



CORN CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS
THE NORMAN SHANNON AND EMMY LOU P. ILLGES GALLERY

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BO BARTLETT CENTER

JANUARY 18 - MARCH 25, 2022

IN SYNC

By Daricia Mia DeMarr

In the shadow of 2020, the world has begun to rebound from an unprecedented pandemic and turbulent social justice clashes that have leveled all aspects of life. It is a time where introspection is nearly impossible to avoid, especially for artists. As interpreters of life experience, artists often directly or indirectly reveal who we are as humans. Artists have been witnesses documenting our past and present. They influence the future. In the ways that artists bear witness, they are perhaps the most qualified to serve as educators, to be in a constant process of teaching and learning with each passing year and class. As art educators and artists, the significance of this time cannot be understated. On the horizon of 2022, the aftermath of the past few years and continued turmoil has infused artwork with a tremendous degree of intention. The art department faculty of talented artists at Columbus State University are no exception.

Like individual stars in a constellation, the CSU faculty artists each glow with an independent light while also joining to formulate a cohesive unit. Much like constellations serve as a wayfinding guide to travelers, the CSU art department faculty work as examples and guides to students. With facilities that rival top-tier art institutions and dedicated faculty studios, each faculty artist is well positioned to produce high-quality artwork while also serving students. The spacious Illges and Bo Bartlett Center galleries located in the art department complex serve to support the university and students but also as a robust exhibition space for all. Teaching at CSU provides a tremendous advantage to artists by offering a place to work and exhibit.

Columbus State University sits on the border of Alabama and Georgia. The art department is located downtown where the atmosphere is buzzing with activity from the Chattahoochee riverfront districts and the city traffic. The street vibe is

progressive and allows for fresh perspectives to engage the many historical plaques commemorating Civil War era events. This juxtaposition of past, present, and future flavors Columbus with an unusual appeal and perhaps creative inspiration.

The studio art program at CSU runs the gamut of coursework, from ceramics to photography, printmaking to sculpture, animation to installation and more. These courses are led by experienced artists, many of whom have traveled and exhibited extensively. In the sweltering summer months of 2021, I was invited to the studios of several of the art faculty. I discovered slight similarities in their practices, traces of overlap in their conceptual focus, ideas, or style. These understated connections proved to be fascinating given the divergence of media and background of each artist. From use of materials, media, and concept these artists are somehow in sync in unique and curious ways.

Dance is central to Demetrius Dukes' ethereal, digital animation 'Bestials Passage' and Kyle Hooten's series of energetic drawings interpreting Drag show performances. Where Hooten's compositions incorporate a reductionist approach utilizing simple color pens and copy paper, Dukes' dancer is the result of countless hours of digital design. Both are navigating a space of creation in conversation with movement in the physical world.

Elizabeth McFalls is a printmaker and mixed media artist. Orion Wertz is an illustrator and painter. In composition and concept, their work shares an edginess, an unsettling tension where darkness is balanced with sharp visual narratives. Both McFalls and Wertz engage in exposing unsettling aspects of human nature such as instability, death, and the struggles of modern life.

Hannah Israel and Joe Sanders incorporate paper components in their work. They use paper shapes to produce complex yet simplistic compositions that are the result of creative improvisation. They are each responding to the way shapes or forms interact with each other following stages of cutting. Israel paints her cut surfaces, and Sanders produces and replicates monoprints.

Material and form are paramount for Yuichiro Komatsu and Robert Lefler II. Komatsu's abstract, minimalist spheres are glazed and textured, giving them a futuristic yet organic quality. Negative spaces are focal points of these objects; they appear to pierce the wall from an unseen void. Lefler's sculptures are made of wood and stone. The elements are in direct conversation with each other. Lefler collects stone and other organic objects and crafts wood compositions in response to them. Much like Komatsu's works, the opposition of textures and negative space offers a serene visual experience.

Michael McFalls produces sizable 'Arrangements' and installations with heaps of found objects and welded metals. His work with longtime collaborator Jon Swindler (Professor of Printmaking at UGA) is like an improvisational activation in process and design. They use and reuse materials that combine sculpture, painting, printmaking, and other media; some of which have been sourced from abandoned or discarded material. For McFalls and Swindler, the act of collaboration is essentially the 'work.' Their intention is to challenge or confront how they each practice as independent artists for the resulting final and ephemeral Arrangement.

Photographer Rylan Steele and mixed media artist Christopher Whittey have both produced work that profiles people. Whittey honors an extraordinary woman who lived an unusual life from Vietnam to Columbus, Georgia. However, his piece titled 'Then (Ghost, Spirit, Stranger)' (not in the catalog) is an observation and an artistic exploration of the

intangible space between beginnings and endings. Steele's photo series 'Ave Maria' reveals images from the obscure town in Florida of the same name developed by and for followers of the Catholic faith. The photos are glimpses into the lives of individuals as they are happening, which reveals similarities each person experiences despite the obvious differences

Additionally, both visually and conceptually with 'The Hedgehog/The Horse' Chris Whittey interrogates notions of impossibility and the breakdown of communication. The anthropological book image illustrating the evolution of the horse was once accepted but currently debunked, paired with a model of Duchamp's bottle rack (Hedgehog, 1914), reflects how shifts in time and reality alter meaning and understanding. Whittey's media for this series is shredded currency, also called 'residue'. The series provides a visual disconnect between the perception or intention of an idea or object with how ideas or objects can manifest in reality.

Sally Bradley, a painter and Samatha Yoo, a graphic designer draw on abstraction in their work. Bradley draws from moments and experiences and Yoo from letters of the Korean alphabet. Their art utilizes abstraction to convey information creatively.

Synchronization relates to time and space. Currently, the world is at the threshold of a new normal, a reset, or perhaps an alternative way of being synched. Much has been disrupted, from the way we work and communicate to how we experience life. This time is especially meaningful in Columbus where old stories inform new narratives at CSU. As individual artists, the university art department faculty each are solid in their practices. Their work is skilled and thoughtful, yet, the harmony that exists between them cannot be overlooked and must be a credit to students and beyond.

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SALLY BRADLEY

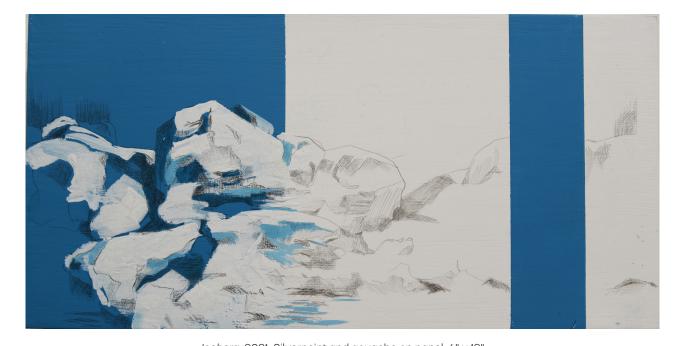
ally Bradley was born and raised in Columbus, GA. She graduated from Wake Forest University with a BA in painting, and she holds a Master of Art Education degree from the University of Georgia and a MFA degree from the Savannah College of Art and Design. She is a working artist and educator. Bradley's work contains a translation of experience, or a notation of a finite period of time. Each work contains the essence of the experience, discarding the unneeded extra details. As an educator, she taught at Brookstone School from 2005-2016 and is currently an Adjunct Professor of Art at Columbus State University. She is also a member of the College Art Association and of the Portrait Society of America. In 2018, Bradley was commissioned by Together Columbus to create a mural as part of a 2017 art initiative. Inspired by Isiah Harper's poem "My River Valley," the mural is on view on the corner of 2nd Avenue and 38th Street.



Detail of *River Timelapse*



River Timelapse, 2021, Oil on panel, 32" x 56"



Iceberg, 2021, Silverpoint and gouache on panel, 6" x 12"



4M3RICA, 2021, Digital animation

DEMETRIUS DUKES

rofessor of Animation at Columbus State University, Demetrius Dukes is a multimedia artist and computer graphics generalist. His interest in digital art evolved from a desire to explore the lineage between traditional and digital art forms. His academic research is centered around exploring 20th century art forms and their influences on the evolution of contemporary games and narrative platforms. After earning his MFA in Media Technology and Entertainment from Florida Atlantic University, Demetrius has taught graduate and undergraduate 3D animation, 3D character modeling, narrative development game design, and digital compositing. Dukes has experience with working with 3D programs such as Autodesk Maya, Mudbox, Unity, Unreal Engine 4, and Substance Painter. His works have been showcased in numerous exhibitions and film festivals, including the Flamingo Film Festival, the Brouhaha Film Festival, and Remarque Visual Journal. As part of a CSU Art Department project centered on generating conversation on racial injustices, Dukes created a new media interpretation based on the poem "America" by Claude McKay.

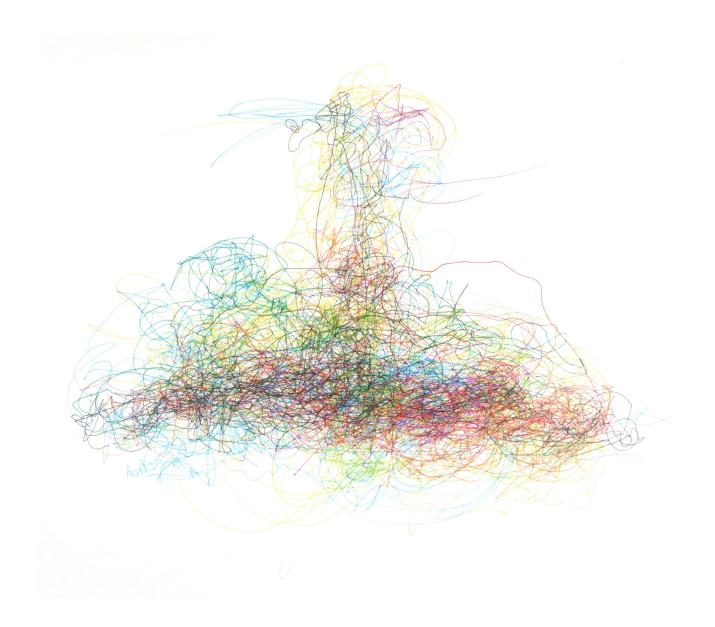




Bestials Passage, 2020, Digital animation



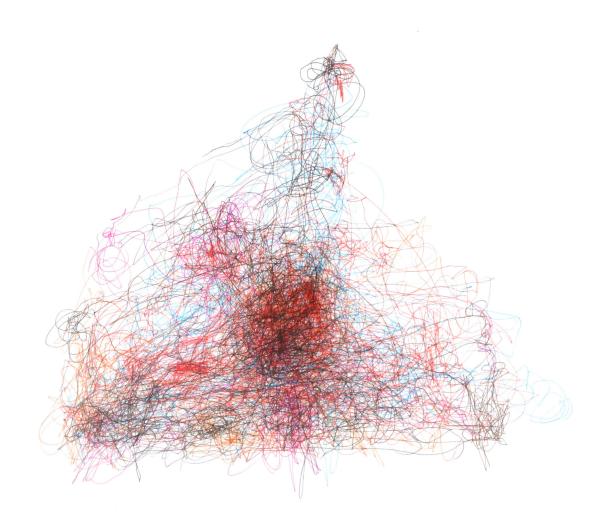
Inyago, 2021, Virtual reality and digital animation



KYLE HOOTEN

yle Hooten is an interdisciplinary artist and performer who creates work stemming from his research on the Drag communities of the Southeast United States. He received his BFA at Columbus State University before receiving his MFA from Georgia Southern University in 2018. Kyle fell in love with Drag after seeing his first Drag show in Columbus in pursuit of his BFA and began performing shortly before graduation. Initially performing Drag as a way to investigate his own gender identity, Kyle now performs as continued research on the southeast Drag communities. The focus of Kyle's work is to draw attention to inequalities suffered by local performers who are unfairly compared to performers appearing on reality TV competitions. He accomplishes this by directly comparing local performers to performers competing on reality television programs such as Rupaul's Drag Race and The Boulet Brothers' Dragula. These comparisons frequently take the form of drawings, digital paintings, and video heavily influenced by minimalist artists.





Wussy Mag Oddball, 2021, Pen and ink on paper, 18" x 24"



Wussy Mag Oddball MR, 2021, Pen and ink on paper, 18" x 24"

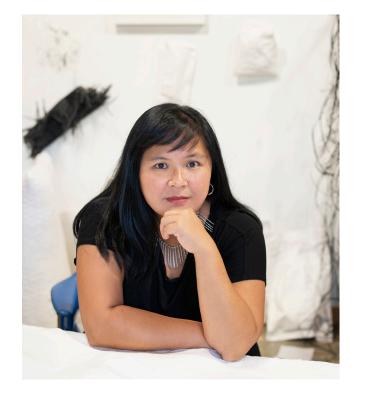


Sighing, 2021, Monofilament, thread, and tulle, Dimensions vary

HANNAH ISRAEL

annah Israel is a multidisciplinary artist, educator, curator, and gallery director. She received her MFA in Sculpture at University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign and her BA in Art History at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She has curated numerous solo and group exhibitions, including Methodologies at the Madelon Arts Gallery of East Stroudsburg University in PA and You Me Us and Them: Pictures from the Do Good Fund Collection at the W.C. Bradley Co. Museum in GA. Nationally and internationally exhibited, her work has shown in locations such as New York City, Atlanta, Chicago, the Philippines, and Honolulu; with select works in museums and private collections.

Currently a Professor of Art and the Gallery Director at CSU, Israel is the recipient of various awards and fellowships, including the Daedalus Art Grant (NYC), the Interdisciplinary Initiative Grant, the Line and Chance in Experimental Drawing Award, and the Artist Fellowship at Cornell University, New York. She has attended artist residencies, including Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Canada, and The ANU in Canberra, Australia.





Perfectly Outlined Against Afterglow, 2019, Gouache on fiber paper, 42" x 28"



Which Way or Which Not Away, Stein?, 2019, Gouache on fiber paper, 34" x 26"

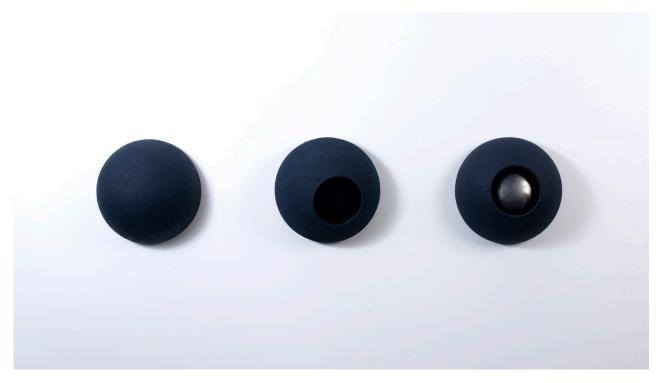


YUICHIRO KOMATSU

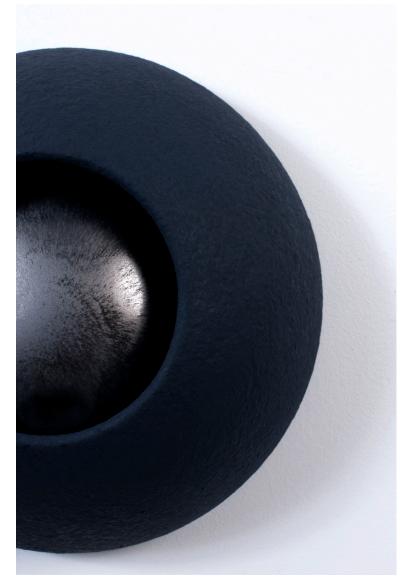
native of Tokyo, Japan, Yuichiro Komatsu holds a BFA from the State University of New York at New Paltz (SUNY) and a MFA from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University (NYSCC). He has also been granted the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Postgraduate Research Fellowship at Weißensee Kunsthochschule Berlin and Universität der Künste Berlin in Germany. His work has been included in numerous exhibitions in venues such as Haw Contemporary, Kansas City, MO; Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, GA; Paço das Artes, São Paulo, Brazil; the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, Waterloo, ON, Canada; the Jingdezhen Contemporary International Ceramics Exhibition, Jiangxi Province, China and Berliner Kunst Project, Berlin, Germany among others. He was awarded residencies at the Banff Centre in Canada, the European Ceramic Work Centre in the Netherlands, Fundação Armando Alvares Penteado (FAAP) in Brazil, and the Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park in Japan. Currently, Komatsu is an Associate Professor of Art at Columbus State University in Columbus, GA.



Detail of Sphere



Sphere, 2019, White earthenware and glaze, 11" x 5.5" x 5.5" (each sphere)



Detail of Sphere



Cedar, 2021, Zircote and Beach Stone, 6"x4"x4"

ROBERT LEFLER II

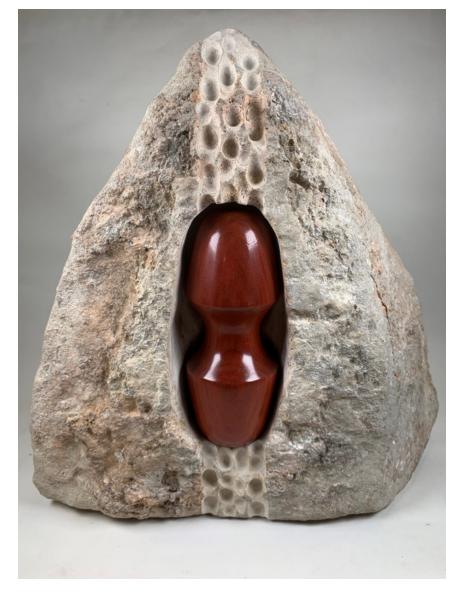
ret Lefler was born in Fort Worth, TX, where he graduated from high school, He then attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago receiving his BFA with a focus in painting and drawing in 1994. Upon graduation, Bret returned to Fort Worth to attend Texas Christian University where he received his MFA in 1996. In the spring of 2006, Bret received his Doctorate in Art Education from Florida State University. Bret returned to Texas, after receiving his Ph.D., where he taught Art Education classes and served as the Chair of the Department of Visual Arts at the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. In the fall of 2011, Bret began to work as the Art Education Program Coordinator for the Department of Art at Columbus State University, in Columbus, GA.

During his time at Columbus State University, he has received several awards including the Georgia Art Education Association Higher Education Teacher of the Year award in 2013 and the Distinguished Service Within Profession Award in 2017. He also received recognition for Exemplary Service from the National Art Education Association in 2018.





Spire, 2021, Limestone and Ebony, 6"x8"x8"



Fuse, 2021, Limestone and Redheart, 11"x8"x4"

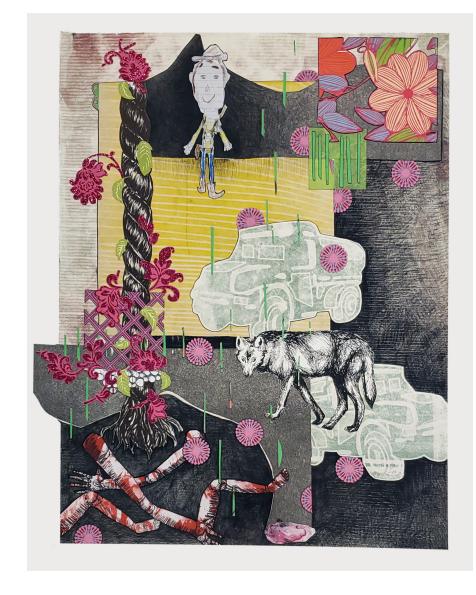


Float, 2020, Mixed media (Monoprint, wood block, lithograph, screen print, graphite, acetate, and gold leaf), 26" x 39"

ELIZABETH MCFALLS

lizabeth (Libby) McFalls is a Professor of Art and the Department of Art's Art Foundation Coordinator at Columbus State University. She also holds the position of VP of Communications for Foundations of Art: Theory & Education. She received her MFA in Printmaking from Cranbrook Academy of Art (MI) and her BFA from Columbus College of Art and Design (OH). Raised in East Tennessee, Libby's love of storytelling began during her childhood through attendance of the National Storytelling Festival. Her love and appreciation of oral storytelling increased over time, emphasized by the summers she and her sisters spent among extended family of five living generations. She creates nonlinear visual narratives that examine issues of loss and family. Her work explores moments, blurring the line between fact and fiction, life and death, humor and sorrow demonstrating the contradiction and complexity of life. Libby's work has been exhibited in national and international locations, including the Athica Athens Institute, South Bay Contemporary (Los Angeles), SoLA Gallery, Kai Lin Art Gallery, and Gallery 1 in Edinburgh, Scotland.





Depart, 2020, Mixed media (graphite, lithograph, monoprint, cut paper, woodcut, and my son's drawings), 26" x 39"



Explorers, 2019, Mixed media (graphite, lithograph, monoprint, gold leaf, cut paper, woodcut, and my son's drawings), 37" x 29"

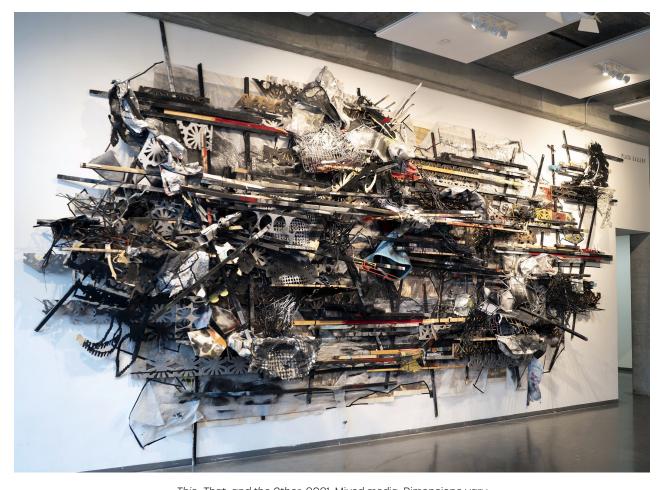


This, That, and the Other, 2021, Mixed media, Dimensions vary

MICHAEL MCFALLS

chael McFalls is a practicing artist, professor of art, and director of the visionary art environment, Pasaguan. McFalls received a BFA in Studio Art from the Columbus College of Art and Design, [OH] and an MFA from the University of California, Davis. Before joining Columbus State University, he served as the Art Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor of Art at The University of Maine at Farmington. McFalls is a former Fulbright Scholar at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, and has received numerous scholarships, grants, and awards for his artistic research, including the Pritzker Foundation Endowed Fellowship and the CCAD Distinguished Alumni Award. McFalls has participated in artist residencies at Sculpture Space and The Australia National University. He has also been a visiting artist at Dartmouth College and Furman University. McFalls has had numerous solo exhibitions in national and international galleries and museums, and his artworks are held in many private and public collections. Over the past seven years, McFalls has frequently collaborated with Jon Swindler, a Professor of Printmaking at UGA. Through the creation of intuitive arrangements of a sculptural nature by McFalls and interventions through Swindler's printmaking, the two collaborate as a way of challenging each other's natural tendencies and studio practices.





This, That, and the Other, 2021, Mixed media, Dimensions vary



Looking into Light, 2020, Mixed media, Dimensions vary



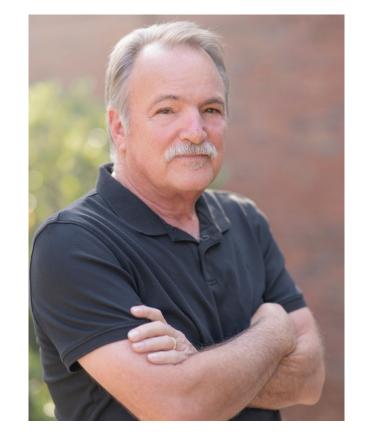
Venice IV – 6, 2020, Handmade paper on woodcut, 18" x 13"

JOE SANDERS

rintmaker Joe Sanders explores memory, myth, and natural history while fluidly moving between abstraction and representation. Considerations regarding science, human experience, and Anthropogenic influences have become increasingly pertinent in his work.

Professor Sanders holds a BFA from Florida State University, and an MFA from Arizona State University. He has held the rank of Full Professor and chaired departments at the Lamar Dodd School of Art (printmaking); Florida State University; and Columbus State. Sanders served as President of the Southern Graphics Council (SGC International) and as a board member of the Pasaquan Preservation Society. He is currently a board member of the Atlanta Printmakers Studio.

Sanders has curated exhibitions including "MATRIX: Contemporary Printmaking" at MOFA, FSU. He is active as a juror. Sanders' artwork has been included in over 200 exhibitions, and in the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Harvard Art Museums, and many other collections. Recent accomplishments include a First Place Medal Award at the "Book as Art: Pulp v.6.0" juried international exhibition. Sanders divides his creative time between studios in Columbus and Dog Island, FL.





Petri Disc: Variation II, 2021, Handmade paper on woodcut, 40" x 40"



Venice V - 6, 2020, Handmade paper on woodcut, 18" x 13"



Morning Fog, Ave Maria, FL, 2013, Archival pigment print

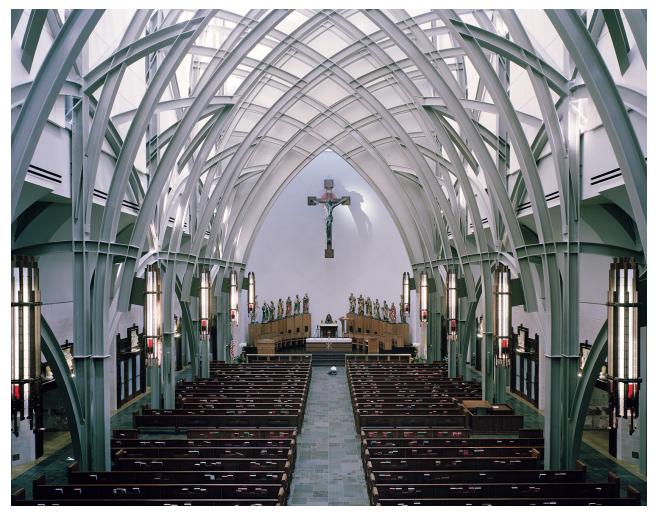
RYLAN STEELE

n established artist, Rylan Steele is currently an Associate Professor of Photography at Columbus State University. Rylan earned his MFA in Photography from the University of Georgia. Over the last few years, Rylan has exhibited photographs in numerous regional and national exhibition spaces. His work has been included in exhibitions at the Georgia Museum of Contemporary Art, the Houston Center for Photography, the Light Factory in Charlotte, and the Ogden Museum of Southern Art in New Orleans. Rylan has been a finalist for the Hudgens Prize for Georgia Artists, and he is also the recipient of the Lange/ Taylor Prize for writers and photographers, which is awarded by the Duke Center for Documentary Studies. In fall 2016, Rylan published his first monograph "Ave Maria" with Aint—Bad Publications. In "Ave Maria," Steele explores a catholic inspired community in a remote area of southern Florida. This photographic investigation of the infrastructure supports the founders' utopian vision.





Nuns, Ave Maria, FL, 2015, Archival pigment print



Oratory Interior, Ave Maria, FL, 2013, Archival pigment print



ORION WERTZ

orn and raised in the Pittsburgh area, Orion Wertz has loved drawing from a very young age, so going to art school was a natural decision. During his completion of his MFA in Painting at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, Wertz began to look into and study graphic novels. In 1998, he self-published his first comic book.

In the summer of 2001, Wertz and his wife, Hannah Israel, moved to NYC. There he worked as an art handler for about two years. In 2003, Wertz accepted a position at Columbus State University. Living and working in Columbus, GA, Wertz teaches painting, drawing, and narrative illustration. Since the '90s, his paintings, drawings, and installations have been exhibited in various venues. He has also lectured at national conferences on topics from the practice of drawing and writing graphic novels to the neurophysiology of imagination. In 2021, his graphic novel, "The Boxridge Table," was published by Antenna.



Stairway, 2019, Oil on panel, 8" x 10"



"First Swarm", Boxridge Table, 2021, Sumi ink and pen on paper, 11" x 16"



"The Walk", Boxridge Table, 2021 , Sumi ink and pen on paper, 11" x 16" $\,$



CHRISTOPHER WHITTEY

fter receiving his BFA from Wayne State University, Christopher Whittey worked as a master carpenter, building stage sets and props in NYC for venues such as the Metropolitan Opera, Saturday Night Live, and The Conan O'Brien Show. He completed his formal education at the Rhode Island School of Design in 1989 and received his MFA in 1991. The following year, he attended the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program. Whittey's work has been showcased in numerous locations including White Columns and The Thread Waxing Space in New York.

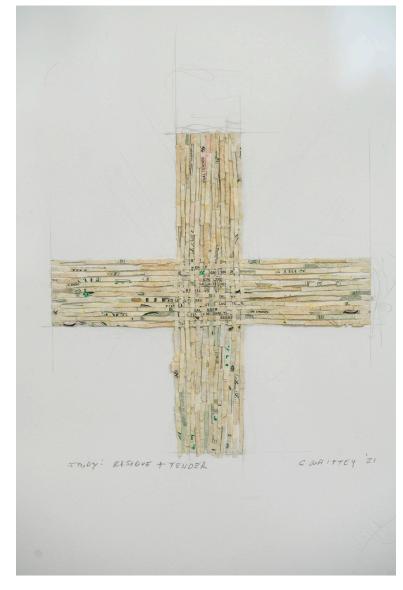
While producing what he characterizes as insanely boring paintings at RISD, Whittey stumbled upon a discarded clothes dryer drum on the street, brought it to his studio, and began the arduous process of engraving a continuous, spiraling line of 6,570 consecutive dates on the surface of the drum, beginning with the date he was born to the date he left the care of his mother. And that changed precisely everything.



Detail of For Annie



For Annie, 2021, Shredded U.S. currency (residue), 18" x 18"



Study: Residue and Tender, 2021, Shredded U.S. currency (residue), 12" x 15"



SAMANTHA YOO

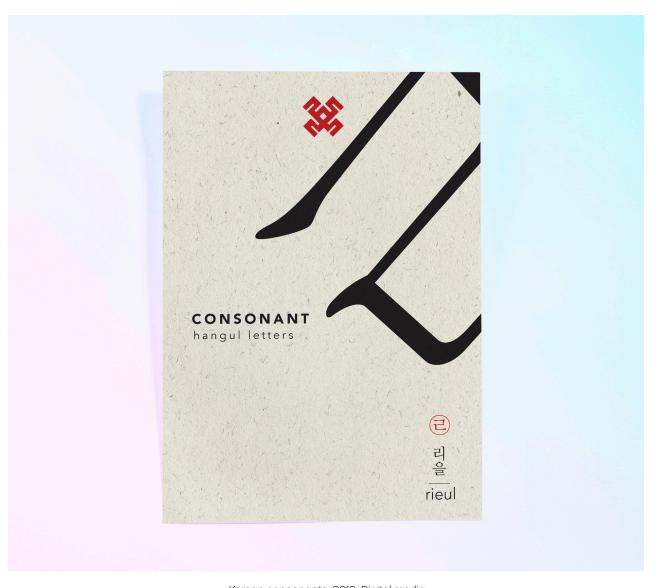
Samantha Yoo is a professional designer and educator. She joins the Art Department as an Assistant Professor of Art specializing in Graphic Design at Columbus State University as of fall 2021.

Prior to her teaching career, she worked for an NYC-based shoe company and graphic design firm for more than 15 years. Her projects have spanned disciplines from corporate identity and branding systems to packaging graphics, website design, advertising campaigns, and information graphics for major events, including UGG, Nike, Timberland, Shoe Village, and various non-profits. Samantha also taught graphic design at the City University of New York for eight years. She also served as an Assistant Professor of Visual Communication Design for the University of Indianapolis and Anderson University.

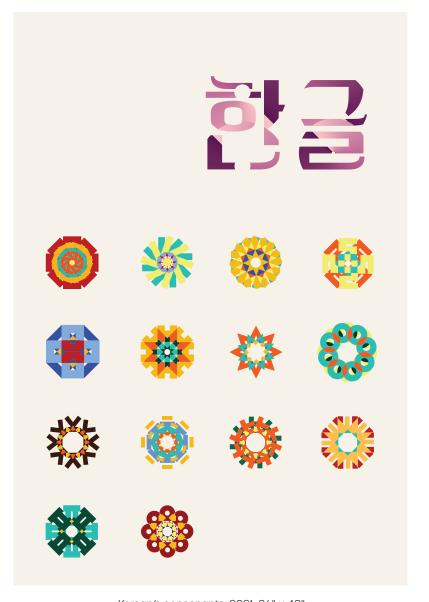
Her recent project is the Korean alphabet (Hangul), and it covers the description and meaning of all the Korean letters in detail.



Korean consonants, 2019, Digital media



Korean consonants, 2019, Digital media



Korean's consonants, 2021, 36" x 48"

COLLEGE OF THE ARTS ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



About the Bo Bartlett Center

The Bartlett Center at Columbus State University is a dynamic, creative learning laboratory that is part gallery, part experimental arts incubator, and part community center. Based on the belief that art can change lives, the center has a two-fold mission: community outreach programs that help facilitate an inclusive environment by encouraging participation from diverse voices, and a national mission to partner with other institutions to provide innovative exhibitions

that deepen our understanding of art through publications and public programming. It is a unique cultural institution that is taking a leadership role in the broader university and Columbus arts community and, it is creating a new paradigm for innovation and service. The center houses and displays the Scarborough Collection, 14 monumental paintings by artist and Columbus native Bo Bartlett, and often features rotating exhibitions of national and international acclaim.

Bo Bartlett Center Staff

Rex Whiddon, Sr. Associate VP of Leadership Philanthropy & Strategic Initiatives Michael McFalls, Interim Director Joshua Newbend, Gallery Coordinator Darius Sudayi, Operations Support Specialist Ainsley Steeves, Gallery Attendant Andrea Mendoza-Gonzalez, Graphic Designer Carlie Hedges, Graphic Design Intern



About the Illges Gallery

The Norman Shannon and Emmy Lou P. Illges Gallery is located in the Corn Center for the Visual Arts. It occupies 3,250 square feet with 20-foot ceilings. The gallery has been designed to accommodate professional art exhibitions as well as student exhibitions such as the annual Senior Thesis exhibition. The gallery program presents 6 - 8 exhibitions per year, both national and international in scope, often with accompanying

lectures and gallery talks. The Illges Gallery is free and open to the public. The Illges Gallery also operates The Schley Gallery, Fulcrum Gallery, Art Lab, the Visiting Artists and Scholars in Residence Program and Advocacy Through Art. The programs in the Department of Art are supported by the Mildred Miller Fort Foundation, CSU Friends of Art, and CSU Student Activities Fee.

Department of Art Mission Statement

The Department of Art prepares its graduates for success in the global environment by providing student centered, comprehensive education in studio art, art education, and art history. The Department of Art develops creative and intellectual potential, employs the highest quality pedagogy,

and fosters critical thinking through creative and scholarly research. The Department of Art endeavors to enrich the cultural fabric of our local, regional, and global communities. We collaborate actively with the Columbus community to foster creative activity.

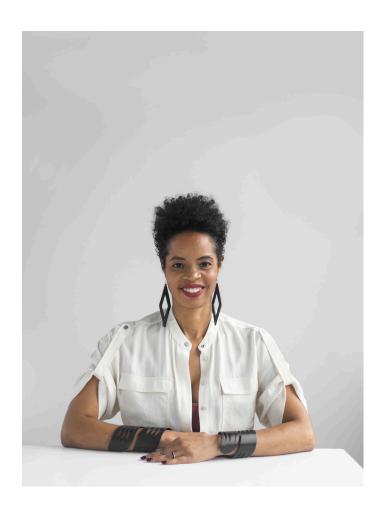
Illges Gallery Staff

Hannah Israel, Gallery Director
Jon Lumpkin, Exhibitions, Materials, & Equipment Manager
Isaac Sabelhaus, Gallery Assistant & Collections Manager
Miranda Fortenberry, Preparator & Exhibition Assistant

Leonela Hernandez Rosales, Exhibition Intern Zoe Potts, Gallery Intern Gabriella Castleberry, Curatorial & Outreach Intern Mickayla Lokey, Curatorial & Collections Intern

60 Designed by Andrea Mendoza-Gonzalez

ABOUT THE CURATOR



DARICIA MIA DEMARR

aricia Mia DeMarr is from Los Angeles, CA. She launched her collegiate career at Clark Atlanta University but received a BA in Art History from Georgia State University and master's degree in Visual Arts Administration from New York University. She is an arts enthusiast, ideas fanatic, curator and visual arts consultant. In 2015 she was invited to curate a special exhibition, 'Respectfully Yours,' at the Queens Museum, Bulova Center with renowned street artist Lady Pink. Daricia Mia was the Assistant Director at the NYU Kimmel Center Galleries organizing and curating over 100 exhibitions in five years, and has been a member of the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, Art Program team. She is the founder of Pi Arts Projects LLC, a visual arts consultancy providing a variety of services, from collection management to art programming development. Daricia Mia works closely with Peg Alston Fine Arts and is also the co-founder of Black Women in Visual Art, a social and professional development platform for Black Women working in visual art spaces.







Thank you to our Exhibition, Catalog, and Reception Sponsor, The Norman S. and Emmy Lou P. Illges Foundation

