



THE LOUPE

welcome back!
fall 2018

STUDENT NEWS

STUDENTS CONSPIRE IN MONSTER COUP

Official reports verify that UA art students were heavily involved in the invasion of bronze handmade monsters, stationing their terrifying, but tiny, metal miscreations in key locations around town!

Monster Takeover is an extension of the *Monster Makeover* program established by the *Tuscaloosa News* in 2010. Our students' works, based on past elementary school student participants, were all sculpted and then cast in bronze, under the direction of Professor Craig Wedderspoon.

Look up as you walk into Harrison Galleries at 2315 University Blvd! Junior BFA major in sculpture RINGO LISKOS sculpture (LEFT), inspired by the art of elemen-



tary student Lawson Kelly, is perched on the I-beam hanging above the sidewalk. Said Lisko, "I am very excited to be a part of *Monster Takeover*, especially since I got to be in on the very first wave of monsters to go up around town. It was a great experience working with the kids' drawings, and trying to do justice to their awesome imaginations. I'm also thrilled to be adding to the public art of Tuscaloosa. I strongly believe that public art is an integral part of a well-rounded and lively community, and I hope that these monsters help to keep that momentum going!"

Sophomore art major ZANE BOYD'S sculpture (ABOVE RIGHT), inspired by the art of elementary student Dai'Quan O'Neal, is located at the Bama Theatre, 600 Greensboro Avenue. *See more monsters here:* <http://bit.ly/monstertakeover>.



MONSTERS FRONT COVER, LEFT TO RIGHT BEGINNING AT THE TOP: Jonathan Lanier, Megan Fletcher, Maddie Kennedy, Ringo Lisko, Jenn Gault, Josh Dugat.

MORGAN HEARD & SECAC

The University of Alabama was well-represented at the recent national conference meeting of SECAC held in Birmingham, October 17-20, 2018. Faculty, students and alumni of the UA Department of Art and Art History presented research and chaired sessions at the annual meeting of one of the largest art conferences of its kind in the US, hosted by UAB's Department of Art and Art History and nicknamed "SECAC Y'all."

Of special note was art history graduate student Morgan Heard (RIGHT), who presented her research paper, "May the Points of Our Needles Prick the Slaveholder's Conscience: Women's Abolitionist Needlework and the Anti-Slavery Fair," in a session titled "Historic American Painting." Dr. Rachel Stephens, who introduced Heard to the topic through Stephens' course, *Slavery and American Art*, pointed out that it was a particular achievement for an MA student to present research. "SECAC is a friendly conference and inclusive of scholarship at all levels," however, Stephens added, "more often, it is advanced PhD students who participate at SECAC." (CONTINUED NEXT PAGE)



STUDENT RESEARCH

Heard's research probes the little known work of anti-slavery women in producing abolitionist items that were sold at anti-slavery fairs. These handmade objects, she asserts in her research, became important signifiers of early female activism within a domain (sewing) that was considered appropriate for antebellum women.

Heard said that this was her first time presenting at a conference of this scale. "Although I was nervous, I enjoyed being able to share my work and receive feedback and encouragement from those who attended."

Read more about all the SECAC presenters at <http://bit.ly/SECACyall>

STUDENTS GAIN INSIGHT INTO THE EXPERIENCE OF MEDIEVAL ARTISTS

Students in Dr. Jennifer Feltman's Early Medieval Art course (ARH 360) created their own artworks as a way to reflect on the materials and methods used to make early medieval (and a few Byzantine) works of art. Each student chose an object that dates from between 250 and 1150 and researched the original work, focusing on the materials that had been used to make it, its context, function and what it meant to the people of the time. Then, the students created their own artwork inspired by the past.

Feltman's goal in the project was to encourage her students to reflect on the importance of materials and processes that medieval artists used in making a work of art. She explained, "I think it really helps students to see that the works of art we study are more than just images projected on a screen. They required meticulous attention, extended amounts of time to make, often in precious materials, all of which contributed to their meaning."



Feltman encouraged students to make connections and distinctions between the past and present. Junior Rachel Balding (LEFT), a psychology major with a minor in studio art, painted a page (ABOVE RIGHT) inspired by the famous 6th-century manuscript *Vienna Genesis*. She drew an analogy between the devotion given to narratives in religious art and the football legends of UA. The manuscript, made for the Byzantine emperor, was dyed purple and inscribed in silver. Balding dyed her page in grape juice and inscribed the UA fight song in gold using Roman Uncial script.



Read more about the students' medieval experiences here: <http://bit.ly/bamamedieval>

LEFT: Rachel Balding, junior psychology major with a minor in studio art displays her Roll Tide version of the Vienna Gospel folio. ABOVE RIGHT: detail of Balding's painting.

The Loupe, published since 2002, is the newsletter of the NASAD-accredited Department of Art and Art History in The University of Alabama's College of Arts and Sciences, for students, alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the department. Please send correspondence to Rachel Dobson: rachel.dobson@ua.edu.

(loop), n. 1. a small magnifying glass used by jewelers or watchmakers, or for viewing photographic transparencies.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Art and Art History

research

FACULTY NEWS

LAURA LINEBERRY RETIRES

We are sad to announce that graphic design instructor Laura Lineberry will retire in May. After working in marketing communications at UA for almost two decades, Lineberry, a UA graduate, moved into teaching, giving her more than thirty years at UA. She has won numerous local, regional and national graphic design awards and guided many students to win awards as well. Her colleagues and students will miss her positive energy and enthusiasm and wish her well. Read more about her career here: <http://bit.ly/lauralineberry>.



WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Welcome to our new faculty: **Jonathan Cumberland**, Assistant Professor of Art, Digital Media and Graphic Design; Dr. **Doris Sung**, Assistant Professor of Art History in Asian Art; full-time instructors **Mark Sniadecki** and **Nic Tisdale**; and part-time instructors **Daisie Hoitsma Young** and **Maureen Forman**. And, we welcome back part-time instructor and foundry specialist **Joe McCreary** (MFA 2011). Read more about our faculty and staff here: <https://art.ua.edu/facultystaff-news/>.



FACULTY RESEARCH

FACULTY ACCOLADES



In September, Associate Professor Sarah Marshall held a solo exhibition, *Untrustworthy Night*, at the 621 Gallery in Tallahassee, Fla. She featured a collection of printed and dyed fabric works (ABOVE) in which, she notes, “tones of blue, images of the eye and collage assembly suggest the nighttime activities of the human imagination.”

Instructor Wade MacDonald received the NCECA 2018 Emerging Artist Award in July. The award recognizes exceptional early career artists and helps promote their work internationally. His ceramic sculpture was featured in the August/September issue of *American Craft Magazine*.

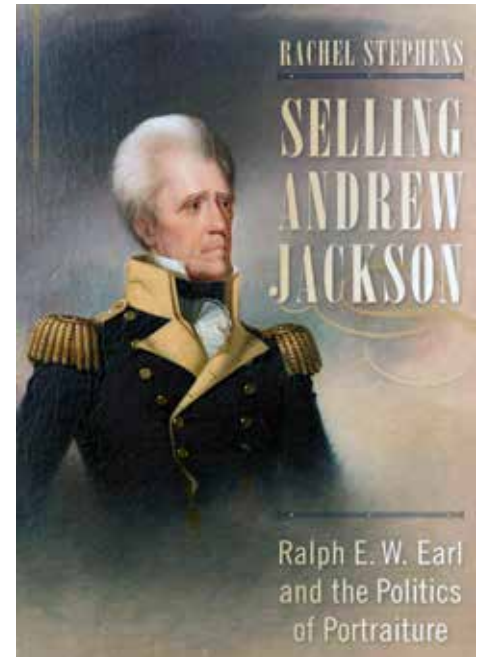
Associate Professor Christopher Jordan has been named one of ten finalists for the 2018 Clarence John Laughlin Award for photography.

Professor Craig Wedderspoon is one of three inaugural recipients of the new McMahon-Pleiad Prize, given by the Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama System, for the UA System Art Trail, a collaborative public art project conceived by Wedderspoon, Stacey Holloway of UAB and Chris Taylor of UAH.

Associate Professor Lucy Curzon has been named to a three-year term as a Leadership Board Faculty Fellow. The Leadership Board of the College of Arts and Sciences recognizes its most promising or accomplished teacher/scholars, individuals early in their careers who demonstrate exceptional promise or faculty members who have brought distinction to the College and University throughout their careers.

Assistant Professor Jonathan Cumberland had a poster design selected for the international juried competition, *Turn A Light On*, in Zapopan, Mexico. His was one of 53 chosen from among 1,598 entries.

In June, Assistant Professor Rachel Stephens published *Selling Andrew Jackson: Ralph E. W. Earl and the Politics of Portraiture*, the first book-length study of President Andrew Jackson's personal portrait artist. Dr. Stephens was awarded a Tyson Fellowship at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art for the fall of 2018 and a fellowship at Yale University's Gilder Lehrman Center for the spring of 2019.



Assistant Professor Doris Sung published a chapter, “Redefining Female Talent: ‘The Women’s Eastern Times,’ ‘The Ladies’ Journal,’ and the Development of ‘Women’s Art’ in China, 1910s-1930s,” in the book, *Women and the Periodical Press in China’s Long Twentieth Century: A Space of their Own*, edited by Michel Hockx, Joan Judge, and Barbara Mittler (Cambridge 2018).



American Craft: August/September 2018 – The Color Issue

SELLA-GRANATA ART GALLERY



Students present gallery talks about their work in the Annual Graduate Student Show: (ABOVE) Amy Smoot, (RIGHT) Nasrin Irvani, (BELOW LEFT) Amber Quinn. BFA majors Jennifer Gault and Allie Gant presented their senior show (BELOW RIGHT) in November. More here: <https://art.ua.edu/gallery/sgg/>.



exhibitions

BFA EXHIBITIONS | GRADUATE STUDENTS



(TOP) Graduate student Ulrike Franz gives a gallery talk about her prints; (ABOVE) BFA major Candace von Hoffman presents her senior show; (ABOVE RIGHT) sculpture by BFA senior Allie Gant; and (BOTTOM RIGHT) photographs from BFA major Caroline Japal's senior show. More here:

<https://art.ua.edu/gallery/sgg/>.



IN MEMORIAM | COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

**ALUMNI CELEBRATE THEIR PROFESSOR; ART SALES CONTRIBUTE TO FELLOWSHIP FUND**

In October, the galleries of Tuscaloosa's Dinah Washington Cultural Arts Center celebrated the art and legacy of the acclaimed photographer and teacher, Gay Burke.

Burke, who passed away in 2017, was a protégé of photomontage innovator Jerry Uelsmann and worked with Walker Evans. She went on to establish the photography program at the University, which produced several generations of successful and award-winning artists including Miller Mobley, Janice Hathaway, Wayne Sides, Karen Graffeo, Kathryn Mayo and others.

The University of Alabama Gallery featured old and new work by Burke's students from her 40-plus-year career. In The Arts Council Gallery, forty works by Gay Burke herself, some never shown before, were displayed. Most were multi-negative prints, surreal landscapes where seemingly unrelated objects are juxtaposed, a result of careful and skillful manual manipulation, long before the days of "photoshopping." An opening reception for the double exhibition brought alumni back together from around the country to celebrate the teacher and artist that Wayne Sides called "the Mother of Alabama Art Photography."

Proceeds from the sale of Gay Burke's own work, as well as her private collection



of notable artists, funded the Gay Burke Memorial Fellowship in Photographic Arts, which will be awarded annually by the Alabama State Council on the Arts. In October, the fund reached its initial goal of \$100,000.

To learn more about the fellowship and how to apply, go here:

<http://bit.ly/BurkeMemorial>.

Read more about Gay Burke and her students: <https://art.ua.edu/tag/gay-burke/>.

ABOVE: Former students of Gay Burke's gather for a photo shoot with Senior Associate Dean Ray White. LEFT: Gay Burke outside her office and photo studio in Woods Hall. RIGHT BELOW: Visitors to see Gay Burke's work in The Arts Council Gallery at the Dinah Washington Cultural Arts Center.



OUR ALUMNI GIVE BACK



ABOVE: BTW Photography students toured the department in October. Here they look at the equipment in the photography area in Woods Hall. BELOW: BTW students at their booth at the 47th Annual Kentucky Festival. RIGHT BELOW: BTW students tour the Sarah Moody Gallery of Art.

**TEACHING LEGACY PASSED TO NEXT GENERATION**

Two former students of the late Professor Gay Burke have extended her legacy of photography education to the next generation. Andy Meadows (MFA 1994) founded the Booker T. Washington Magnet School Photography program in 1995 at the then Carver Creative and Performing Arts School in Montgomery. Meadows now works as Arts Education Specialist for the Alabama State Department of Education where he distributes grants to schools and works to improve arts education in Alabama.

Starting out with the unheard of budget of \$20,000, Meadows outfitted a darkroom at the magnet high school equal to many college-level darkrooms of the time. Since then, hundreds of students at “BTW” have learned the art and technology of film and digital photography, as well as what Meadows thought was just as important: how to run a photography business. Since 2009, Emily Thomas — first a student of Meadows at BTW and then a BFA major in photography (2004) under Gay Burke — has led BTW’s program.

Over the years, photo students at BTW have won national, regional, state and local awards and recognition, including National Scholastic Art and Writing Gold Key Portfolio awards, National Scholastic Art Award’s American Visionary Awards and an Alabama State Council on the Arts Visual Arts Achievement Statewide Exhibition, among others.

In August, a devastating fire at BTW destroyed most of their photo equipment. Thomas is now teaching photography from BTW’s temporary facility at Hayneville Road Elementary School. Meadows said that among the losses were \$250,000 worth of, in some cases, irreplaceable darkroom equipment, cameras and photo supplies that he and Thomas have collected over two decades. Fortunately, most of the students’ digital work was stored in “the cloud,” and some film photos had been digitized and backed-up. And, the students still have a strong legacy of skilled art instruction as one of their top resources.

When BTW students visited UA in October, en route to exhibiting their photos at the Kentucky Festival of the Arts, they were upbeat about the future. Thomas said that she wants to pass on what she learned from her photo professor — the courage to try out new approaches. Maybe that’s just the thing to help them get back on their feet: “Gay taught me that experimentation is part of making art. Sometimes it results in a success, sometimes it results in a complete failure, but you never know until you try.”

To find out how to contribute to Booker T. Washington Magnet High School’s fund, go here: <http://bit.ly/LegacyBTWphoto>.



exhibitions

SARAH MOODY GALLERY OF ART

FROM ALABAMA TO AUSTRALIA - EXHIBITIONS AT THE SMGA



August 23 – September 28, 2018

Com-bine – Selections from the Permanent Collection

October 11 – November 16, 2018

Pattern Thinking: Australian Aboriginal Art from the Collection of Tom and Cynthia Schneider

November 29, 2018 – January 11, 2019

Alice Hohenberg Federico: The Liberation of Clay



ABOVE LEFT: Clay sculptures by Alice Hohenberg Federico; ABOVE RIGHT: Frank Fleming's bronze "Mr. Peanut with Golden Egg," and Alice Neel's lithograph, "Man in Harness;" LEFT: Booker T. Washington Magnet High School students visit "Pattern Thinking," the exhibition of Australian Aboriginal Art.

Visiting Artist & Scholar Lectures

SPRING 2019

Jan. 24 Michi Meko
Feb. 20 Ben Vida
Mar. 1 Dr. Catherine Zuromskis
Mar. 5 Iva Gueorguieva

<https://art.ua.edu/>

research

STUDY ABROAD WITH ART AND ART HISTORY

A GENTLEWOMAN IN VERONA: REBECCA TEAGUE



Read more about Rebecca Teague's research experiences in Italy: <http://bit.ly/veronaresearch>

There's just no substitute for seeing the object you are studying firsthand.

For more than three semesters, from a graduate seminar on medieval cathedrals, to intensive thesis research, art history graduate student Rebecca Teague has focused on the sculpture programs of three 12th-century cathedrals in three small towns in northern Italy. She has written her master's thesis on the cathedral facades designed by the sculptor Niccolò in Verona, Piacenza and Ferrara, focusing on what may have shaped the iconography of the programs, especially their local influences.

Last May, Teague got a chance to see the cathedrals up close and in context during a study-abroad trip with the Department of Art and Art History. She was able to visit Rome, Florence and Venice with the group and served as a teaching assistant to Dr. Tanja Jones, who is also Teague's thesis advisor. After the main part of the trip was over, Teague and Jones made a side trip to Verona to view in person the sculptured doorways of the cathedrals at Verona, and nearby Piacenza and Ferrara.

Getting to see the buildings and their sculptures up close, and to explore the town around the cathedrals, some of which existed in the 12th century, helped Teague visualize what they were like 900 years ago. She said, "I

devoted all my time to the actual experience of the space," and saved researching sources for when she was back in the US. This fall, Teague still sounded in awe of the scale of the architecture she was able to see: "I got a sense of how weathered they are, how large they are, their sense of power."

After defending her thesis, "Carving Politics: Niccolò's Façades at Piacenza, Ferrara, and Verona Cathedrals," Teague will graduate in December and take time off before she continues her studies in a doctoral program.



ABOVE: Rebecca Teague in Rome with Michelangelo's David. BELOW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Verona, Ferrara and Piacenza cathedral facades. In the center, Ferrara is now covered in scaffolding while undergoing repairs since an earthquake damaged it in 2012.

LACI JORDAN**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

Laci Jordan and her designs: ABOVE: Courtesy Jordan Brand; RIGHT: Laci Jordan herself, courtesy Jasmine Durhal; BELOW: Courtesy Season 7.



Alumna **Laci Jordan** (BA 2011, digital media) has been making big headlines in the graphic design world recently. Jordan is a multi-disciplinary designer and creative director in Los Angeles. Her images celebrate African Americans, especially women. “One of the biggest things I am interested in is being an inspiration to creatives, especially creatives of color, especially women, to basically do whatever the hell they want to and to pursue their art as a career form to the 1000th percent,” Jordan told AL.com recently. Check out her designs here: <http://www.lacijordan.com/>

Alumni, we'd love to hear from you. Send your news and contact information to rachel.dobson@ua.edu or go to this page: <https://art.ua.edu/alumni/>