MFA
Master of Fine Arts
Thesis Exhibition
2019
The School of Visual and Performing Arts at Western Connecticut State University is pleased to announce its candidates for the 2019 Master of Fine Arts degree.

Dee Rose Barba
Brett M. Colon
Brian Ferreira
Greg Mursko
Mildred Paulino
Dee Dee Perrone
Rima J. Rahal
Andréa Rios

The MFA Thesis Exhibition is the summation of two years of intensive, creative study and extensive interaction with resident faculty and visiting artists.
Above: Jujuh Mass (detail) | oil painted clay on tree fragments | each figure approximately 7 x 6 in., entire installation approximately 100 x 80 in.
Opposite: Faded | oil on wood | 17 x 10.25 in.

Dee Rose Barba
Bachelor of Arts, Interior Design | University of New Haven
Bachelor of Arts, Art | University of New Haven
Above: Untitled | watercolor on paper | 11 x 8.5 in.
Opposite: Untitled | watercolor on paper | 11 x 8.5 in.

Brett M. Colon
Dual Bachelor of Fine Arts, Illustration and Animation | University of Connecticut
Bachelor of Arts, Psychology | University of Connecticut
Top: Old Man | colored pencil | 11 x 18 in.
Above: Genie | colored pencil | 11 x 18 in.
Opposite, top: Time for Bed | colored pencil | 11 x 18 in.
Opposite, below: Rescue the Princess | colored pencil | 11 x 18 in.

Brian Ferreira
Bachelor of Arts, Illustration | Western Connecticut State University
Above: Alfred Hitchcock | ceramic tile (left) & colored pencil (right) | each 22 x 12 in.
Opposite: Wrath | colored pencil/digital | 22 x 20 in.
Above: Flash Bios | charcoal & graphite on paper | 14 x 11 in.
Opposite: Self Loyalty | oil & acrylic on plexiglass panel | 14 x 11 in.

Mildred Paulino
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Illustration | Paier College of Art
Above: In or Out | oil on canvas | 30 x 23 in.
Opposite: Stifled | oil on linen | 21 x 25 in.

Dee Dee Perrone
Bachelor of Science | Wesley College
Rima J. Rahal
Dual Bachelor of Fine Arts, Illustration and Graphic Design | Art Institute of Boston
Master of Education, Visual Art Education | Lesley University

Top: Philippines, Hong Kong & Macau | watercolor, colored pencil & pen | 9 x 9 in.
Above: Lebanon, China & Vietnam | watercolor, colored pencil & pen | 9 x 9 in.
Opposite, top: Turkey, Romania & Greece | watercolor, colored pencil & pen | 9 x 9 in.
Opposite, bottom: Georgia, Slovakia & Austria | watercolor, colored pencil & pen | 9 x 9 in.
Above: The Mushroom in the Rain | watercolor & ink | 14 x 11 in.
Opposite: The Frog and the Condor | watercolor & ink | 14 x 11 in.

Andréa Rios
Dual Bachelor of Arts, Illustration and Painting | Western Connecticut State University
MFA Program Faculty

Catherine Vanaria, Chair, Department of Art
MA, Savannah College of Art & Design
MFA, Art Institute of Boston

Darby Cardonsky, MFA Coordinator
MA, Hunter College

Riley Brewster
MFA, Yale University

Leslie Cober-Gentry
MFA, University of Hartford

Sabrina Marques
MFA, Yale University

Amber Scoon
MFA, American University
PhD, European Graduate School

Jack Tom
MFA, University of Hartford

Emeritus Resident Faculty
Abe Echevarria
Margaret Grimes

Visiting Artists and Lecturers

Daniel Adel
Eric Aho **
Adele Alsop
Emma Amos **
Vincent Arcilesi
John Arthur
William Bailey **
Scott Baikal
Robert Berlind **
Jake Berthot **
Guy Billout
Robert Birmelin
Gideon Bok
Matt Bollinger
Roger Boyce
Steve Brodner
Tom Burckhardt
Nina Buxenbaum
Chris Buzelli
Charles Cajori *
Paul Calle
Marcos Chin
Joan Chiverton
Susanna Coffey **
David Cohen
Raul Colon
Kinuko Craft
Robert Crawford
Bob Crofut
John Cuneo
Amy Cutler
Fielding Dawson *
Janet DeCarlo
Jacqueline Decker
Vincent Desiderio
Grace Devito
Ray DiCapua
Lois Dodd **
Bruce Dorfman
Daniel Dos Santos
Hilary Doyle
Fritz Drury
Randall Enos
Constance Evans
Alan Feitknecht
Janet Fish **
L. Everett-Fisher
Audrey Flack **
Andrew Förge **
Connie Fox **
Stephanie Franks
Betsy Garand
Brenda Garand
Michael Garland
Charlie Gehrmann
Sheila Geoffrion
Robert Giusti
Judy Glanzman
Glenn Goldberg
Jane Goodall

John Goodrich
James Grashow
Norman Green
Barbara Grossman
James Gurney
Margaret Grimes **
Richard Haas **
Nancy Hagan
Steven Harvey **
Julie Heffernan **
Mark Hoss
N. Charkow-Holland
Eric Holzman
Fritz Horstman
Yvonne Jacquette **
Elisa Jensen
David Johnson
Victor Juhasz
Wolf Kahn
Aya Kakeda
Roger Kastel
Ken Kewley
Tom Kidd
Don Kimes
Richard Klein
Jon Krause
Stanley Lewis **
Ying Li
Edward Little
Lynette Lombard
Mathew Lopas
Sharon Louden
Dennis Lyall
Ross MacDonald
Fred Mason
James McGarrell
Ruth Miller **
John Moore **
Howard Munz
Matt Murphy
Graham Nickson **
Adam Niklewicz
Tim O'Brien
Hugh O'Donnell
R. Andrew Parker
Charles Parness
Jim Peters
Stephanie Pierce
Jerry Pinkney
Anna Poor
Kelly Popoff
Walt Reed
Kenny Rivero **
Edel Rodriguez
Joseph Salerno
Jennifer Samet **
Zina Saunders
Bill Schmidt
T. Lanigan-Schmidt **
Heather Scott
Susan Shatter
Yuko Shimizu
Elena Sisto
Paul Smith
Gene Sparkman
Don Spaulding
Nancy Stahl
Kyle Staver
Clintet Steed
Amy Smith-Stewart
Bill Sullivan*
Altoon Sultan
Andrea Sulzer
Lynn Sweat
Bill Thomson
Cathleen Toelke
Grier Torrence
Lee Tribe
Selina Trieff **
Ed Tuttle
Audrey Ushenko
Victoria Vebell
Eric Velasquez
Raymond Verdaguer
John Wallace *
Susan Jane Walp **
James Warhola
Ellen Weinstein
Michael Whelan
Judy York
Deborah Zlotsky

* deceased
** Weir Farm Art Center co-sponsored lecture
“I do not work to create beautiful paintings or sculptures. Art is only a means of seeing.”
—Alberto Giacometti

“Ideas are one thing and what happens is another.”
—John Cage

“No, I didn’t work it out upside down, I never turned it around.”
—H.R. Giger

“Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don’t mind, it doesn’t matter.”
—Mark Twain

“You should keep on painting no matter how difficult it is, because this is all part of experience and the more experience you have the better it is... unless it kills you then you have gone too far.”
—Alice Neel

“The purpose of art is washing the dust of daily life off our souls.”
—Pablo Picasso

“Art is a step from what is obvious and well-known toward what is arcane and concealed.”
—Khalil Gibran

“Never worry about being obsessive. I like obsessive people. Obsessive people make great art.”
—Susan Sontag