

MFEA 2023

2023 MFA Catalogue

We are excited to present this catalogue celebrating the 2023 Masters of Fine Art graduates from the Department of Studio Art. These exhibitions are the result of three years of dedicated studio practices, critical dialogue, creative inquiry, scholarship, and innovation.

We thank the graduating students for their focused dedication to their artistic and intellectual development and for sharing their distinguished work in this catalogue. We are grateful for their positive impact on the UNT CVAD community, as they have enriched the community with their research, thoughtfulness, and scholarship.



Asepo

Atinuke Adeleke

BIOGRAPHY

Atinuke Osibogun-Adeleke is a designer and interdisciplinary artist. Her current work includes sculpture and fiber pieces that incorporate the traditional culture and practices of the place she once called home (Nigeria), western traditional woodworking techniques, and modern processes such as CAD, 3d printing, and CNC routing. Atinuke's work has been in exhibitions held at notable institutions and galleries like the African American Museum in Dallas, Touchstone Gallery Washington D.C, Atlantic Gallery NYC, and Ellington-White Contemporary Gallery NC.

STATEMENT

As an artist, the process of making represents and resolves my internal conflicts. I am inspired by the convergence of the past and present, traditional cultural practices and modern processes, my Nigerian and Colonial/Western culture.

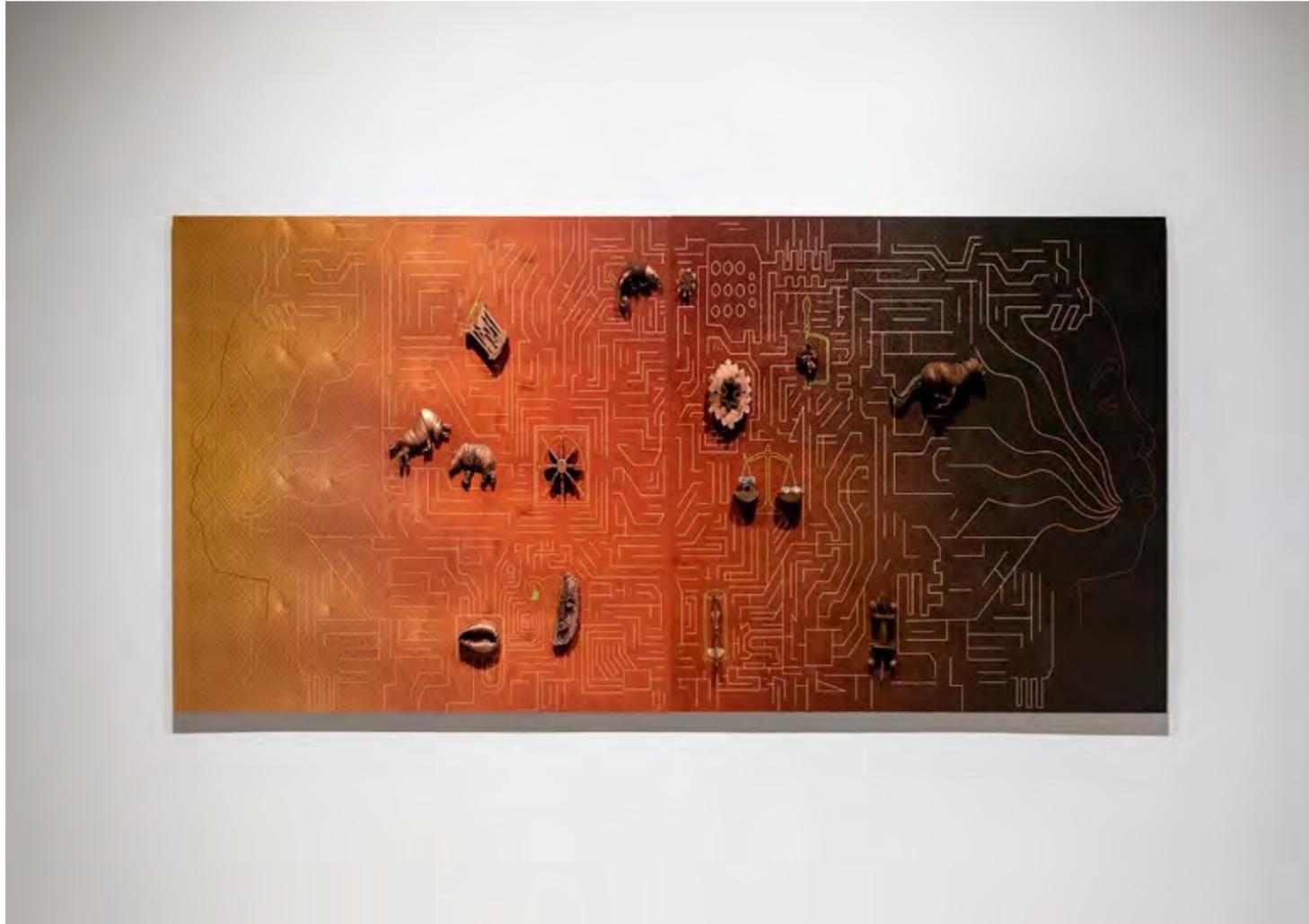
My work pays homage to my tribe of origin, Yoruba, whilst redefining and exploring the hybridity that exists as a result of cross-cultural influences that are prominent in our world today.

My artistic practice centers around personal history, connection and identity. I reflect on my experience as a Nigerian who has lived on three continents thus far and how those experiences have led to the deconstruction, reassembly and hybridization of my identity.

I incorporate varying objects and materials such as jewelry, sculpture, wood, metal and fiber. This integration speaks to the multicultural existence of the world I live in, the interrelationship between Nigeria and the West.

I use symbolic motifs from my culture of origin and from my daily experience as a cosmopolite, to speak on personal struggles and achievements that arise from these moments of intersections.

www.atinukeadeleke.com



Ogiri Iranti
48 x 96 inches
Wood (Birch plywood), Wood print, 3d printed PLA, Electroplated copper, Wood stain, Wood dye
2023



Wood Statement Necklaces
Maple wood, Copper, 3d printed wood PLA
2023



BIOGRAPHY

Sarah DePetris is an interdisciplinary artist whose practice integrates painting, installation, and sculpture. She makes multi-dimensional drawings that capture the energy and potential of the almost and the not-yet-made. Abstracting imagery of found piles of rubble and construction debris, her works are bridges between the real and imagined. DePetris exhibits her work nationally, with multiple recent and upcoming solo exhibitions. She received her BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2009. She is excited to continue growing her practice after graduating from CVAD in 2023.

STATEMENT

Rainbows, Stones & Ghosts is a two-part exhibition of multi-dimensional drawings about the almost and the not-yet-made. My Project-in-Lieu-of Thesis exists physically as a series of oil paintings, works on paper, and a site-specific sculptural installation. With recurring imagery of rainbows, stones, and construction debris, the works reimagine their subjects as icons and objects of potential. Highlighting time, labor, and material, my project questions the creation of value, status, and the concept of the 'ideal'. My drawings dissolve the boundary between the absence and presence by continuously breaking down, expanding, and reimagining their surfaces, subjects, and sites. Rainbows, Stones & Ghosts is an invitation to navigate the 'almost' as an immersive space of possibility.

www.sarahdepetris.net

Sarah DePetris

Rainbows, Stones & Ghosts



Exhalations, Exaltations
46 x 84 inches
Acrylic, Gesso, and Graphite on Paper
2023



How to Build a Rainbow #5
46 x 48 inches
Oil, Graphite, and Gesso on Paper
2022



From Every Depth of Good and Ill

Jacob Taylor Gibson

BIOGRAPHY

Currently residing in Denton, Texas, Jacob Taylor Gibson is an artist creating work through printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, and installation art. Jacob is actively engaged in the Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) area and has exhibited his work nationally as well as internationally in Italy and Australia. His work has been published in magazines such as Artists Talk Magazine, Envision Arts Magazine, and The Hand Magazine and is held in many permanent collections, including The Meadows Museum, The Hilliard Art Museum, The Bradbury Art Museum, and The Zuckerman Museum of Art.

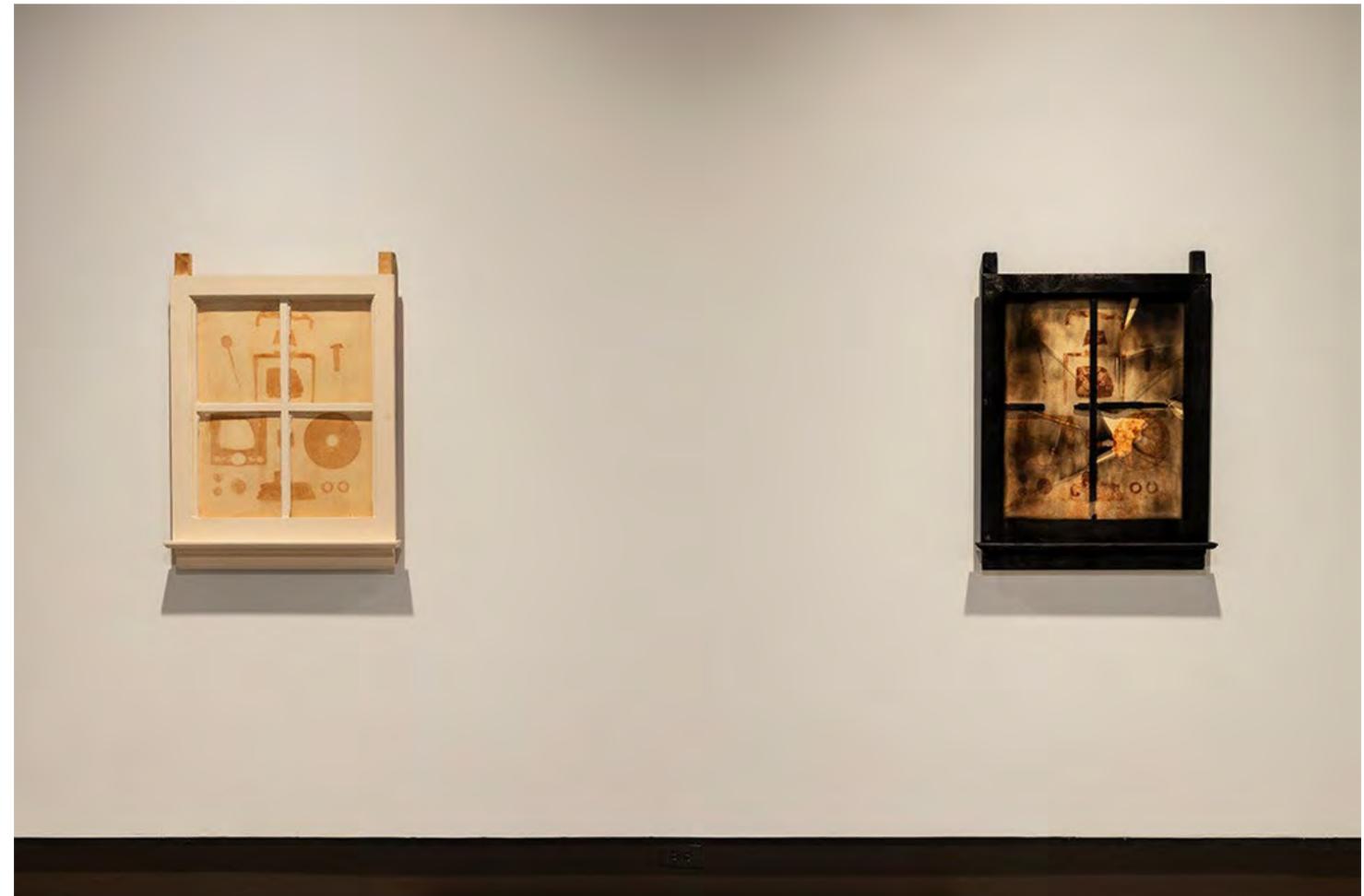
STATEMENT

Titled after a poem by Edgar Allan Poe, *From Every Depth of Good and Ill*, is an exhibition composed of vignettes created with ceramic sculpture, ephemeral installation works, and printmaking. The work primarily references domesticity and antiquated subjects to illustrate the process of coping with past trauma and the resultant feelings of shame, inadequacy, and incompleteness. Marked by a palette of warm rust and sepia, aged patterning, and worn textures, the tableau of objects presented within the space mimics old familial photographs. Each resulting work serves as a dirty looking-glass for the viewer to peer through.

www.jacobbartorgibson.com



I've Yearned for You for So Very Long
60 x 60 x 10 inches
Ceramics, Sculpture
2023



All of You, Body and Soul, Flesh and Bone
25 x 30 x 3 inches (each)
Printmaking, Sculpture
2023

**BIOGRAPHY**

Saxon Martinez is a mixed media artist, and his current body of work discusses labor, trauma, and ephemerality through the visual language of Piñatas. He has exhibited his work in the United States and overseas. Martinez was born in TX and moved to Colorado, where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Art with a concentration in Sculpture from Colorado State University.

STATEMENT

My work explores my identity as a Latino, veteran, and father, and counteracts the lack of positive representation of men of color in society. While they are similar to traditional piñatas in their design and construction, my sculptures are based on abstract representations of my internalized identity. These anthropomorphic forms stand rather than being hung, enacting ownership over their space. This allows them to take on a newly assigned identity and presence. These forms allow me to display, articulate, and communicate the struggles I have experienced throughout my life because of systemic oppression.

@martinez_s_f

Saxon Martinez

Candalaria Paredes and Delores Martinez



Findsomeoneelse
48 x 48 x 24 inches
Cardboard, Tissue Paper, and Paper
2022



Pela
96 x 48 inches
Tissue Paper, Cardboard, and Paper
2022



One Thing at Least is Certain

Diana Rojas

BIOGRAPHY

Diana Rojas is an interdisciplinary artist whose research explores human attempts and desires to engage with the invisible and sublime through installation, video, sound, and sculpture. Her work, which exists physically and virtually, has been exhibited and published nationally and internationally.

STATEMENT

Diana Rojas explores the hidden and invisible through interdisciplinary collaboration and conversation across fields such as Philosophy, Music Composition, Physics, Material Science, and Visual Art. The tools and environments she creates - by utilizing the archaic and contemporary, the digital and sculptural, known and unknown, and the minute and immersive - culminate in experiential works that prompt viewers to slow down and inspire introspection. The slowing down that these works provoke raises questions about existence, reality and being. By combining materials and elements of theories and devices of exploration, she references their antecedents, but creates new opportunities for viewer investigation. This includes utilizing creative coding, video, 3D modeling, welding steel, kiln forming and soldering glass, and utilizing sand as projection screens. Additionally, she utilizes sound and light to create captivating installations, inspired by interest in the influence that immaterial forces have on human minds and decisions.

www.dianarojasart.com



Observatory 1, Observatory 2, Observatory 3
Glass, Sand, Steel, Light, Sound
2023



Observatory 3 (detail)
48 x 24 inches
Steel, Glass
2023



BIOGRAPHY

Courtney Segrest is a ceramic artist currently living in Denton, Texas. She received her BFA from the University of Oklahoma in 2019 with an emphasis in ceramics and sculpture. Her work utilizes interwoven ceramic rings to create a heightened sensory perception, encouraging prolonged engagement with the handcrafted objects. Her work can be read in *Pottery Making Illustrated: March/April, Art Focus: Volume 34*, and *The Oklahoma: Arts Review, May 3rd*. She has exhibited across the US, such as *Hella Cups* in California, the *15th Annual cup show: Form and Function* in Florida, and *Tactile Voices in Clay* in New York.

STATEMENT

Inside, Outside, Under, is a collection of ceramic works that utilize a heightened sensory perception to encourage a prolonged engagement with the handcrafted objects. The pieces within this exhibition all contain ceramic rings interwoven in complex, radial configurations to produce a malleable, geometric network designed to respond to the user's movements. The work revolves around dichotomies: hard/soft, delicate/strong, inspired by clay's chemical alterations in the firing. Each malleable pattern preserves the fluid movement the pliable clay begins with, creating a striking discovery for the viewer when the tactile experience isn't what was expected. Overall, the abundance of ornament elevates the object, transforming an everyday object, such as a cup, into something intended for special occasions or moments for the self.

www.courtneysegrest.com

Courtney Segrest

Inside, Outside, Under



Hanging Cup
16 x 12 x 12 inches
Ceramic, Cone 10 Porcelain
2023



Hanging Cups at Rest
16 x 12 x 12 inches
Ceramic, Cone 10 Porcelain
2023



Times-Mu-Ta-Tion

Jae-Eun Suh

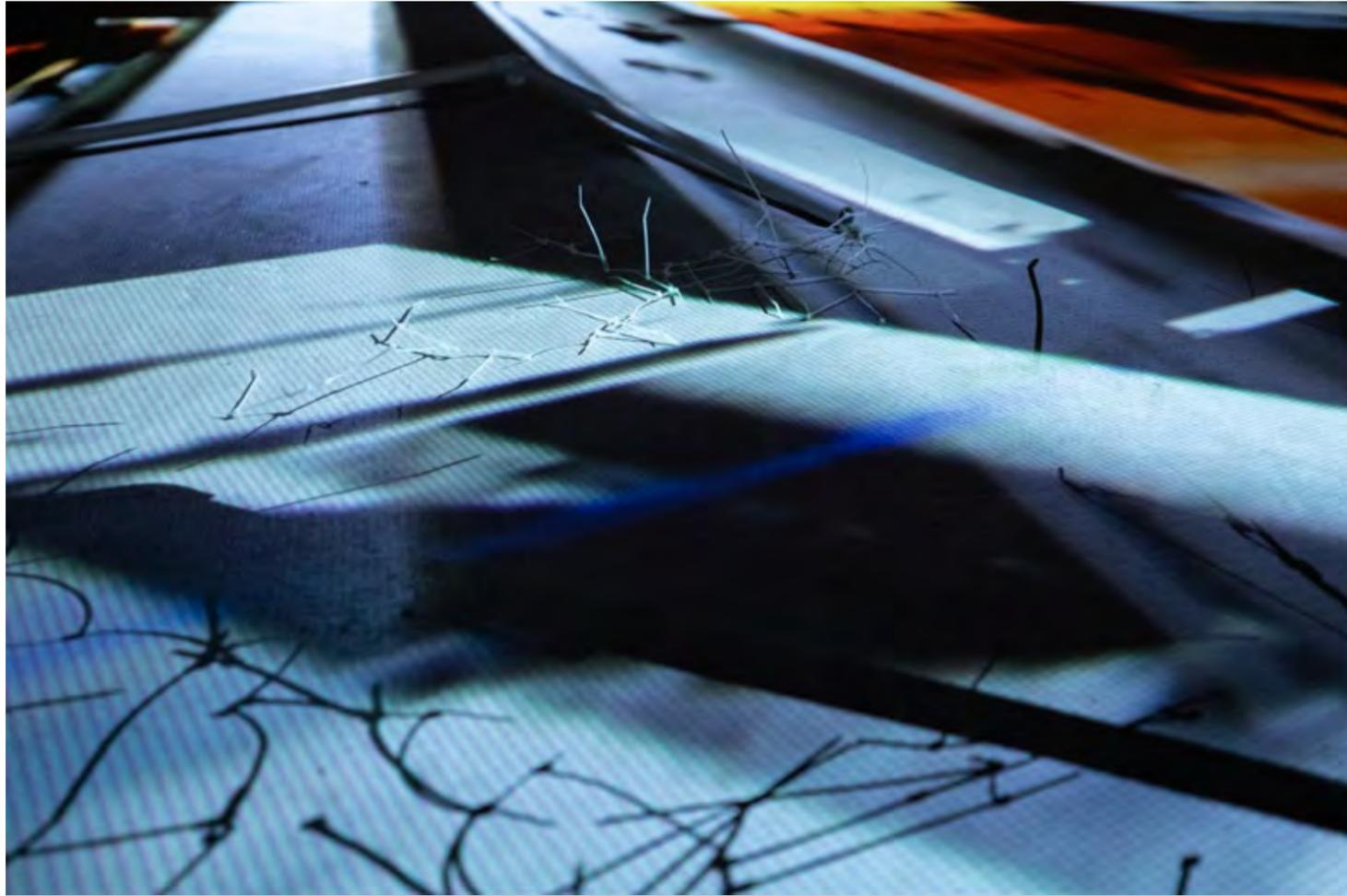
BIOGRAPHY

Jae-Eun Suh creates compositions using analog methods, digital images, and projection. Her work conveys the longing, embodied experiences, and Third Culture Kid (TCK) experience in various media. She received the Talley Dunn Gallery Equity In The Arts Fellowship. Her work has been shown at the Centre Culturel et Littéraire Jean Giono in Manosque, France, Czong Institute for Contemporary Art in Gimpo, South Korea, and The MAC in Dallas.

STATEMENT

My work as an American artist (Korean diaspora) reflects the interplay of diverse cultures and locations that have shaped my experiences. Through the exploration of photo and video archives from my travels, I uncover patterns and images that symbolize both place and transition. Utilizing digital technology, I fragment and reconstruct visual elements, evoking a sense of longing and disconnection. I also investigate the relationship between the body and space, using multi-modal responses. My work aims to capture dualities and stimulate contemplative meditation through the juxtaposition of tangible and intangible, clear and hazy, large and small, and intimate and distant elements.

jaeeunsuh.weebly.com



Times-Mu-Ta-Tion
Video and Audio surround installation
2023



Times-Mu-Ta-Tion
Video and Audio surround installation
2023

The MFA at UNT

In the Department of Studio Art, we serve our M.F.A. students by focusing on their intellectual and creative growth, fostering their professional and studio-based practice, and preparing them for a lifetime of accomplishment and meaningful contributions as culture creators. The program frames the individual needs of each student through the development of conceptual, aesthetic, and technical skills. While in the program, students engage with theory and practices across disciplines while engaging in the critical practice of the fine arts. Housed in a world-class Tier 1 research institute, CVAD is a short drive from the vibrant cultural and art centers of Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas.

Our graduate programs are led by engaged artists and educators who are recognized nationally and internationally for their intellectual and creative research. The studio art faculty are passionate and work tirelessly to ensure that students realize their potential.

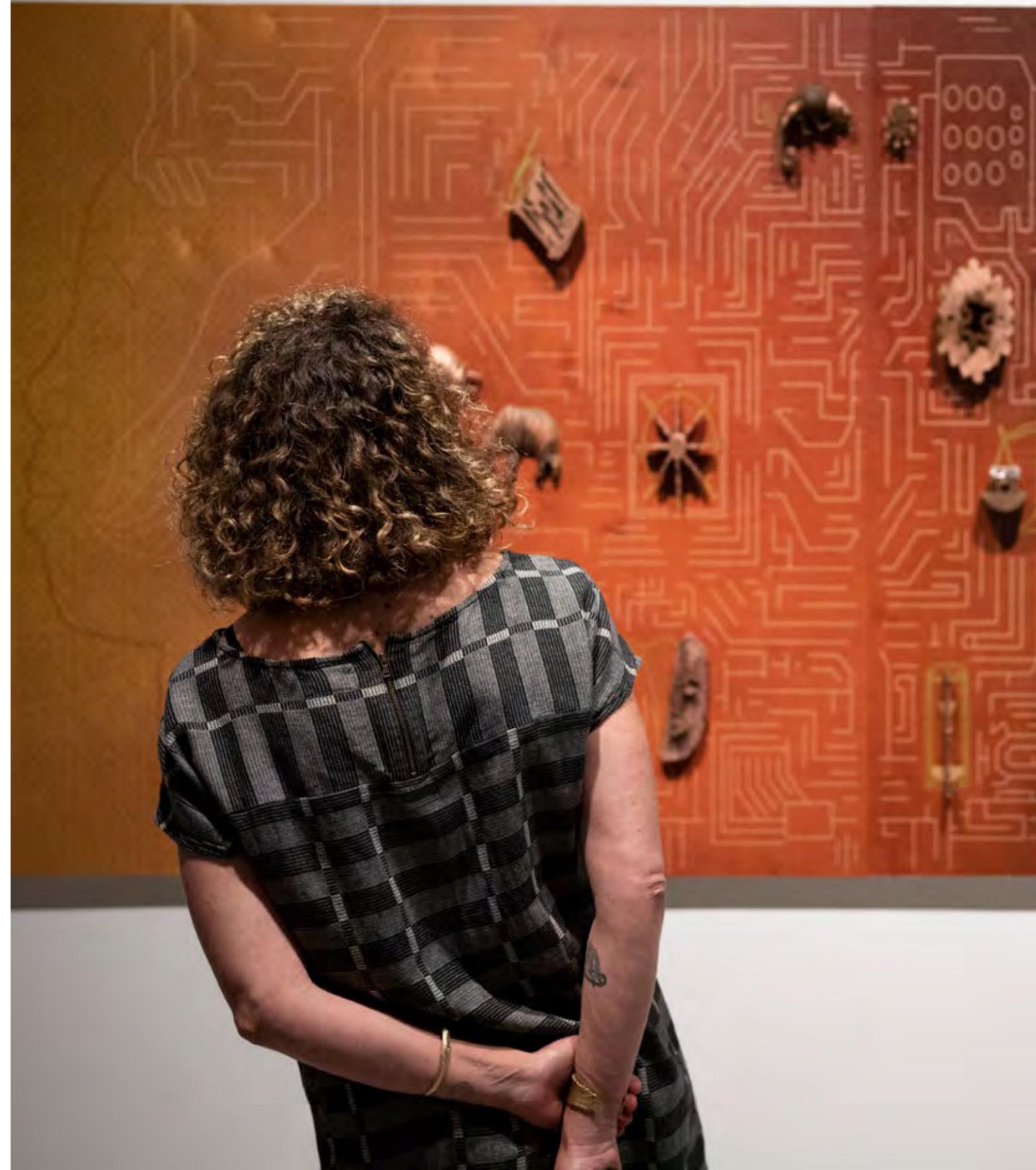
We support a multiplicity of student investigations and welcome students into one or multiple areas of study, including ceramics, drawing and painting, metalsmithing and jewelry, new media art, photography, printmaking and sculpture. In the program, students form an interdisciplinary cohort where they engage in a deep and sustained studio practice and expand their critical and historical knowledge of art.

We are proud of the diverse means of research modes and art-making processes in our program and the many successes of our M.F.A. graduates who make their impact through creative inquiry, scholarship, and innovation. Our M.F.A. students are passionate, skilled, dedicated and have a unique vision. Our students receive generous support through competitive fellowships, individual studios, in-state tuition rates, and appointments as teaching assistants, teaching fellows, or graduate student assistants.

The M.F.A. degree in Studio Art is a 60-credit-hour program culminating in a solo exhibition.

For more information or questions about the program, please email:

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COLLEGE OF VISUAL
ARTS & DESIGN
Department of
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