphar's wife makes an unsuccessful attempt to seduce Joseph, a slave trusted by Potiphar to run his household. Although many artists have illustrated this scene, Beham's version is unusual as Joseph is shown nude with an erect penis.

Right: H.S. Beham, *Chastity of Joseph*, 1526, engraving



Among the new donations to the Kinsey art collection are works by the American photographer Herb Ritts (1952-2002), including this portrait of Olympic diver and AIDS education advocate Greg Louganis.

The Herb Ritts Foundation gave four photographs to The Kinsey Institute art collection in 2006, and also donated several books of Ritts' work for the Kinsey Institute library.

At left: Herb Ritts, *Greg Louganis*, Hollywood, 1985, gelatin silver print, ©Herb Ritts Foundation.

Upcoming International Sex Research Conferences

41st Annual Conference of the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors, and Therapists (AASECT) -
Glendale/Phoenix, AZ - May 13-17, 2009

AASECT is a group of healthcare professionals and individuals who share an interest in promoting understanding of human sexuality and healthy sexual behavior. A preliminary conference program (pdf) is available at <http://educator.widener.edu/~aasect/index.html>. Register online at http://www.aasect.org/ce_test_login.asp?con=Y.

19th World Congress for Sexual Health - Goteborg, Sweden - June 21-25, 2009

The 2009 congress theme is *Sexual Health & Rights: A Global Challenge*. Presented by the World Association for Sexual Health, which works to promote sexual health worldwide. Congress details available online at <http://www.sexo-goteborg-2009.com/>

35th Annual Meeting of the International Academy of Sex Research (IASR) - San Juan, Puerto Rico - August 19-22, 2009

The International Academy of Sex Research (IASR) is a scientific society whose objectives are the promotion of high standards of research and scholarship in the field of sexual behavior by fostering communication among scholars engaged in such research. You may download the meeting program at <http://www.iasr.org/sites/default/files/IASR%20PRProgMar09.pdf> (PDF file).

2009 Annual Meeting of The Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS) - Puerta Vallarta, Mexico - November 5-7, 2009

The 2009 conference theme is *Sexual Literacy: Health and Rights in Cultural Context*. SSSS is an international organization dedicated to the advancement of knowledge about sexuality, and is the oldest organization of professionals interested in the study of sexuality in the United States. Information about the Annual Meeting, and regional conferences is available on the SSSS website at http://sexscience.org/events/index.php?category_id=497.

More conference listings can be found on the Kinsey Institute website at www.KinseyInstitute.org/resources/conf-tab.html

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Indiana University | Morrison Hall 313 | 1165 East Third Street | Bloomington, IN 47405 USA
812.855.7686 | FAX 812.855.8277 | www.kinseyinstitute.org

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