The Northern Illinois University Art Museum is excited to present *Manly Men, Girly Girls and Everybody in Between*, a group exhibition featuring work by ten contemporary artists. This show will be held in the Rotunda and South Galleries of the NIU Art Museum from **August 26th – November 15th, 2014.** A public reception will be held on **September 11th from 4:30pm – 6:00pm**, directly followed by a lecture with Visiting Artist Mariette Pathy Allen.

This exhibition explores expressions of the sex/gender continuum in the arts. The artwork on view poses questions about how we see ourselves or how others perceive us, in addition to recognizing the broad spectrum of gender identity.

For example, photographer **Mariette Pathy Allen** has been documenting the transgender community for over thirty-five years. During this period, she has been welcomed into the lives of many as she has captured their transitions from who they once were into physically becoming the people they find themselves to be on the inside. Her photographs are intimate and humane—they gently challenge traditional notions of gender, sexuality and beauty.

In terms of addressing how we see ourselves or how others see us, **Hana Pesut’s Switcheroo** series sheds light on these perceptions by capturing a simple sociological experiment. By asking couples who pose for her to exchange clothing and posture, Pesut masterminds a gender “switcheroo” between these couples that is subtle—sometimes comical—but always intended to question our notion of what it is to be masculine or feminine.

**A complete list of exhibiting artists includes:** Bren Ahearn, Mariette Pathy Allen, Kelli Connell, Paul D’Amato, Sean Fader, Jennifer Greenburg, Bill Harrison, Hana Pesut, Libby Rowe and Michelle Sank.

The NIU Art Museum is located on the first floor, west end of Altgeld Hall, on the campus of Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, 60115. Hours are Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. Group tours may be arranged by appointment. More information about our exhibitions may be found on our website: www.niu.edu/artmuseum.

Funded in part by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; Friends of the NIU Art Museum; and the Dean’s Circle of the College of Visual and Performing Arts at NIU. Additional support came from the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center and the divisions of Women’s Studies, and Gender Studies, NIU.

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Artist: Mariette Pathy Allen
Title: Chloe, Kim, and Era, at the piers, NYC
Media: Photograph
Date: Early ‘90s from The Gender Frontier, 2003

Artist: Hana Pesut
Title: from the Switcheroo series
Media: Photograph

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High resolution images will be sent as a separate attachment.