CHICAGO, IL. | Through a collection of simulated figures and environments, *versus Reality* deconstructs stereotypical images of female identity advanced by male-dominated 3D entertainment and gaming industries. Harnessing cutting edge digital technologies, artists Hiba Ali (BFA/BAVCS 2013), Sanglim Han (BFA 2013), Snow Yunxue Fu (MFA 2014), Katie Torn (MFA 2012), Amanda VanValkenburg (MFA 2013), and Darya Zorina (BFA 2013) represent a new generation of women staking claim in a once-conformist visual field. Works compose a network of virtual spaces that depicts multiple views of femininity.

“The world of gaming and new media was and still remains a male-dominated industry where men create images of women,” says exhibition co-curater Hiba Ali. “Women in the field are now positioning themselves in and around a discourse of feminism and archetypes of femininity. We are actively authoring our own self-images.”

“*versus Reality* expresses a range of positions, but at the same time, reflects each artist’s knowledge that they are challenging the homo-social visual culture that exists within entertainment and gaming industries,” adds co-curator Snow Yunxue Fu. “Together, works create a space to deconstruct and critique the notion of female identity, rather than redefine it.”

Artists exhibit the advanced use of 3D imaging technology through a diverse range of mediums. Sanglim Han’s interactive video game invites viewers to inhabit a digital body. A digital floor projection by Hiba Ali speaks to feminism through lyricism and poetic text. In an installation by Snow Yunxue Fu, stacked video blocks set against a curved wall reference the body, architecture, and painterly abstraction. Darya Zorina’s projected video engulfs the viewer in the trope of a magical garden. Additional video works by Katie Torn and Amanda VanValkenburg simulate surreal virtual landscapes and monuments.

THE LEROY NEIMAN CENTER GALLERY

OCTOBER 3 - OCTOBER 24, 2013

OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 4:00-5:30 P.M.

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312.899.7440 | 37 South Wabash Ave., Suite 106, Chicago, IL 60603.
Monday - Friday, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Saturday, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Alternate times by appointment.

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