THE LOUPE
FALL/WINTER 2021
There’s something new in the Garden...

...find out more on page 11!

The UA Department of Art and Art History is pleased to announce that it now offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree in graphic design. Since 1945, we have offered the BFA degree in studio art with concentrations in ceramics, digital media/graphic design, drawing, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture. Now that the department has introduced the specialized degree in graphic design, it will give graduates added credentials in the field. Read more here: https://bit.ly/BFAgraphicdesignUA.

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.
Jennifer Feltman to Help Restore a Legend

In September, assistant professor Dr. Jennifer M. Feltman was allowed special access to the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris as one of 14 specialists appointed to CNRS Chantier scientifique de Notre Dame – Décor to begin research that will support the restoration of the historic building since the devastating fire in April of 2019. Feltman is part of a team of scientists and art historians who will study all aspects of the cathedral’s visual arts, ranging from Middle Ages to modern times. During her September visit, Feltman met with colleagues from eight European institutions - including the Monuments historiques-Ministère da la culture, the Musée de Cluny, the Musée du Louvre and Sorbonne Université - to focus on the remnants of paint found throughout the cathedral. Feltman’s focus is the sculptures of the west façade’s central portal, Read more of her story here: https://bit.ly/feltman-notre-dame.
Students Curate Migration Exhibition

Art Forward, a new art club formed last year to create a more inclusive and artistically empowered community and headed by art history major Ivy Borden, worked with UA organizations to put together a participatory art exhibit sponsored and organized by the Undocumented Migration Project. Borden and club members Aidan Miles-Jamison (art history, Art Forward artist-in-residence), Sophia Ancira (art history and marketing, AF vice president), Borden (art history and Southern studies, AF executive director), Xavier Williams (biology, AF director of finance) and Samaria Holland (marketing, AF director of marketing) all helped to organize, install and monitor the exhibition, plus curated a separate art exhibition on similar themes to accompany the project.

MFA Student Awarded Arts Council Grant for Public Sculpture

Sculpture grad student Molly Lay has been awarded a Small Grant by The Arts Council of Tuscaloosa for a Fellowship Project. Lay proposed a cast bronze public sculpture for the Riverwalk along the Black Warrior River in Tuscaloosa. The work will be a pair of human feet placed together with a message engraved below them: “Be at Peace.” Lay created similar outdoor sculptures this summer and installed them around Woods Quad Sculpture Garden on UA campus. Read more and see photos here.

Cloisters Curator Gives Talk, Holds Career Workshop at UA

In October, The Met Cloisters assistant curator Dr. Julia Perratore presented the 2021 International Center of Medieval Art Forsyth Lecture, “Representing Medieval Spain at The Met Cloisters,” virtually, from the department. Perratore’s lecture was locally organized by Dr. Jennifer Feltman and hosted in Feltman’s Garland Hall office. Dr. Perratore also presented “Becoming a Curator,” a workshop for UA art history graduate students and senior and junior undergraduates in person, and virtually for art history students at Florida State University.
Art History Grad Presents Research Paper at UK Conference

This summer, art history grad student Lizzie Orlofsky presented her research paper, “The Soul’s Sensational Journey Through the Portal at Kilpeck Church,” at the virtual Medieval and Early Modern Studies (MEMS) Festival hosted by the University of Kent in Canterbury, England.

Student Designs Logo for State Archives Project

Studio art major Rebecca DeLong’s logo designs were selected by the Alabama Department of Archives and History for the new scholarly digital project, Civil War & Reconstruction Era Governors of Alabama Papers 1857-1882. DeLong earned a BA from UA in 2020 with a double major in marketing and studio art.

MFA Student Work Juried into International and National Exhibitions

During the late summer and fall, printmaking graduate student Shivam Pawar had work juried into four national juried exhibitions, two international juried exhibitions, and published in a national publication. *Chores* (below) was accepted to the 2021 Mid America Print Council Juried Members’ Exhibition.


READ MORE STUDENT NEWS HERE: https://art.ua.edu/category/student-news/
exhibitions

SARAH MOODY GALLERY OF ART

Chromatic Rhythm
JAMES LITTLE: PAINTINGS ON PAPER
September 3 – October 15, 2021

Above: Installation view, Chromatic Rhythm, Sarah Moody Gallery of Art.

Left: James Little, Desert Delivery - Study, 2011, raw pigment on paper, 22 x 30 inches.

True Likeness
November 4, 2021 – January 18, 2022
CURATED BY TOM STANLEY AND LIA NEWMAN

Below: LaToya Ruby Frazier, Self Portrait (March 10 am), 2009, gelatin silver photograph, 19 x 15 inches.
On loan from the Collection of Moses Luski and Lori Collins Luski.

Left: Dan Robert Miller, Postman/Postwoman or Two-Faced Mailman, ca.1980, painted maple.
On loan from Columbia Museum of Art, South Carolina.
constructed complexity
assemblage and collage in the paul r. jones collection of american art
September 3 – October 15, 2021
curated by emily bibb

forward movement
selections from the collection of johnny and allison howze
October 1 – December 3, 2021
curated by emily bibb
exhibitions

SELLA-GRANATA ART GALLERY

Studio Graduate Student Show
September 7 - October 8, 2021

RIGHT: Ashlee René Thompson, Flustered, 2021, acrylic and oil pastel on canvas, 30 x 27 inches.


Border Stories
JUAN LOPEZ-BAUTISTA
MFA EXHIBITION
October 18 – November 29, 2021

RIGHT: Hannah Lewis, We Rise By Lifting Others, 2019, woodcut on BFK Rives paper, 42 x 54 inches.

BELOW: Juan Bautista-Lopez, The Desert Journey / El Viaje por el Desierto, acrylic, gouache, ink and mixed media on synthetic paper, 8 x 12 inches.
exhibitions

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA GALLERY

Dangerous Landscapes
LEGACIES OF NINETEENTH-CENTURY PROGRESS
IN THE AGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE
August 6 – September 24, 2021
CURATED BY TERESA CRIBELLI AND ALLISON GRANT

Funded by a Joint Pilot for Arts Research Grant from the Collaborative Arts Research Initiative (CARI)

ABOVE RIGHT: Installation view, Dangerous Landscapes, courtesy Daniel White.
LEFT: Allison Grant, Petroleum Coke Storage Near the School, 2019, archival inkjet print.

An Expressionist’s Journey
SUSAN NOMBERG MCCOLLOUGH
October 1 – December 3, 2021
CURATED BY DANIEL WHITE

Installation view, An Expressionist’s Journey: Susan Nomberg Mccollough, The University of Alabama Gallery
Dinah Washington Cultural Arts Center
ALUMNI DIRECTIONS

Alumna Awarded Prestigious Prize from Museum of Contemporary Photography

This summer, UA photo alumna Alayna Pernell (BA 2019) won the Snider Prize from Columbia College Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Photography (MoCP) and received the MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The Snider Prize is a purchase award given to emerging artists in their final year of graduate study. The museum wrote: "Pernell spent months researching and uncovering suppressed images of Black women held in photographic collections and has re-excavated, re-photographed, re-captioned, and re-contextualized the original works. By engaging with these images with the intervention of her hands and her body, she attempts to rescue and protect Black women’s bodies and their humanity, and also unearth their stories so that they can be seen and heard."

New Graduate Appointed Curatorial Assistant at Meadows Museum

Olivia Turner, a 2021 MA graduate in art history (Early Modern/Spanish Baroque) and a 2019 BA in art history and Spanish, has accepted a full-time position as a curatorial assistant with the Meadows Museum in Dallas, Texas. The Meadows is the leading U.S. museum for the arts and culture of Spain and home to one of the largest collections of Spanish art outside of Spain. "Because of the intimate scale of the Meadows staff," Turner said, "I'll be able to participate in many different aspects of the museum profession that a curatorial assistant normally wouldn't, such as curating exhibitions, hosting gallery talks, traveling nationally and internationally, and contributing to their biannual newsletter."

Alumna Featured in New York Jewelry Week Blog

Ali Hval (BFA 2015) was interviewed for Future Heirloom on the New York City Jewelry Week blog about her recent solo show, Cosmetic Justice, at North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City. An interdisciplinary artist who lives and works in Iowa City, Hval’s work combines painting, fabric, ceramic, sculpture and installation, as well as more than 25 public murals and projects from Iowa to Florida. Hval holds an MFA with honors from the University of Iowa in painting and drawing and a BFA in studio art from UA. In 2015 she was named a Windgate Fellow through the Center for Craft in Asheville, North Carolina. Hval has received a Culture & Resilience Grant from the Iowa Arts Council in 2021 and she held a Chautaugua School of Art Residency in 2020 and a Grant Wood Public Art Residency in 2019.

Below: Olivia Turner’s selfie in the Meadows Museum.
Alumna Uses Museum Works in Cutting-Edge Program to Teach K-12 Art

Since 2018, Emee Hendrickson (MA, art history, 2017; BFA, printmaking, 2013) has been working at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH), first as a tours specialist and recently as object-based learning (OBL) specialist. Among other responsibilities, she now helps develop content that educators, docents and anyone can use to teach history, art, and a variety of subjects.

In her new position, Hendrickson works with a team of museum professionals directly with K-12 teachers in local school districts to integrate visual art into their curriculum, using objects from the MFAH’s permanent collection. For high schools, they use a free toolkit, Museums for Digital Learning (MDL), that allows participating museums to use their own digitized collections to create learning resources for educators and students. MDL was originated by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS); Newfields Lab of the Indianapolis Museum of Art; the Field Museum, Chicago; and History Colorado, Denver.

‘Flourishing’ in the Heart of Woods Quad

Ringo Lisko’s sculpture, Flourish, is the newest addition to the Woods Quad Sculpture Garden. The eight-foot-tall cast bronze crescent of camellias (Alabama’s state flower) was designed and created by 2020 BFA major Lisko for the McMahon-Pleiad Public Art Trail initiative, a collaborative public sculpture project between UA, UAB and UAH. The McMahon-Pleiad prize was awarded to Lisko by the Board of Trustees of The University of Alabama System.

The installation is the culmination of almost two years of work. Drawing the design and casting a smaller bronze scale model of the sculpture, Lisko carved each flower – petals, leaves and all (there are 93 blossoms) – full-size in wax and cast all 93 flowers in bronze in the lost-wax method. Lisko and colleague Jonathan Lanier then welded each blossom onto the eight-foot-high semi-circular stainless steel framework and installed it on campus.

A New Mexico native, Lisko earned her BFA in studio art with concentrations in sculpture and drawing in 2020. She now works as a foundry specialist in the department’s metal shop. Her work has appeared in numerous shows and community sculpture projects. She will present a solo exhibition at Harrison Galleries in Tuscaloosa that opens January 7, 2022.
ALUMNI DIRECTIONS

Alumna to Head Sewing Skills Non-Profit

Viola Moten Ratcliffe (BA 2008, art history) has been named the 2022 interim director for Bib & Tucker Sew-Op in Birmingham, Ala., a non-profit organization that teaches sewing and related skills and provides economic opportunities for participants. Ratcliffe previously served as its program manager after working as curator specialist for the Troy University Rosa Parks Museum. Bib & Tucker Sew-Op has been featured in Southern Living and Ratcliffe was interviewed about the organization on Alabama Public Television’s Monograph.

Birmingham Co-op Gallery Hosts Alumna’s Solo Exhibition

Ground Floor Contemporary hosted Anne Herbert’s solo exhibition, Whistle a Map, in December. Herbert, who lives and works in Birmingham, recently completed a residency at Stove Works in Chattanooga. She was included in the Artist/Mother group exhibition Painting at Night in 2020 and received the First Place Prize in the SE-CAC 2019 Juried Exhibition. Herbert holds a BFA from the University of Montevallo and an MFA (2013, painting) from UA. She has taught painting at the Alabama School of Fine Arts since 2015 and is the director of ASFA’s Vulcan Materials Gallery.

UA Gallery Hosts Susan McCollough Exhibit

Susan Nomberg McCollough presented a solo exhibition of her paintings in October and November at the UA Gallery. McCollough, an alumna in theatre and art, studied with the late UA art professors Alvin Sella and Frank Engel, and went on to study at the Birmingham Museum of Art, the Art Students League of New York and the Accademia D’Arte in Florence, Italy.

McCollough has exhibited in solo and group exhibitions across four continents. Recent awards include selection for exhibition at the 2020 International Art Prize Frida Kahlo art review in Milan, Italy, and the 2019 Monna Lisa La Gioconda Award in Lecce, Italy, from the Accademia Italia in Arte Nel Mondo.

McCollough’s artworks are held in collections in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, Florida, Texas, New York, Virginia, Washington DC, California and New Jersey. For more than a decade, she served on the art committee at the United States Sports Academy, which attracts and honors artists from around the world and is responsible for selecting featured artists for the Olympics. She has owned Studio Three in Florida and, today works at her private studio in Gulf Shores.
Acclaimed Art Critic Praises Pete Schulte’s NYC Solo Show

Associate Professor Pete Schulte's solo exhibition, *The Train and the River*, at McKenzie Fine Art in New York City was favorably reviewed in *Hyperallergic* by the prominent art critic and poet John Yau in December.

In Yau's essay, "Pete Schulte's Magical Abstract Drawings," he describes his experience discovering Schulte's new works and writes, "Schulte merges severity and eccentricity in a single work and arrives at something uncanny. One of the pleasures of his objects and drawings is that they simultaneously invite and resist interpretation."

Bryce Speed Awarded Residency

Associate Professor Bryce Speed was awarded a fellowship by the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA) for an artist residency in November. Speed held two solo exhibitions: *Imagination and Crisis: New Paintings by Bryce Speed* at the Creative Arts Gallery in the College of the Redwoods, Eureka, California, in September and October; and *Neon Afternoon*, at the Hoover (Ala.) Public Library, in November and December, 2021.

Rachel Stephens Presents Research on History of Slavery at UA

Associate Professor Rachel Stephens presented research on the history of slavery at The University of Alabama as moderator of the panel, "Not Just the Plantation: Changing Narratives at Historic Sites, Museums, and University Campuses," at the Slave Dwelling Project Conference 2021, with panelists Brigette Janea Jones, August J. Dawson-Darbonne, and Trevian Ambroise. Stephens is also a member of a UA faculty research group for the study of slavery and its legacies.
Tanja Jones Publishes Book on Early Modern Women Artists

In September, associate professor Dr. Tanja L. Jones celebrated the publication of her new edited volume, *Women Artists in the Early Modern Courts of Europe: c. 1450-1700*, with a Zoom talk with fellow scholars and chapter contributors. The new volume is the first collection of essays dedicated to women as producers of visual and material culture in the Early Modern European courts. Chapters address works by women who occupied a range of social and economic positions within and around the courts and across media, including paintings, sculpture, prints and textiles.

Wendy Castenell at Crystal Bridges Museum

This fall, assistant professor Dr. Wendy Castenell joined three other Tyson Think Tank Fellowship scholars of American art in a virtual roundtable, “Re-presenting and Reckoning with Early American Art,” at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas. The fellows shared their research conducted during residencies at the museum this summer, including new findings, and ways of approaching early American art. Castenell focused on one of the subjects of her forthcoming book, the nineteenth-century portrait of a Louisiana free man of color, Nicolas Augustin Metoyer.

Chris Jordan Publishes Book on Photography and Meditation

In November, Harrison Galleries in Tuscaloosa hosted a solo exhibition of photography by Associate Professor Chris Jordan from his new book *Nowhere In Place* (GFT Publishing 2021). The book explores the meeting place between meditation and photography with pictures Jordan took in travels to Alabama, Colorado and India. Jordan’s practice is to meditate before going out to take pictures, which allows him to “see the world in fresh ways, appreciating overlooked details that might escape a mind preoccupied with business-as-usual.” The book has been praised by Aline Smithson, founder and editor-in-chief of Lenscratch, and Zen Buddhist teacher and poet Hank Lazer, who wrote the introduction.
Alumnus, Longtime Instructor Hired as Assistant Professor of Sculpture, Museums

After a national search, full-time instructor and alumnus Jamey Grimes was appointed assistant professor of art, beginning in the fall of 2021. He will teach sculpture and a course in museum studies. Since 2008, Grimes has taught 2D and 3D Design, Drawing I and II and Advanced Sculpture at UA. A Tuscaloosa native, he received a BFA in art and a BS in biology (with a minor in math) from Birmingham-Southern College, and an MFA in sculpture from UA. Grimes was named the South Arts State Fellowship recipient for Alabama in 2019 and was awarded Alabama State Council on the Arts Visual Arts Fellowships in 2020 and in 2013. He was named the Visual Arts Educator of the Year by The Arts Council of Tuscaloosa in 2015.

Longtime Art Historian and Associate Dean to Retire

Catherine Pagani, professor of art history and recent associate dean of the UA Graduate School retired in December after 28 and a half years at UA. Pagani started out in the department of art and art history, where she served seven years as chair and is now professor of art history. She served five and a half years as associate dean for Graduate Academic Programs, stepping down last year.

The Graduate Council presented Pagani with a resolution recognizing her service and thanking her for her dedication to the Graduate School. As associate dean, she oversaw key areas of accreditation and program approval. She inaugurated the Graduate Council's Policy Committee and served as chief liaison for the Graduate Awards Committee and Graduate Curriculum Committee.

Pagani's expertise is in Chinese art. She holds a Ph.D. in East Asian Studies and a master's degree in Museum Studies, both from the University of Toronto. She came to UA on a 3-year grant in 1993. "At a time when a lot of institutions were not replacing positions for retiring faculty – and certainly they were not creating new positions – UA was one of few institutions in the country that was able to add a new faculty line," Pagani said. "It was really an exceptional situation."

As chair of the department from 2008 to 2015, Pagani oversaw the department's name change to reflect its broader focus, expansion of the faculty, elevation of the department's staff, the department's first study abroad program, in Cuba, and the significant acquisition of the Paul R. Jones Collection of American Art.

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https://art.ua.edu/category/facultystaff-news/
Arielle Gray Wins Creator Labs Photo Fund Award

Alumna Arielle Gray (BA 2019) is among 19 artists from around the country selected to receive a Creator Labs Photo Fund award. The artists were announced on *Aperture*’s website and featured on *Vogue*’s website in October.

The award is a new initiative by *Aperture* and Google’s Creator Labs aimed at providing financial support to photographers in the wake of COVID-19, according to *Aperture*. The artists were “recognized for their exceptional vision as well as the strength and originality of their portfolios, and will be awarded a prize of $5,000 each to sustain their work and practice.”

Gray said that the award “was such an unexpected blessing” and that she’ll be adding more images and info to her website in the near future “for people who want to know more about the stories behind the images.” She said that she would use some of the money for photo equipment “for the exploration of the moving image.”

Gray graduated in 2019 from UA with a BA in studio art, minoring in art history. She attends Yale School of Art with a full scholarship. At UA, Gray changed her major to studio art in her junior year and “then very quickly took every photography course we offered, developing her talents with impressive focus and dedication,” UA associate professor Chris Jordan said. “She also took part in the Black Belt Artist Project…if there was an opportunity to learn more, she took it.”

On *Aperture*’s website, creative director Lesley A. Martin said, “*Aperture*’s team of editors has selected a dynamic and diverse group of photographers, whose talent, vision, and promise are truly inspiring. We all communicate with images today—and we encourage all photographers to continue their practices ensuring a more rigorous, more expansive range of expressions to the field. Together, *Aperture* and Google are proud to offer these twenty photographers our support, which we hope will be meaningful for their work and careers.”