

CHRIS MCGINNIS

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FORTHCOMING:

- “John Riegert” – SPACE Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh PA, 6/2016 (Invitational)
- “Festival of Combustion 2016” – Rivers of Steel Arts (RoSA). Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark. Rankin PA 9/2016 (Curator)
- 2016 International Sculpture Conference. Conference Panelist. Pittsburgh, PA 10/2016

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2015 “Thrust Excavation” – Westmoreland Museum of American Art. Greensburg, PA
- 2014 “Frontiers and Mirages” – Filbert Street Gallery, Tomayko Arts, Pittsburgh PA.
- 2013 “The Productive Machine” Gallery 709 Penn, Pittsburgh PA.
- 2012 “Greenhouse 1” – Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Pittsburgh PA
“Chris McGinnis, Paintings” – Annex Gallery, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- 2011 “Palimpsest - Fragments and Coordinates” Brew House Association Pittsburgh PA.
- 2010 “Progress and the Great Productive Machine” University of Arizona Art Museum, Tucson AZ
- 2008-9 “New Paintings” The 5th at 6th Gallery, Tucson AZ
“Heritage” Lionel Rombach Gallery University of Arizona, Tucson AZ
“Machine in the Garden” Hub Gallery, Cochise College Sierra Vista, AZ
“Drawings and Prints” Hub Gallery, Cochise College Sierra Vista, AZ
- 2007 “Abstract Industry” Gallery 17, Baltimore Md
“Titan”: The Metropolitan, Federal Hill, Baltimore Md.
“Nostalgic Space”: ID8 Gallery, Baltimore MD

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 2016 “The Mountain and the Bumble Bee” – Pennsylvania College of Art and Design, Lancaster PA. 3/2016
- 2015 “The Mountain and the Bumble Bee” - SPACE Gallery Pittsburgh PA 12/2015 (Curator)
“The Landscape Problem” – Mine Factory. Pittsburgh PA. Curated by Adam Welch
“Triennial” – Indiana University of Pennsylvania Art Museum. 9/2015 (Invitational)
“The Mountain and the Bumble Bee” – Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education. Philadelphia PA 9/2015 (Curator)
“104th AAP Annual Exhibition” – Butler Museum of American Art, Trumbull Branch. Youngstown OH. 7/2015 (Juried)
“Wall Painting” – SPACE Gallery Pittsburgh PA 7/2015 Curated by Bob Raczka (Invitational)
“The Mountain and the Bumble Bee” - Robert Morris University Media Arts Gallery 1/2015

- 2014 "The Mountain and the Bumblebee" - Kipp Gallery Indiana University of PA 10/2014
 "International Painting Annual 3" Exhibition in print. Manifest Gallery, Cincinnati, OH.
 "Crush" – Invitational. Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson AZ.
- 2013 "Art of the State" – Juried. Pennsylvania State Museum, Harrisburg PA
 "Kaleidoscope" Invitational. Point Park University, Pittsburgh PA.
 Curated by Nicholas Chambers, Milton Fine Curator for The Andy Warhol Museum
 "Emerging Artists" – Invitational. Lora Schlesinger Gallery, Los Angeles CA.
 "Utopia/Dystopia" Invitational. Urban Institute for Contemporary Art, Grand Rapids MI.
- 2012 "Desert Biennial" Invitational. University of Arizona Museum of Art, Tucson AZ.
 "64 Arts" Juried. Buchanan Center for the Arts, Monmouth IL. Juror - Eric Fischl
 "Chris McGinnis New Prints" – Invitational. Touchstone Center for Craft, Uniontown PA
 "Three Rivers Arts Festival 2012" – Juried. Pittsburgh PA
 "Regional Artist Showcase" – Invitational. St. Vincent University Museum, Latrobe PA
 "Auction 2012" – Invitational. FE Gallery, Pittsburgh PA
- 2011 "LOMEA International Contemporary Art Symposium" Rousse, Bulgaria
 "20x20x20" – Juried. Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
 "2011 Artist of the Pike" – Invitational. Milega Art Museum, Brownsville PA
 "Salvage" – Juried. Harrisburg Art Association, Harrisburg PA
 "Creating Energy" – Juried. Chabot Gallery, Providence Rhode Island "Best in Show"
 "Urbanic III – Invitational. Expanding the Microcosm" – Future Tenant Gallery, Pittsburgh PA
 "The Urban Situation" Juried. Earnest Rubenstein Gallery, Manhattan NYC
 "Manufacturing Identity" Invitational. Art Space 105, Homestead PA
 "Instructors Exhibition" Invitational. Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Pittsburgh PA
 "Three Rivers Art Festival" – Juried. Pittsburgh PA
 "More is More" – Juried. Lexington Art League, Lexington Kentucky
- 2010 "2010 MFA Thesis Exhibition" University of Arizona Art Museum
 "Summer Post Card Collective 2010 – Invitational. Exquisite Corpse"
 "Daydreams of Immensity" – Invitational. FA4 Gallery, Long Beach CA.
- 2009 "On a Roll" Invitational. Bulgarian National Gallery – Sofia Bulgaria October
 "Days Gone By" Invitational. WomanKraft Center for the Arts – Tucson Az.
 "Point Roberts Artist Festival" – Invitational. Point Roberts Washington
 "Lassedra 8th World Art Print Annual - Mini Print" – Juried. Sofia Bulgari
 "New / Made" Invitational. Balchik City Art Gallery, Balchik, Bulgaria - Process Space Festival
 "Landscape and Industry" Juried. Goggle Works Center for the Arts, Reading PA
 "Continuum Art Fair " Invitational. Fremont Avenue Research Laboratory, Tucson Arizona
- 2008 "Art in Democracy" Union gallery, University of Arizona. Tucson AZ
 "Facing Front" with Prof. Doug Neilsen, Union Gallery, Tucson AZ
 "Crossing" Hartford Art Center, Albuquerque NM
 "The Kids are alright" University of Arizona Union Gallery, Tucson AZ
- 2007 "Architectural spaces": Mill center, Hampden, Baltimore Maryland
 "Group Showcase" Touchet Gallery, Baltimore Maryland
- 2006 "Across Time Zones": Academy gallery, Zagreb Croatia
 "Foundation of the Arts of Bosnia & Croatia": Zagreb Croatia,
- 2005 "The Italian Landscape": Student Gallery, Akron Ohio Art University
 "Painting the Italian Landscape" Ilicci Monastery, Viterbo Italy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- Assistant Professor of Art** (Full-Time Temp) Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2012-Present
Courses Taught: MA Thesis ART 740, Graduate/Advanced Painting ART 615/415, Graduate/Advanced Drawing ART 612, Foundations of Drawing ART 112, Figure Drawing ART 111 & Senior Capstone ART 400, 2-D Design ART 114, Graduate Studio Critique ART 680, Painting ART 211
Committees: 2015-16 Middlestates Accreditation Committee, Faculty Advisor Student Art Association, MA & MFA Thesis Committees, Kipp Gallery Faculty Committee Chair, Scholarship Faculty Committee (2014/15)
- Gallery Director** Kipp Gallery, Indiana University of Pennsylvania. 2012-Present
Chief Curator of Art Rivers of Steel Arts (RoSA) 2015 - present
- Adjunct Assistant Professor of Art** - Carnegie Mellon University, School of Art. 2011 - 2013
Courses Taught: Advanced Painting/Drawing, Beginning Painting I
- Instructor of record** - Pittsburgh Center for the Arts – Intro & intermediate Painting. 2011/12
Instructor of record - Pittsburgh Center for the Arts – Intro & Intermediate Painting. 2010/11
Adjunct Instructor of Art - Cochise Community College Sierra Vista, AZ – Adv. Drawing. 2009/10
Graduate Instructor of record - University of Arizona School of Art - Figure Drawing. 2009/10
Graduate Instructor of record - University of Arizona School of Art - Drawing 101. 2008/09
Graduate Instructor of record - University of Arizona School of Art - 2-D Design. 2008/09
Assistant Grader – University of Arizona School of Art - Art Appreciation. 2008

TECHNICAL / PROFESSIONAL SKILLS:

Art Studio : 2D / 3D / Expanded media

Oil and Acrylic Paint, Graphite, Charcoal, Ink, Watercolor, Mixed media collage, Citrisolve Transfer, Mat medium transfers, Silk-Screen, wax and clay relief, digital photography, professional artwork documentation, Metal and wood fabrication, wood shop safety, Stop-motion animation, silicone mold-making, resin casting, plaster molding/casting, basic construction, multimedia- video installation, emboss printing, intaglio, audio engineering (working knowledge), musician for twenty years (guitar),

Administrative: Software / Management / Arts Programming

Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Premier, Final Cut Pro, Audacity, MS Office Suite, Wordpress, Apple OSX, Microsoft Windows

- Excellent leadership skills, curriculum development, nonprofit management, non-profit service, financial management and budgeting/oversight, community programming, arts program development, project and program management, grantwriting, fundraising, master planning, gallery management, employee supervision, events marketing and promotion, excellent communication skills, board service, creative problem solving, commitment to social justice, excels in fast-paced environment, comfortable working in diverse setting,

EDUCATION:

MFA, University of Arizona, Tucson AZ. Painting and Drawing, 2010
BFA, Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Painting and Drawing, 2006
Additional Studies: Zagreb Academy of Art. Zagreb, Croatia, 2006
Additional Studies: Viterbo, Italy. Painting the Italian Landscape, 2005

CURATED / PRODUCED:

“Words and Objectivity” – Kipp Gallery, IUP – 3/2016 (Curator)
“Mon Valley Way Finding Project” – Rivers of Steel Arts (RoSA) 1/2016. (Curator)
“ALLOY Pittsburgh 2015” -Temporary Installations at Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark.
Rankin PA 9/2015 (Curator)
“Delicate Membrane” – Featuring Daniel Dacprio and Josefina Concha. Kipp Gallery, IUP. 9/2015
“The Mountain and the Bumblebee” – Traveling Exhibition
 Pennsylvania Academy of Art and Design, Lancaster PA. 3/2016 (Curator)
 Media Arts Gallery, Robert Morris University. PA 1/2015 (Curator)
 Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education. Philadelphia PA. 9/2015 (Curator)
 SPACE Gallery Pittsburgh PA 12/2015 (Curator)
 Kipp Gallery Indiana University of PA 10/2014 (Curator)
“Accompaniment in the Machine Shop” – The work of Sean Derry. Y.S. Machine Shop.
 Rices Landing PA. 4/2015
“Children of the Romantic Age; New Works by Gwyneth Scally”. Kipp Gallery, IUP. 3/2014 (Curated)
“A Small Craft; Selected Works by Adam Manley.” Kipp Gallery, IUP. 11/2013 (Curated)
“ALLOY Pittsburgh 2013” Temporary Installations at Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark.
Rankin PA 9/2013 (Curated)
“We Two Founts“ Curated by Marc Mitchell. Kipp Gallery, IUP. 9/2013 (Produced)
“Prelude” Selected work by Regional Artists. Unsmoke Systems, Braddock PA 6/2013 (Curated)
“Promiseland” Video Installation by Chele Isaac, Kipp Gallery, IUP 2/21/13 (Curated)
“Brascapes: An Installation by Nina Barbuto”, Kipp Gallery, IUP 11/2012 (Curated)
“Fauna; Figuring and Fathoming” with Prof. Susanne Slavick Kipp Gallery, IUP, 10/2012 (Produced)
“Space through Form” Adam Curouscula – The Brew House Gallery, 10/2012 (Produced)
“The Luna Park Project” – The Brew House Gallery, Pittsburgh PA, 8/2012 (Produced)
“Permutations” Kipp Gallery, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 8/2012 (Curated)
“Recent Drawings: Artist Lindsey Landfried”, Brew House Gallery, 6/2012 (Produced)
“Manufacturing Identity” with Dan Kuhn, Aaron Miller at SVAC Gallery, 11/2011 (Curated)
“Daydreams of Immensity” FA4 Gallery, Long Beach CA, 2/2010 (Curated)
“Facing Front” with Modern Dance Prof. Doug Neilsen, Union Gallery, Tucson AZ, 4/2009 (Co-Curated)

LECTURES / WORKSHOPS/ RESIDENCIES

Artist in Residence - Idea Furnace Mini Residency. Pittsburgh Glass Center, 5/2015
Curator's Talk – 4th Biennial PAVE Symposium – Arizona State University, AZ 5/2015
Artist Lecture - International Conference on the Arts in Society – Rome Italy, 6/2014
Curator Talk – Sunday Salons. Society for Contemporary Craft Pittsburgh PA. 8/25/13
Curator Q & A – Featuring Artist Time Kaulen. Concept Art Gallery, Pittsburgh PA 6/2013
Artist Lecture – Lamar University, Beaumont Texas, 5/14/2013
Artist Lecture – West Texas A&M University, Amarillo Texas, 4/12/2013
Panel Discussion – The Desert Initiative, University of Arizona, Tucson Arizona. 11/17/12
Artist in Residence – “Seeing Pittsburgh” Mt. Lebanon School Dist., Pittsburgh PA, 4/2012
Visiting Artist Lecture – Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2/2012
Artist Lecture - Life-long Learning, Carnegie Mellon University, 3/2012
Artist Lecture – Pittsburgh PULSE, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, 2/2012
Artist Lecture – Pittsburgh Center for the Arts. “Greenhouse Project”, 4/2012
Artist in Residence – Touchstone Center for Craft, Uniontown PA, 2012
Artist in Residence - LOMEA Art Symposium – Rousse Bulgaria, 8/2011
Artist Workshop - Steel Valley Arts Council - Mixed Media & Painting, Homestead, PA, 11/2011
Artist Workshop – “First Year Experience” Alternative Print techniques, University of Arizona, 3/2010
Artist Lecture - Contemporary Art Society – Slide Slam presentation Tucson Museum of Art, 11/2009
Artist In Residence - Point Roberts Artist Residency – Point Roberts, WA, 6/2009
Artist In Residence - Process Space Artist Residency, Balchik Bulgaria, 8/2009
Visiting Artist Workshop - Acrylic Painting, Alliance Achademy, Toledo Ohio, 9/2009

SERVICE / LEADERSHIP / AFFILIATIONS:

Vice President/Programming Chairperson, The Brew House Association, Pittsburgh, PA 2012-present
2016 International Sculpture Conference - steering committee member
2018 Carnegie International – Community Arts Congress member 2015-present
Pittsburgh Collecting Knowledge Consortuim – RoSA member 2015-present
(CKC members include: Carnegie Mueums, Hienz History Center, University of Pittsburgh, Contemporary Craft, Hunt Institute for Botanical Research, Rivers of Steel Arts)
Associated Artists of Pittbsburgh - Artist Member 2015 - present
Board of Directors – University Museum of Art. IUP. 2014-present
Co-Founder – **Rivers of Steel Arts (RoSA)**. Community arts and heritage organization. www.rosarts.org
Co-Founder – **Alloy Pittsburgh Artist Residency**. Biennial art project. Pittsburgh PA 2013-present
Professional Artist Juror – Associated Aritsts of Johnstown, Winter Juried Show. Ameriserv Bank.
Board of Directors – Pittsburgh Articulate. Pittsburgh PA. 2014-15
Professional Artist Mentor – The Brew House Distillery Program, Pittsburgh PA, 2011
Gallery Director – The Brew House Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA – 2011 - 2012
Artist Assistant - Aid to Autistic Artist, Sheryl Yeager. Achieva Homecare, Pittsburgh PA. – 2010/11
Council Member - Steel Valley Arts Council, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. 2010/11

Artist Member - Pittsburgh Center for the Arts 2010-2012
Artist Collaborator - Rivers of Steel Heritage Foundation– 2010-Present
Artist Resident – Brew House Association. 2011- 2013
Professional Artist Juror for the Ann Boyd Wade Fine Art Show, AZ

AWARDS / GRANTS / RESEARCH:

RoSA Capital Grant (Foundry & Metal Arts Workshop) – Hillman Family Foundation, 2016 - \$30,000.00
RoSA Capital Grant (Foundry & Metal Arts Workshop) – McCune Foundation, 2016 - \$310,000.00
Programming Development Award – Rivers of Steel Heritage Area, Pittsburgh PA. 2016 – \$26,000.00
Citizens for the Arts in Pennsylvania – Marketing and Audience Development grant 2016 - \$2,500.00
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Mini Grant Award. 2015 - \$10,000.00
Programming Development Award – Rivers of Steel Heritage Area, Pittsburgh PA. 2014 – \$24,000.00
Outstanding Researcher Award – College of Fine Arts, Indiana University of Pennsylvania. 2014
Pennsylvania Senate Research Grant – Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2014 - \$2,900.00
Project Stream Grant – Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. 2013 - \$2,500.00
Project Award – Alloy Pittsburgh Residency. United Steel Workers Union 2013 - \$5,000.00
Seed Award – Alloy Pittsburgh Residency. The Sprout Fund. 2013 - \$8,000.00
Artist Opportunity Grant – Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council 2011
1885 Society Fellowship in the Humanities - \$10,000.00
Medici Scholars Private Foundation Grant Award – University of Arizona. \$2000.00
College of Fine Art Travel Grant award – University of Arizona. \$600.00
Conaway Scholarship for excellence - \$1000.00
Graduate teaching Assistantship, University of Arizona
Graduate Professional Student Council Small Grant - \$450.00
Graduate Teaching Assistantship, University of Arizona
University of Arizona small grant fellowship - \$500.00
The Ralph Reynolds Memorial Art Emphasis Scholarship

WRITTEN PUBLICATIONS:

Chris McGinnis, “Belts Shafts and Keys: Accompaniment and the Machine Shop” – Pittsburgh Articulate, 5/20/2014. <http://pittsburgharticulate.com>
Chris McGinnis & Sean Derry, Catalog Essay – Alloy Pittsburgh Project Catalog 2014
Chris McGinnis, Exhibition Review, “Out of Rubble” – *Pittsburgh City Paper*, 10/2011
Chris McGinnis, “The Fragment in Ruination” – *Pittsburgh City Paper*, 3/2011
Chris McGinnis, “Home Away From Home” – *Pittsburgh City Paper*, 1/2011
Chris McGinnis, “Progress and the Great Productive Machine:” *The Development of American Identity from Highland Park to the World of Tomorrow*. 4/2010

PRESS:

John Wilmes, "In the Shadow of Rusting Steel, Art Engages a City's Post Industrial Legacy" – Art Slant
<http://www.artslant.com/ew/articles/show/44169>

McGinnis, Chris. Interview. Pittsburgh Today. KDKA News, Pittsburgh: 20 Jan. 2016. Television

Lisa Brennan, "Exploring the American Landscape at SPACE" – Pittsburgh City Paper, January 2016

International Painting Annual (INPA) – Manifest Gallery, Cincinnati, OH, February, 2014

Kurt Shaw, "Industrialization and Humanity" – Pittsburgh Tribune Review, August 2013

Kurt Shaw, "Point Park Warhol Collaboration" – Pittsburgh Tribune Review, April 2013

Marylynne Pitz "Carrie Furnaces – Backdrop for Alloy Pittsburgh" – Pittsburgh Post Gazette Sept. 2013

Tamara Fox, "Location, Location, Location" – *Art Hack Online*, <http://art-hack.org> January, 2013

Margaret Regan, "Scorched Earth" – *Tucson Weekly*, November 2012

Robert Rascza, "Greenhouse 1" – *Pittsburgh City Paper*, April, 2012

Jessica Futrel, "Art with a Past" - *Pittsburgh Post Gazette*, March, 2012

Three Rivers Art Festival Catalog - 2011

Sarah Jacoby, "Heritage" – *Tucson Weekly News*

Lassedra 8th World Art Print Annual Catalog - Mini Print 2009 - Sofia Bulgaria

Studio Visit Magazine, 2009 issue.

MFA Now Artist Catalog 2009

Will Holst, "The Habit of Facing Front" - *UA News interview*

Margaret Reagan, "Bodies in Motion" *Tucson Weekly News*

Lamonica Stevens "Art in 360 Degrees" - *UA News*

Dr. Kubilay Akman "Interview with Chris McGinnis" - *European Art Online Magazine*

IUP Magazine, "Farewell To My Home" Back cover of the Fall 2006 issue.

COLLECTIONS / COMMISSIONS:

Tomayko Arts – Pittsburgh PA, "Frontiers"

Artist Image Resources – Pittsburgh PA, "Greenhouse 1" Silkscreen Series.

Union of Bulgarian Artists- Sofia, Bulgaria, "Under Coney Island"

Goggleworks Center for the Arts "Defiance Ohio (Grain Silos)"

Process Space Festival Permanent Collection "Indefinite Transient Status"

Douglas Nielsen Private Collection Tucson AZ. "Vacant Lot"

Indiana University of Pennsylvania at Punxitawny, mural commission

Hippopotamus Bank, Zagreb Croatia, "Smoke Stack"

STATEMENT:

I grew up in southwestern Pennsylvania during the waning years of America's post-war industrial paradigm. Shortly after my birth in 1980 the steel mills closed and the coal industry consolidated. Small towns in Southwestern Pennsylvania braced for an economic winter from which many communities have yet to emerge. As a child I developed romantic notions of America's industrial past that were typified for me, by the ruins of a 19th century tannery located near my family cabin in Elk County Pennsylvania. Now hidden amongst the dense overgrowth, these ruins were the backdrops for my childhood reveries and continue to inform my research on growth and decline. Like an effigy to the impermanence of progress, rectangular mounds of dirt and moss now supplant the solid railroad ties that once transported hides to and from that tannery. I remember searching with my siblings for the gnarled iron spikes still embedded in those mounds.

My creative work is primarily rooted in site-based research exploring notions of human progress and identity through "place." Projects inspired by this research critique the pursuit of progress through a variety of lenses from technology and social economics to cultural identity. Areas of continued interest include land surveying, environmental preservation, extraction industries and labor identity. My studio work maneuvers a range of disciplines including drawing, painting, video projection, sculptural installation and text. As curator I feel it is my duty to reach across disciplines and inspire creativity; to build meaningful bridges between institutions and the community; and to develop projects that encourage thoughtful investigation of the world around us.

In my recent posts as Kipp Gallery Director for Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Chief Curator of Art for Rivers of Steel Arts (RoSA), I have come to understand the value of working both inside and outside the gallery space. I value the gallery as a vital platform for challenging assumptions and exploring how the ideas above resonate in contemporary life. However I also feel that successful arts programming must reach beyond these walls. Some of my most exciting and challenging projects have been produced off site as an extension of the gallery programming and yielded measurable impacts on the local community. One such project entitled Alloy Pittsburgh is an ongoing site-based initiative exploring the adaptive reuse of the Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark. As a site-based research laboratory and exhibition, Alloy Pittsburgh continues to foster new community partnerships and celebrate novel ways of reimagining familiar places.

BIOGRAPHY:

Chris McGinnis is an artist, educator and cultural producer working in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. He has exhibited extensively nationally and internationally, with over ten solo exhibitions and over 40 group exhibitions in recent years. Chris has created projects for the Westmoreland Museum of American Art, SPACE Pittsburgh, Urban Institute of Contemporary Art, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education, and The Rivers of Steel Heritage Corporation. He is co-founder and Chief Curator of Rivers of Steel Arts (RoSA), an art program located at the Carrie Furnaces National Historic Landmark. RoSA supports creative projects that promote novel partnerships to enhance the lives of community members, build local pride and attract renewed public interest in Pittsburgh's Monongahela River Valley. His work has been published in Art Slant, National Studio Visit Magazine, European Art Magazine, Manifest's International Painting Annual as well as numerous local and university publications including Pittsburgh's Post Gazette and The Tribune Review. Chris has worked for institutions across the country including Carnegie Mellon University and The University of Arizona. He is currently Assistant Professor of Art at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Chief Curator of Art for Rivers of Steel Arts.

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY:

There are three objectives at the core of my philosophy: to build a strong foundation upon which successful learning and artistic development can occur; to encourage critical thinking and individual expression within each student's chosen field; and prepare students for success in the professional art world beyond academia. In order to achieve this I employ project-based assignments, written requirements, lectures and various workshops that challenge students both formally and conceptually. I also develop interdisciplinary field courses with partnering colleges and organizations outside the arts to provide career-building experiences.

Building a strong foundation for students is integral to their ultimate success. One of my primary roles in the intermediate classroom is to teach fundamental techniques upon which students can develop conceptual thought. My project-based assignments incorporate essential techniques popularized by artists ranging from Caravaggio to William Kentridge. These projects challenge students to think critically around a given concept while learning a specific set of formal skills. Once learned, both skills and concept can be manipulated to create contemporary artworks of unlimited variety.

As students grow in the program it is my responsibility to assist in the formation of each student's unique voice and teach them to express their ideas clearly and passionately. For this reason I place special emphasis on class critique periods and take extra time as an instructor for one-on-one discussions with each student. Introspective writing assignments and experimentation in the studio also help students find their voice and discover the unique language of each medium. Focused experimentation becomes particularly important in upper-level projects like "Medium is the Message" that challenge young artists to consider the inherent meaning of appropriated materials and hone their ability to speak clearly through a chosen medium.

Learning to build bridges between the art world and other disciplines extends each artists network and greatly improves their chances for success beyond academia. I have learned this lesson through trial and error in my own professional career. In order to prepare students for this challenge I promote and develop interdisciplinary field courses and community programs that partner with regional organizations. These courses teach the art of collaboration and challenge students to create work that performs effectively both inside and outside the art world. One such course entitled Ethics and Environments was designed as a partnership with The Rivers of Steel Heritage Area and is co-taught with a landscape ecologist to consider the role of art in both urban and environmental conservation.

It is important to set high goals for young artists and push them to excel. With polished resumes, excellent craftsmanship and professional savvy, I take pride in knowing my students are ready for the highly competitive art world.

LIST OF REFERENCES:

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