

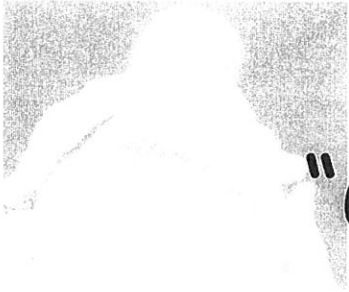


"Great Works:  
The Edison School at  
Orr Felt"



February 12-17, 2007





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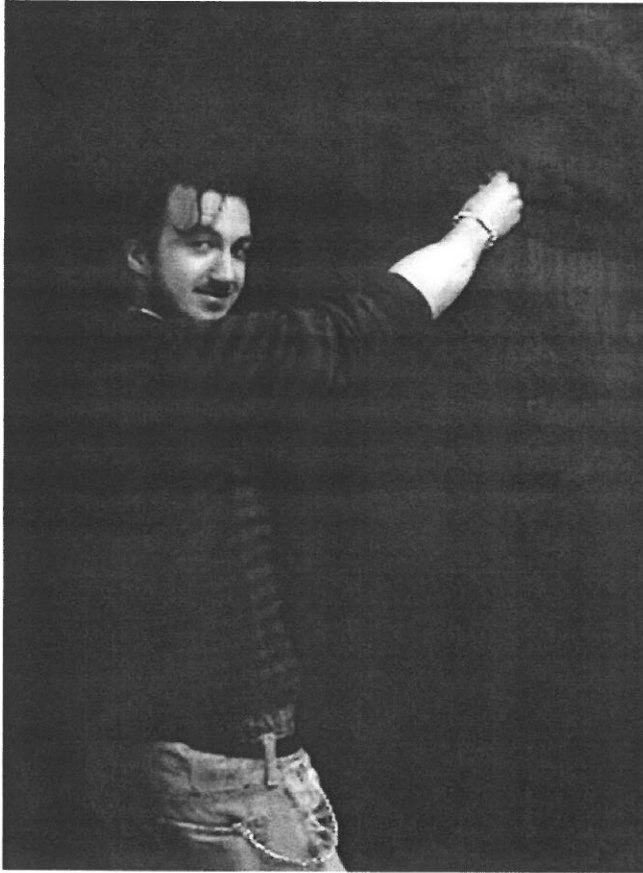


February 12-17, 2007



Andy Arnett

Current Student



"It's as if dusk is fighting against the inevitable night and the night is weighing down the sun on the horizon. The warm, bright light burning from the horizon attempts to heat the chilled blue sky. Bare trees branch through the sky only visible because the setting sun touches them. The ominous dark values that surround and grow, strain the struggle of the intense sunset's end."

## David Campbell

## Current Student

"By looking attentively at old and smeared walls or stones and marbles of various colors, you may fancy that you see in them several compositions..."By these confused lines the inventive genius is excited to new exertions."-Leonardo DaVinci. This is the basis of what I do in my creative field. The movement and the composition that are found in water stains on concrete and also shadows that are cast on the human body become my pieces of art. The movement and composition of my paintings are emphasized because of the simple values that are in them, black and white, and occasionally brown. My technique for applying the paint with the brush is wet on wet. The paint flows easily and continually to create movement within the composition."



**Samantha Burkhammer Clark**

**Current Student**

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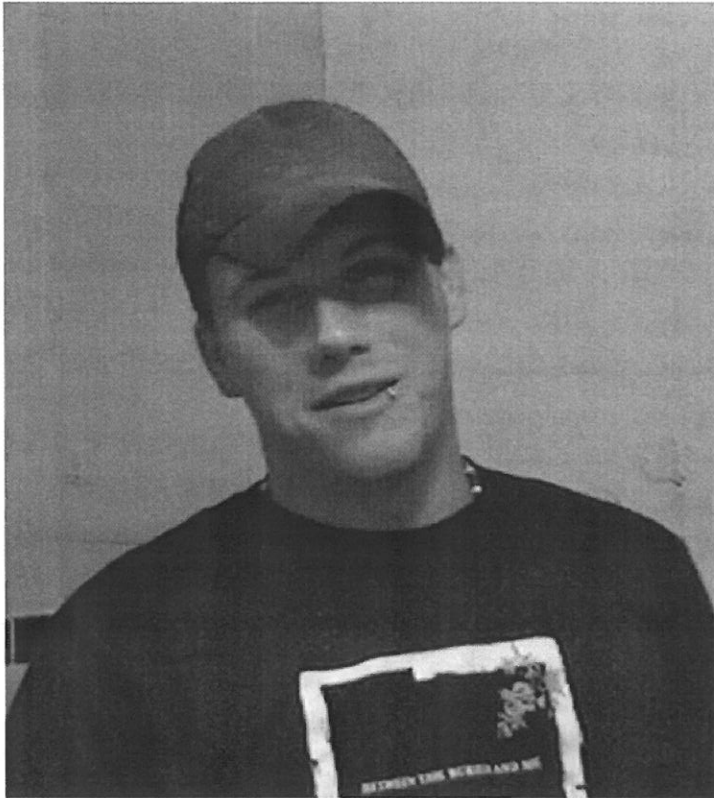
“The true gift of an artist is to communicate a perception. As an artist, I have chosen to communicate my perception of the world around me using unique materials. I feel that no concept is beyond reach as long as the imagination is utilized. As I create each piece, I hope to convey a grace and elegance mixed with an edgy sense of raw emotion. To me, the use of symbolism and raw detail is just as important as the paint and canvas. “Violet Femme” is only one in a series of pieces moving from paint to mixed media. It is more than a progression of artwork, it is the growth of the artist. It is the evolution of my perception.”



"This particular piece of art, as always, is

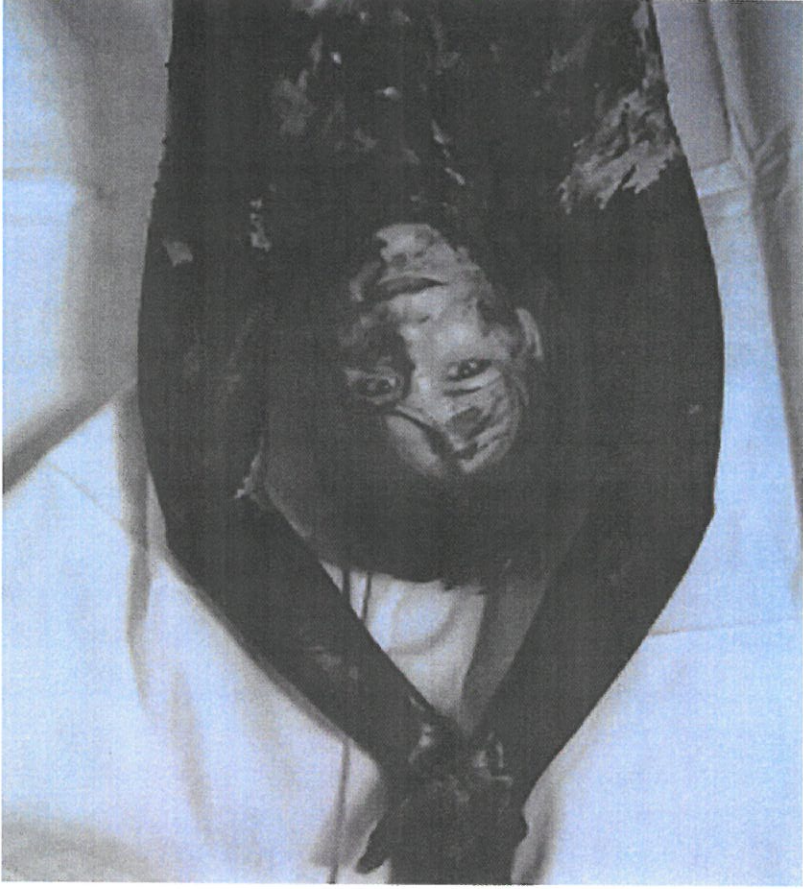
personalized. Three colored objects are placed on a field of black, white, gray and brown gray tones. The original Photoshop adaptation derives from a picture of my daughter Suzette in front of my pond at home. My intent is to approach through visual representation the special content that exists between my daughter and me. She is a bubbly little fairy princess who brightens a sometimes gray drab world.

In general, my art leans into surreal abstraction. A piece of art comes with a pre-wrapped message. To me the message is integral to the visual presentation."



“Moving through this horizon with swollen soles, I look to the sun only to find myself one step further away from the beginning. Unable to focus on the light, I turn around to find my shadow. Watching it, as it watches me, it starts to move across the earth. Moving over the rocks, over the hills, over the mountains and over the ocean, I notice it’s always moving. I turn back to a setting sun and head toward my next horizon as I feel my shadow’s piercing eyes staring at me.”

"What is Art? The dictionary describes the word "art" as "human effort to imitate, supplement, alter, or counteract the work of nature." I felt that this example would justify an explanation for the way that I paint or the thoughts a viewer might have while looking at some of my pieces. This collection of paintings is my way of visually expressing the five human senses that inspire me to create. The sound of falling leaves, the aroma of a winter morning, the amazing sight of nature, the tastes of a warm meal, or the touch of soft skin. I hope that the viewers of my art will be able to appreciate the change in appearance and mood if the painting is seen from a close perspective or from a distance. I believe that all artwork should be just as interesting in a single square inch as it is as a whole piece. While my paintings now are moving in a more organic direction, the mathematical pattern of using a mental grid system is represented in all of my pieces. And, with every stroke of paint that I lay out onto the canvas, my soul becomes one step closer to freedom."



direction, the mathematical pattern of using a mental grid system is represented in all of my pieces. And, with every stroke of paint that I lay out onto the canvas, my soul becomes one step



Lori Heckman

Current Student



“For this piece I wanted to do something different. I wanted to try to throw paint. I found that the colors I used seemed to work really well together. My intent was to make a moving piece so when you looked at it you would not be able to take your eyes off it. The purpose of this piece was to try something new and something that makes you come back to look again.”

Yea...lots of nice pictures. however, some of them I just don't see...

Very well, it's as if they are not the you that I know, not the you I hear.  
I would wish upon a star to see the edginess, the vulnerability, the dreaminess of tomorrows.  
The person you dream to be. The person you dare not to be in the public eye but the person you  
are deep in shadows.  
The edge of artistry cuts deep inside us.  
Bleeds us shallow if we allow it.  
Feeling the pallor of the twilights yet to be.  
Relishing, embracing each tomorrow morning,  
as if,



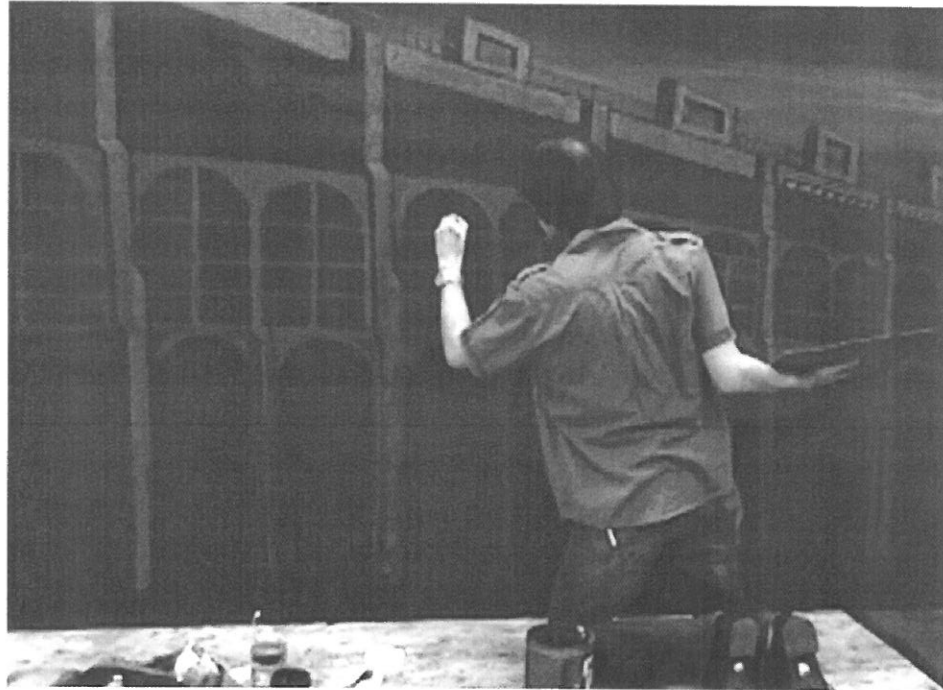
it may be  
our last?  
Embrace me  
I am the artistry of unrequited  
social standards  
I bleed each person's belief, and  
truths and half truths, and lies...  
I am an artist and I embrace the  
calling of living today  
for there,  
may not be  
any  
tomorrows...."

"Art, for me, has always been a preferred means of expression. I believe images have the potential to convey more emotion than words alone, hence, the age-old idiom, "a picture is worth a thousand words."

I work with a variety of subjects, but I find myself most enamored with surrealism. I believe the combination of representational artwork and fantastic or impossible theme causes people to think about what they see. I find that I often wax macabre in my works, and I appreciate optical illusion.

My work mainly utilizes acrylic paint, although I am constantly experimenting with new and different techniques. I commonly mix almost all of my colors with either black or grey, making my paintings dark and moody.

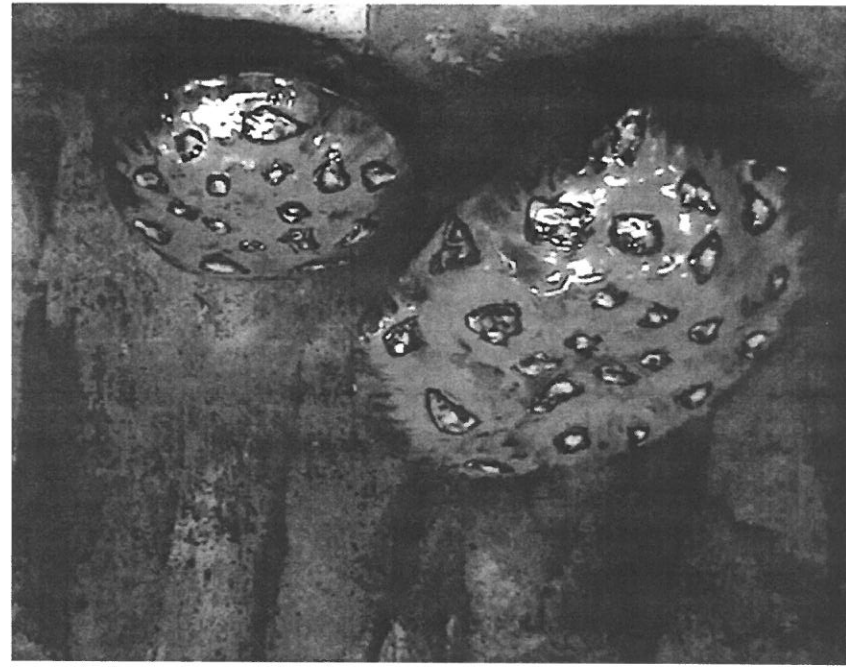
As an artist, I am always trying to improve the quality of my work. I draw from a wealth of inspirations, such as Dali and Escher. I am also inspired by the works of the subconscious mind, as the nature of our dreams, real, yet illusory, so closely mirror the intent of my work."



“Creativity is a very vital element in my life; without being able to express it, I tend to wither and die inside. Painting and sculpture are two of the ways that I have found that allows me to be in touch with this part of my soul.

My artwork tends to be organic; both in shape as well as in my choice of colors, drawing inspiration from this incredible world that God has created. I am attracted to the textures around me, like the shagbark on a hickory tree and the smoothness of a weathered stone. I try to communicate these textures in my pieces, I want my art not just to be seen with eyes but experienced with touch as well.

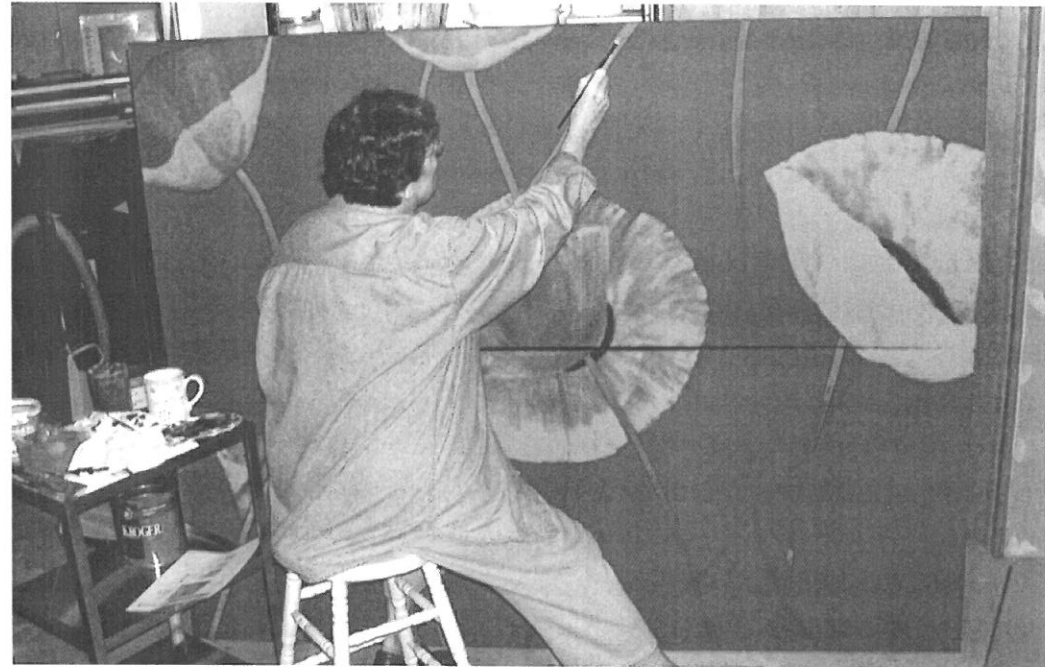
Whatever the method or means of expression I use, the subject matter subdued or intense, I want to communicate this experience with others through my art. I don't strive for perfection in form or even the reflection of what I see, but the essence of what I perceive and feel in my soul.”



"Painting provides me the opportunity to "stretch and grow." It is an avenue to step outside my comfort zone, to explore the use of color and abstract objectivism to create not only a visual experience, but also an emotional connection.

My subject matter is taken from memories of places, objects, and events that I have found hopeful and with a spiritual connection.

"Remembered," this triptych of poppies, evolved from seeing the field of poppies referred to in the World War I poem "In Flanders Fields." It is in memory of all the soldiers who did not return to us."

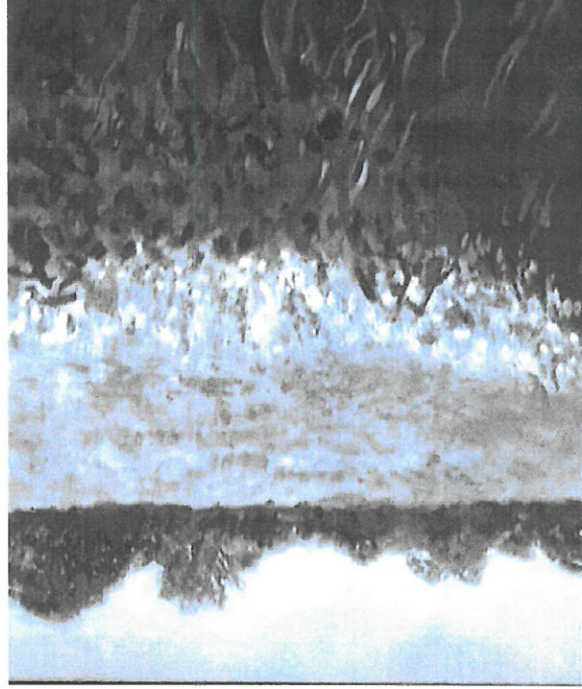


"Making art, to me, is a journey, never a destination. The path is so different than it was a month ago. Come reveal with me as you experience my struggle! It is like a plant ever pushing toward the sun and like the yearning one feels in seeing a sunset, water reflections, or hearing the pines rustle. The common scenes everywhere call, like the deep calling to the deep, or like a shadow cast by an image that exists somewhere.

All around are the same scenes, but the way we each see is so pricelessly different. I quit trying to paint just what I see. I am loosening up to paint my take on what I see – how I feel when I see. I am allowing myself to move more into the abstract. And so I value your take on what you see: hearing how you perceive my art is my reward for taking the trouble. I hope that my struggle gives you something.

I will always be a student—learning and striving to use technique, such as under-painting, wet-on-wet, scumbling, glazing, spraying, and art principle, such as balance, conflict, composition, design, color theory, warm and cool colors, complementary colors. I know that the refining of an artist's skill is only accomplished with dedication and time. To be an artist is a life's work.

My style of painting is erratic by choice, because this is how I see—life is full of chaos, full of nuance, full of mystery. My chaotic method is saturated with joy for life just the way it is. The painting is done in acrylic paint."



## Velda Thorpe

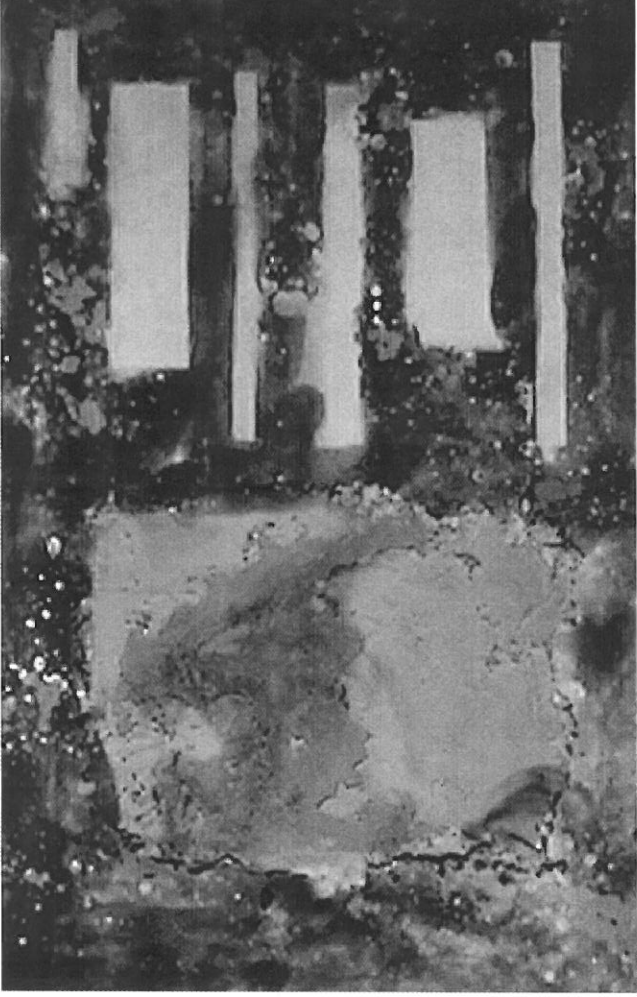
## Current Student

"Art connects with individual emotion. I choose subjects that touch a spiritual chord to uplift or bring to memory a pleasant time somewhere in the past. My work uses lighter and brighter colors and ranges from abstract to more realistic.

Using a staining technique to portray a microscopic cross-section of a mustard seed allows light and color to flow into each other representing the aliveness of the seed. The imperfectness of the seed could remind us that faith, like a mustard seed, is not always perfect. The size, however, being larger by thousands of times, suggests that a great imperfect faith can still be a beautiful powerful force."



**Former Student**



**Greg Clem**  
B.F.A., Sculpture, Wright State University  
Currently attending the University of Cincinnati

“My work speaks about transformation, process, consumption, and beauty. It addresses our modern interaction with the environment within which we live-our distance, our disharmony with it. Through the transformation the objects become irreversibly consumed, they illustrate consumption, and hence even in the wake of their beauty they are products of a process of consumption that fuels the destruction of the very world in which they were created to augment.”

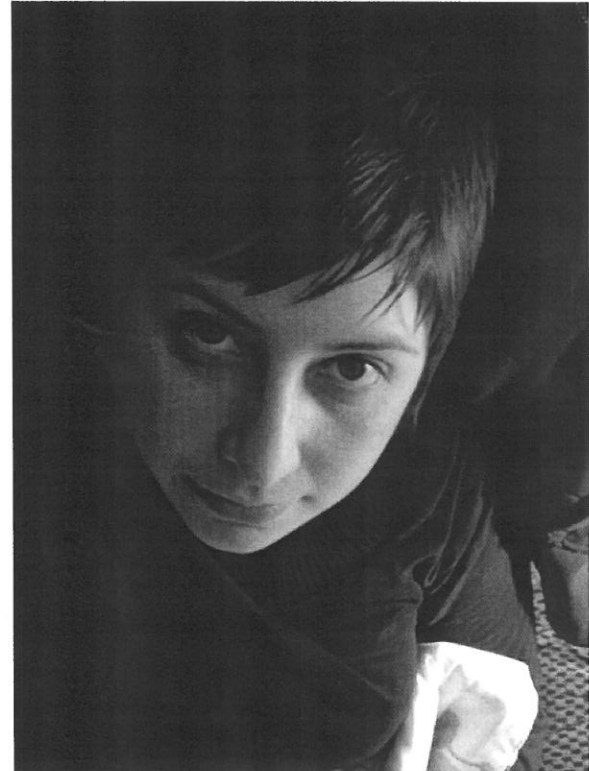


## **Jolynn Colebaugh**

**B.F.A., Sculpture, Lamar Dodd School of Art, University of Georgia  
Currently teaching at Edison Community College**

## **Former Student**

“In a perfect world, everything would be constructed of fabric. Hidden within the stitches that bind everything together would be the thoughts, memories and histories of every generation. The traditions and the methods used for constructing this perfect world are those that, through the years, have become timeless. They represent the women, their children and the changes that occur through time. In each construction are hidden secrets offering insight into the emotions people portray. They speak of experiences with which most people can identify or relate. They may not be easy or comfortable, but they help to draw attention to issues that should not be ignored or forgotten.”



"Here Kitty, Kitty" and "Good Cat/Bad Cat" silkscreen images are from a series of prints based around contrasting imagery and almost repulsive color combinations. The imagery itself is derived from reflection on my own Scottish heritage, dismantled and reassembled to form new relations between disparate forms. The Gaelic references as a clan motto in which the cat is a visual representation of my family lineage. The cat then becomes representational of the distant past; a presence always suggested, but never completely revealed.

"Untitled Construction" is inspired by the forms and vibrant colors from a pack of vintage origami paper. The construction process offers a tactile response to the repetitive folding of the paper, transforming it from a thin flat sheet into a more complex three-dimensional form, brightly colored and almost whimsical in nature. These forms are juxtaposed with black cut paper shapes creating a sense of motion and depth. Using the scanner as my camera, I then photograph and arrange my constructions, creating a pause that is



once again flat, but with the illusion of space."

**Debra A Jordon**

Currently attending the University of Dayton

**Former Student**

**"Windswept Wheatfield"**

"I had a vision of a wheat field blowing in the wind for this painting, but was not quite sure how it would turn out. With God's help, it just emerged from the canvas as I worked the color with my palette knife and brush. My style is Impressionistic/Post-Impressionistic and gains its influence from artists such as Vincent Van Gogh and Claude Monet.



I like to emphasize color, texture, and movement in my paintings. This particular painting has the added texture of actual pieces from a field placed across the composition. I have a passion for simple things, things of nostalgia, and things of the past. I hope this passion shows through in my artwork."

"With my minds eye, I can see the world. I can interpret it any way that I like. My painting allows me to show the world what I see. I didn't always feel this way. When I took my painting class, it was because I needed the credit but when we learned about spraying paint, I found something that touched me and caught my attention. We learned to spray paint with an aerosol can that allowed us to switch paint colors. The results were very soft and subtle and, depending on how I laid the colors down, would become this rich piece of art. Then I experimented by adding touches of heavier paint with a brush, then spraying over that. I found this gave me more expression since I could add a hint of something tangible for my audience. Now I use a power sprayer, which gives me more control on where my paint goes. I can change my nozzle to get different effects. I love the freedom of expressing myself though the art of paint spraying because I get the results I want that I cannot get with the brush. I chose to use the subject I did because I love the human form in art. I used it more subtly in areas because I didn't want the whole painting to be about nudity. I wanted to show a peek here and there to express the secrecy we like to hold around us when it comes to sexuality and our bodies."



## Alicia Rubin

## Former Student

Currently attending Antioch University

"I feel that art should be an extension of one's self. It should flow freely from the mind lacking doubts, fears and restrictions. Art is creation and cannot be labeled or contained. In its purest form, it has no rules. It's formless, weightless and never-ending. Art is because it must be.



Art is the vehicle by which I express myself. It allows me to take ideas that have not true form and turn them into secular works. Overall, however, art is a sensual experience. Not only a visual pleasure; the feel of my hands in wet paint is smooth like liquid silk and the grittiness of charcoal being rubbed over textured paper makes my skin feel alive. Art in its ultimate conception is not for the viewing masses, but for the artist alone. This personal intimacy is what makes art so individualistically important for each person and what draws me to it.

Without art, I could not breathe. It is the air erasing boundaries and restrictions of my mind. It runs the length of all human emotion, provoking humbled tears to acts of absolute rage. Art affects each person uniquely, therefore, no response either positive or negative can be deemed wrong. It would be like telling someone how to feel from the depth of his or her soul. I don't like to label my work because of this belief. Each work is left to be perceived on a personal basis by each viewer. Art is religion. We feel it, we breathe it, we perfect it and we revere it. Art is everything."

**Samantha Williams**

**Former Student**

"Art is a fun, creative life form that is imprinted on me, which directs me with unspoken words to use my skills and techniques to convert ideas to the canvas. With quick brushstrokes, I am able to express my intuition to create these masterpieces carefree and with energy. My goals are to show alluring mystical, but powerful paintings that are captivating and have a sense of provocative elegance. My favorite creations are mythical creatures such as gargoyles and Pegasus. In addition, I love to create landscapes, still-lifes and self-portraits with a little flare."

