

November 22, 2011

Flagler College Unveils Fine Art Portfolio Show

The Crisp-Ellert Art Museum and Flagler College announce an exciting evening of artwork, music and food at the College's Bachelor of Art and Bachelor of Fine Arts Senior Portfolio Show. The exhibition will include works by a talented group of graduating seniors in a variety of mediums. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, Dec. 8 from 5-9 pm. The works will be on view on Friday, Dec. 9 from 10 am until 4 pm, and on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 11 am until 2 pm.

Included in the exhibition are works by the following five students graduating with the distinguished Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

Through her paintings and other works, **Deborah Clark** endeavors to rediscover the feeling of being at home in a place. She claims that at its most basic level, her artwork is about "documenting and coping with my struggle of being in a physical, spiritual, and mental state of in-between. I desire to somehow capture that place or those feelings of being between: detachment and longing, being close and being far, remembering and forgetting, hoping, doubting."

Kathryn D'Elia has long been interested in the struggle between intellectual and emotional responses when coping with life's circumstances. She uses Spock from "Star Trek" to embody this struggle, and asks the subjects (her friends) of her figurative paintings to don a Spock mask in order to explore this notion further. She states, "Spock has to struggle through his reality as half human and half Vulcan, a race known for being a slave to their emotions, and one that values cold intellectualism above all else. I've been trying to step out of myself my whole life and be like Spock, with mixed results." In their Spock roles, D'Elia says they become her confidants, a silent army of creatures that are having a similar struggle. Despite their strange alien mask, the finished figures are very human and understanding.

Sarah Flora makes paintings of her friends in familiar surroundings. Through her works that are brightly painted with an illustrative quality, Flora attempts to capture a certain feeling, a moment (or moments) in time. The artist focuses on "obsessively preserving memories and inventing the life I want to have. Through my paintings I can enter a place and time where everyone remains young and beautiful and no one has to grow up."

Joseph Stiles is a sculptor and industrial artist. Searching for discarded pieces of pre-fabricated stone such as marble, granite and cinder block, this artist transforms them in an attempt to memorialize the past geological events of the materials with which he works. Like a taxidermist, Stiles helps others remember the history that is held within the materials he uses. Through the act of cutting, polishing, and juxtaposing natural and

unnatural surfaces, he also endeavors to create a better understanding of his own impermanence.

Stephanie Valle paints portraits that explore time and motion. As a starting point for her paintings, she creates a composition of multiple frames that are based on photographs of her friend Faith. Valle's friendship with the subject allows to her express shared experiences and emotions. Through her process of utilizing multiple frames in a single painting, she attempts to "re-define the borders between figure and the space it occupies" while trying to convey that "even in our stillness we are moving, and that we are literally fused to the world we live in."

Also on view will be paintings, photographs, sculpture and videos by the Bachelor of Art candidates: Leah Abear, Audrey Bernhardt, Amelia Eldridge, Jeremy Eskin, Allison Forshey, Nathan Fudala, Jackson Holbrook, Laura Kerpovich, Denise Liberi, Calvin Meyer, Erica Peters, Abby Pratchios, Jenna Stanish, and Casey Taylor.

For more information, please contact the museum at (904) 826-8530 or by e-mail at crispellert@flagler.edu. For information on future exhibitions and events at the museum, please visit our website at www.flagler.edu/crispellert, and for Flagler College news and events visit www.flagler.edu/our-community.