# ART DEPARTMENT GONZAGA UNIVERSITY

## FALL 2019 SPRING 2020



#### Message from the Chair

Greetings once again to friends and alumni of the Gonzaga art program! This last academic year has been another dynamic and inspiring one for students, staff, and faculty alike in the Art Department. Some of the year's highlights have been an outstanding art faculty show in the Jundt Art Museum and an impressive senior exhibition at the Richmond Art Collective this past spring. (Some images from the senior exhibition are included in this issue, but you can find more at the following website: https://digital. gonzaga.edu). In 2018-19 the department welcomed a new tenure-stream faculty member, Matt McCormick. Prof. McCormick is a documentary filmmaker who holds a joint appointment in the Art Department and Integrated Media Department. He teaches photography and film courses for both departments and organized the first-ever student film festival at GU this past May, with several truly excellent entries. Other promising additions and changes to the curriculum are on the horizon in the next few years, including a re-structured painting curriculum, a revamped 2-D design course, and (fingers crossed) a new Bachelor of Fine Arts degree that we hope to offer starting fall 2020. We'll keep you posted.

Many thanks to those of you who shared your recent professional and personal highlights for the alumni news section. It is always a pleasure to hear from each and every one of you. If you think there may be alumni of the program who are not receiving this newsletter, please forward it to them. Thank you.

By the time you receive this newsletter, I will be on sabbatical and a new Art Dept. Chair will have come on board by then, Dr. Dan Butterworth. Dr. Butterworth will bring a wealth of knowledge and leadership experience to the dept. and will serve as chair through spring 2020. His name may be familiar to those of you acquainted with the English Department here at GU. Dr. Butterworth is a long-time professor of literature and creative writing and well- respected poet/writer who has chaired his own dept. and the Modern Languages Department over the years. He also has collaborated in the classroom with Prof. Mary Farrell through their Poets and Printmakers project.

Finally, many thanks to Sandy Hank of Campus Printing here at GU who managed the layout and design of this newsletter. Sandy, you're a gem!

Shalon Parker, Ph.D. (Outgoing) Art Dept. Chair

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# Art Department News

New works by Mary Farrell, Matt McCormick, Mat Rude, and Laura Truitt were showcased in the Art Faculty Exhibition at the Jundt Art Museum this past spring. A remarkable show, it was the first art facultywide show in several years.

In 2018-19 the Art Dept. hosted five individuals as Kreielsheimer visiting artists, including Brooks Salzwedel and Erika Osborne, guests of the painting program. Both create art that touches on issues of sustainability and the environment. In the fall Salzwedel met with painting students and gave a public lecture about his work in the Jundt Auditorium. During the spring semester, artist and professor Erika Osborne gave a lecture to a packed crowd in the Jundt Auditorium and then opened her solo exhibition, *Wood Work*, at the Kolva-Sullivan Gallery. She individually met with each of the senior seminar students about their senior thesis projects, and gave a gallery talk at the Kolva-Sullivan Gallery directly prior to her well-attended opening reception.

In September 2018 Pulitzer Prize winning graphic novelist Art Spiegelman was a guest speaker at GU as part of the 2018-19 Gonzaga University Visiting Writers Series. Advanced art students had a chance to interact and speak with Mr. Spiegelman about his work during a small-group session.

Several students exhibited their work in professional venues off campus this year. Students in Laura Truitt's Painting I/II class in fall 2018 had a show at the Avenue West Gallery in north Spokane. The theme of this show was the history, environment and future of the Spokane River. Celeste Hatfield, Alex Lee, and Melina Palomba represented the Art Dept. in the Chase Gallery's *Explorations XVI* show. Art pieces by seniors Filmon Abraham, Grace Nakahara, and Courtney Shih were displayed in the *Apostrophe Art Collective Exhibit* at the Terrain Gallery.

The Art Dept.'s Shoebox Gallery featured a number of students' works including paintings, ceramics, large-scale drawings, plus an Urban Bestiary collaboration between Laura Truitt's Drawing II students and the Communication Studies and Environmental Studies students taking Dr. Jeremy Gordon's *Politics of Place and Space* course.

Drawing I students created two large-scale collaborative drawings this year and will continue

this newly established tradition in the fall of 2019 by re-creating a drawing by Iranian artist Ali Dorani. After the drawing has been created and installed in a public space, Dorani will talk with the students via Zoom about his work and experiences as an asylum seeker in Australia. This bi-annual collaborative drawing project is now supported by the Artists at Risk foundation, which puts the drawing program into contact with artists who have been, or are, at risk of political violence in their country.

Artist Mariah Boyle created a mural with students enrolled in Painting I and II during spring semester 2019. The final mural was installed in the Humanities Building (formerly Jesuit House) this past summer.

On the evening of April 5th, students in the printmaking program conducted demos of various printmaking techniques for the general public at the first ever *Spokane Print Fest* held at the Washington Cracker Co. Building in downtown Spokane.

Morgan Smith, a senior GU student who took VART 141 Ceramics 1 in the spring, created an art installation under the direction of Prof. Mat Rude that was meant to invite reflection on the indigenous history of the land on which GU sits. She created 500 ceramic poppies, each adorned with a message indicating their symbolic relevance and explaining the nature of her project. The poppies were displayed on the lawn between DeSmet and Welch Halls for one day, and visitors were invited to take one of the 500 poppies with them.

Looking ahead... the Art Dept. will host Ryan! Feddersen and Joe Feddersen as Kreielsheimer visiting artists, in conjunction with the Ethnicity, Race, and Indigenous Peoples Conference (ERIP), an international conference that GU is hosting September 12-14. Later in the fall Makoto Fujimura will be a guest artist on campus and will demo for the painting students his painting process. Prof. Mary Farrell will host printmaker Sean Caulfield as a Kreielsheimer visiting artist in the fall; his large-scale prints will be featured in a solo exhibition at the Terrain Gallery in November. For spring 2020 Prof. Farrell has invited printmaker Janet Marcavage as a visiting artist.

# FACULTY PROFILES



### **Mary Farrell**

In 2018-19 Mary Farrell's work was featured in several shows nationally and internationally, including the Lessedra Mini Print 19 at the Lessedra Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2019 (juried special award prize), the Art Spirit Gallery Pop Up Show at the Wonder Bread building in Spokane, Print Arts Northwest, Ordinary & Extraordinary People, Lower Columbia College, Longview WA, and PAN Portfolio, Walters Cultural Arts Center, Hillsboro, OR. In the fall of 2018 Prof. Farrell was a visiting artist at the University of Puget Sound where she gave a demonstration on dry point techniques to Janet Marcavage's print students, drew and printed two litho stones with the students, and gave a lecture for their Science/Art Series about her collaborative soil project. In spring 2019, she gave a master class on monotype for Spokane Print Fest and delivered a lecture at Gonzaga about her work as she concluded her three-year term as the Leo Kreielsheimer Professor of Fine Arts. In November 2019, she will have a show of her work at the Saranac Art Projects in Spokane and in May 2020, she will have a show at the Art Spirit Gallery with Laura Truitt and Gina Freuen.



#### **Mat Rude**

Mat Rude has been appointed the Leo Kreielsheimer Professor of Fine Arts for the next three years. His work was featured in more than 10 invitational shows throughout the U.S. during the last year, including the 2019 Yunomi Invitational, Akar Gallery in Iowa City, the Wichita Falls Empty Bowls Invitational, Wichita Falls Museum of Art at Midwestern State University, and the Small Works Show, Art Spirit Gallery, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. His work was also shown in the juried exhibition Last Call III, Companion Gallery, Humboldt, TN. Prof. Rude received a Faculty Development Award and funding from the GU Research Council for wood-fired kiln construction.



#### **Shalon Parker**

Shalon Parker's book *Painting the Prehistoric Body in Late Nineteenth-Century France* was published in November 2018 by University of Delaware Press. She received funding from the GU Research Council for a new research project on American women photographers that she will start during her 2019-20 sabbatical.



### Laura Truitt

In 2018-2019 Laura Truitt showed work at Saranac Art Projects and in the Art Spirit Gallery Pop Up Show. Professor Truitt has four upcoming shows in the fall of 2019: a solo show at the Spokane Art School: Unseen Nature at the William Havu Gallery in Denver, CO; and two solo exhibitions at Washington Colleges--Columbia River Basin College and Wenatchee Valley College. In April of 2019 Professor Truitt traveled to New York to meet with the director of Artists at Risk Connection (ARC). a branch of PEN International, that supports artists who are at risk from political violence and oppression. ARC will be working with Truitt to build on a drawing project begun with Adjunct Instructor Reinaldo Gil Zambrano. In the fall of 2019, as part of the ARC collaboration, Iranian Artist Ali Dorani will speak with Gonzaga students after they create a large-scale drawing of his work. ARC will highlight Professor Truitt's lesson plan on their website as a way to expand the project to other institutions that want to give artists who are at risk a chance to share their experiences and their work.





#### **New Faculty Profile**

Matt McCormick comes to Gonzaga from Portland State University, where he taught a variety of film courses for several years. He joined the GU faculty a year ago and holds a joint appointment in Art and Integrated Media. Matt teaches a range of film and photography courses for both departments. He also spearheads the newly created Visual Literacy minor, an interdisciplinary minor that entails coursework in both Art and Integrated Media. In spring 2019 Matt McCormick screened films at the Ashland and Other Cinema Film Festivals and had a mini-retrospective at Spokane's Magic Lantern Theater. In September he will be the keynote speaker at the 2019 Literature/Film Association Annual Conference, Welcome, Matt!

#### **KREIELSHEIMER VISITING ARTISTS. 2018-19**

#### Kreielsheimer Visiting Artist



Salzwedel's work focuses on natural an ral landscapes disconnected from their urroundings or places in time. Using a lated process involving materials such e e, mylar and resin, tape, colored pencil, , his work evokes teelings of desolation haunted, dreamike visions of other-

Artist Lecture: Navigating landscapes through unconventional materials

November 14th 5:30 pm - 7pm Jundt Art Center **Gonzaga University** Auditorium 110

These events are Free and Open to the Public Questions? Please contact Laura Truitt 303/325/4458 or truitt@gonzaga.edu



Erika Osborne: Wood work March 1- March 30 Kolva-Sullivan Galle 115 S. Adams Stree Spokane, WA 99201

Exhibition opening March 1st 5-8pm

Gallery Talk: March 1st 2pm

Kreielsheimer Visiting Artist Lecture ual Beflecti Thursday Feb. 28th at 5pm Jundt Art Center Au Gonzaga University

Gallery at 509,448.





Free Workshop and Artist Talks Richard W. James and Kyle Johns Thursday, October 4, 2018 Gonzaga University-Jundt Art Center

Demonstration Workshop 9:30 am-3:30 pm Jundt Art Center, Room 005

Artist Talks 4:30–5:30 pm Jundt Art Center Auditorium, Room 110

Questions? Contact Mat Rude at 406/579-9992 or email rude@gonzag nsored by Jim Kolva & Associates and the



Kyle Johor

in Spokane

2018 Resident Artists Exhibition October 5-26, 2018 Reception: Friday, October 5, 5:00-9:00 pm

Kolva-Sullivan Gallery 115 South Adams Street, Suite A, Spokane, WA 99201 Gallery open by appointment; call 509/458-5517

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### SPRING 2019 SENIOR SHOWCASE

Once again, the Richmond Art Collective, a downtown Spokane art gallery, hosted the senior art exhibition. The six seniors featured in the show [Celeste Hatfield, Katie Lasko (senior art award recipient), Grace Nakahara, Melina Palomba, Anna Sherwood, and Courtney Shih] created an outstanding and original set of artworks. They designed and installed the exhibit all on their own under the guidance of the senior seminar instructor, Laura Truitt.











# ALUMNI NEWS

**Preston M. Smith (PMS) '01**. Has been extremely productive during the last 12 months. At the beginning of 2019, he was honored to show his work in the famous LA Art Show at the Los Angeles Convention Center. In the spring he wrapped up a successful solo exhibition at ShockBoxx Gallery in Hermosa Beach, California. You can read his exclusive interview with *Asymmetric Magazine* online, about the show and his mindset as an artist. He also had two group shows this past summer in L.A. and plans to begin writing his book about surviving and thriving as an artist in this world!

Allison McGree '02. Is a full-time Artrepreneur in beautiful Bozeman, MT. Painting, teaching, and spearheading mural projects when she can, she absolutely loves her work. http://www. allisonmcgree.com; prints available at https:// www.imagekind.com/art/stunning/mcgree/ artwork-on/fine-art-prints

**Erin Straw '02**. Graduated with a BA in Physical Education and a minor in Art. Since then she has worked as a teacher for almost ten years teaching preschool, kindergarten and first grade, using her art skills to help young students. She has also worked and volunteered in the medical field as an EMT, volunteer firefighter, and search and rescue volunteer, as well as working with her therapy dog Bailey. She is happy to be working and volunteering where she can help others.

**Catherine Daze '08**. Has been living in Boston and has become a clay teacher at a community arts studio. One day she would like to start her own business teaching ceramics or other arts. She recently had a baby and is celebrating his first birthday this July.

Judi (Crisostomo) Ciucci '10. Always knew she wanted to become an artist but figuring out how to be successful at it took a bit of creative thinking. After graduation she taught art for a year before opening up her own Etsy shop, Judicreates, full-time. Thanks to social media she has been featured on Buzzfeed three different times over the years and has done hundreds of commissions for people all over the world. With the freedom of her job as an Etsy curator and freelance artist, she currently spends most of her time raising her two girls at home, which has been the biggest blessing of all.

**Tayler Corbisiero '12**. Has called Brooklyn, New York, home for the past seven years. She works in sales at a technology startup called MikMak. In April, she ran her first marathon in Paris. She frequents art exhibits across NYC (most recently the Hilma af Klint exhibit at the Guggenheim and the Andy Warhol exhibit at the Whitney). In her free time, she and her partner Matthew spend time with their giant orange tabby Cat Stevens, drive around in their 1977 Volkswagen bus, and work on building a homestead in upstate New York.

**Crystal Goade '12**. Is the Creative Director at PicMonkey, where she leads a team of talented graphic designers and is responsible for creating PicMonkey's unique photo-rich design aesthetic of the company and its products. Crystal's years of agency and international work experience bring an informed, cosmopolitan design sense to PicMonkey, always keeping the company on the edge of current design trends. Running, reading, playing with her dog, spending time with family and friends, and painting are her favorite pastimes.

Hannah Souers '16. Currently lives in Beijing, China where she teaches art, digital art and multimedia at an international high school. While living in China, she has been working on a series of oil paintings inspired by the cities she has visited while in Asia. She was offered the art teaching position when the school administration found her artist website that she created during her senior year at GU and had continued to maintain since graduating. She loves her job! Hannahsouersdesigns.com #GingerinBeijing.