

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**RIA BRODELL'S *BUTCH HEROES* SERIES AT THE DAVIS MUSEUM  
COMMEMORATED WITH LIMITED-EDITION SIGNED CARDS**

**Proceeds Support New Fund for Acquisition of Works  
By or About the LGBTQI community.**



WELLESLEY, Mass. – Boston-based artist Ria Brodell has captured the attention of critics and media nationally and locally with the *Butch Heroes* series, which have been recently acquired by, and are on view at the Davis Museum at Wellesley College. These meticulously researched and beautifully rendered historical paintings depict transgender individuals throughout history. In these small portraits, Brodell addresses issues of gender, sexuality, and spirituality across centuries and geography through the depiction of queer individuals about whom generally little is known. The press release for the

exhibition can be found [here](#).

The Davis Museum is pleased to announce the availability of a limited-edition boxed set of cards reflecting *Butch Heroes* at the Museum shop. The sets, which have been printed in a small edition of 150, feature 14 reproductions from Brodell's *Butch Heroes* series of original gouache paintings. Each includes a biography and bibliography, thoroughly researched and compiled by the artist. In addition, the set features a special gold printed edition card, hand signed and numbered by the artist, and an informational insert on the project. The limited-edition boxed sets are available for \$240. Single, unsigned prints from the series, packaged with an informational insert card inside a specialty vellum envelope, are available for \$25.



**Proceeds from sales of the Brodell editions support an acquisitions fund for works by or about the LGBTQI community.** The Davis is committed to fostering an inclusive collection and environment, and standing as a leader among museums for enhancing accessibility, diversity, equity, and excellence. The Davis famously created the *Art-Less* exhibition last year demonstrating the critical

role that immigrants to the United States have played in the arts, both in their creative contributions as well as in their stewardship of the visual arts. A companion t-shirt was created for the *Art-Less* initiative with proceeds from those sales contributing toward a fund to acquire art made by immigrants. The Brodell editions are another example of the Davis Museum's commitment to creating deliberately inclusive programs that are welcoming for all.

### **Artist's Talk on April 11**

The Davis Museum will host an artist's talk with Ria Brodell on **Wednesday, April 11, at 12:30 p.m.** During this event, Brodell will discuss the research and process involved in the creation of the painting series, *Butch Heroes*. The limited-edition boxed sets and single cards will be available at this talk. Please visit the Davis Museum's [website](#) for more information on this [event](#).

### **About the artist**

Ria Brodell is a Boston-based artist known for creating works of art that addresses issues of gender identity, sexuality, religion, and contemporary culture. Brodell studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and received a BFA from Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle, and an MFA from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts/Tufts University. Brodell has had solo and group exhibitions throughout the US and has been featured in several local and national art trade publications. More information can be found at: <https://www.riabrodell.com/>

### **ABOUT THE DAVIS MUSEUM**

One of the oldest and most acclaimed academic fine arts museums in the United States, the Davis Museum is a vital force in the intellectual, pedagogical and social life of Wellesley College. It seeks to create an environment that encourages visual literacy, inspires new ideas, and fosters involvement with the arts both within the College and the larger community.

### **ABOUT WELLESLEY COLLEGE AND THE ARTS**

The Wellesley College arts curriculum and the highly acclaimed Davis Museum are integral components of the College's liberal arts education. Departments and programs from across the campus enliven the community with world-class programming— classical and popular music, visual arts, theatre, dance, author readings, symposia, and lectures by some of today's leading artists and creative thinkers—most of which are free and open to the public.

Since 1875, Wellesley College has been the preeminent liberal arts college for women. Known for its intellectual rigor and its remarkable track record for the cultivation of women leaders in every arena, Wellesley—only 12 miles from Boston—is home to some 2,400 undergraduates from 49 states and 58 countries.

### **Image credit:**

Picture of Ria Brodell signing cards  
Photography courtesy Clif Stoltze

Boxed Set of *Butch Heroes* cards  
Photography courtesy Davis Museum at Wellesley College

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Media Contact: Mary Agnew  
617-512-7489, [Magnew@wellesley.edu](mailto:Magnew@wellesley.edu)  
*High-resolution images and interviews available upon request.*