

For Immediate Release:

Jay Ryan: Flock

NIU Art Museum, DeKalb, IL March 24 – May 9, 2009.

**Jay Ryan: Flock** showcases a large selection of colorful limited-edition silkscreen posters produced in Ryan's studio "The Bird Machine". The North Gallery will recreate studio walls, with posters tacked up from floor to ceiling.

Jay Ryan is recognized as one of poster art's most prolific and talented artists creating posters for bands, concerts and book covers. Driven less by technological fads than by old-fashioned visual inventiveness and hard work, Ryan's gigposter designs have become highly sought-after worldwide. He has been described as a genius who "knows what matters and what doesn't... getting the idea across but having the image matter." Art Chantry wrote "His color sense is astonishing and, at this point, unmatched in the contemporary poster world". Ryan's work has been described as colorful, inventive, and often very funny.

This exhibition is part of our spring Printmaking Suite that includes **The Mayor of Palookaville**: hand printed, hand bound books by David Johnson; **Images of Death and Life**: Käthe Kollwitz prints and **Moonlight Cocktails are the Thing**: a retrospective of the distinguished career of printmaker and NIU Professor Emeritus, David Driesbach . The reception for the spring Printmaking Suite will be Thursday April 2, from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Jay Ryan will be conducting a screen printing workshop at the NIU School of Art Friday April 3 – Tuesday April 7. He will also present a lecture on Monday April 6 at 5:00 p.m. in room 100 VAB/Jack Arends Hall. Jay's band Dianoga will perform a concert at The House, 263 Lincoln Highway, DeKalb, Saturday April 4. The concert begins at 8:00 p.m. with the bands "Picture Books" and "Loose Lips Sink Ships" – tickets are \$8.00 each.

The NIU Art Museum is located on the first floor, west end of Altgeld Hall, the "castle," at the northwest corner of College and Castle Drives on the NIU campus in DeKalb. The galleries are open to the public Tuesday – Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday 12 noon – 4 p.m., and by appointment for group tours. Special Sunday hours will be held on March 29 from 10:30 – 1:00 in conjunction with the Southern Graphics Council Conference trip to DeKalb for a day of print exhibitions.

(More)

Exhibitions are free; donations are appreciated. Pay parking is available in the Visitor's Lot on Carroll Avenue and at metered spots in front of Altgeld Hall. Free parking is available on Saturdays and during receptions and visiting artist lectures in the lot northeast of Gilbert and College Drives. The exhibitions of the NIU Art Museum are funded in part by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, the Friends of the NIU Art Museum, and the Arts Fund 21.

For more information please visit our website: [www.niu.edu/artmuseum](http://www.niu.edu/artmuseum), telephone 815-753-1936 or e-mail [darntzen@niu.edu](mailto:darntzen@niu.edu). Photographs are available upon request.