

Curiosity + Process = Discovery

Natalie Nickerson
Sarah Bergeron
Melissa Martell
Ariell Hallson-Aymot
Miriam St. Pierre
Denise Lawson
Fiona Thomson

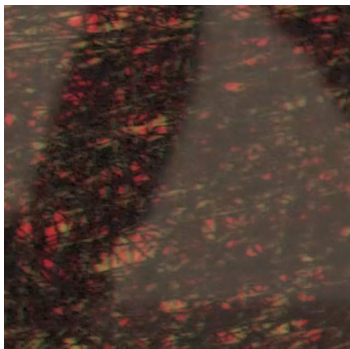
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A group exhibition by North Island College Fine Arts and Design students. Exploring notions of physical and metaphorical transformation, these ideas are expressed through a wide range of media, including painting, drawing, text, sculpture and video. The students share a generous spirit of curiosity about their own practice and one another's work, as well as immersive approaches to material processes. In preparation for this exhibition, the group has had the opportunity to cultivate an artistic community in which ideas are discussed and developed towards their thematic show. Within the context of a gallery preparatory and presentation setting, emerging artists have a tangible experience of how it is to extend their educational studio experience into the larger community.



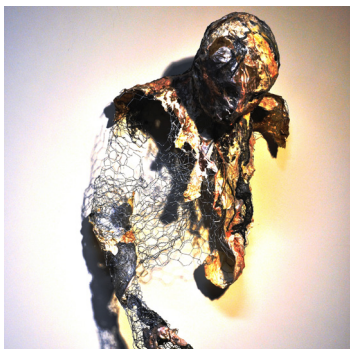
SARAH BERGERON

This series of 3 drawings are an exploration of **Identity**. Through inward reflections the concept of contradictions in an individual's various personality traits were a dominating quality. Each drawing is built on a foundation of contradictions - in the divergence of the organic and the inorganic, the cool and the warm, the stable and the unstable. The blending of all sides of a personality is mirrored in the blending of pastel on paper between various collaged imagery. While each can individually stand on its own, they are all bound together by the instability of the cracking bedrock observed throughout.



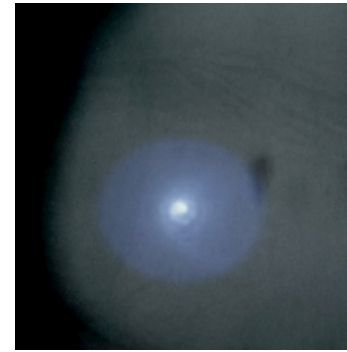
ARIELL HALLSON

Merry Christmas is an experiential piece based on my experience with anxiety during Christmas shopping in a busy mall. I chose to use the imagery of feet to express not only the anonymity of the crowd that surrounded me, but also to reference where I was looking when I was making my way through the crowd. The distorted sounds represent the way that I tuned out the sounds around me as best as I could in my panic.



DENISE LAWSON

This past year one of my dearest friends died. This universal experience of loss of a friend through death has prompted me to work on a series of sculptures using wire, handmade paper, plant fibres and a paper and clay compound I have developed. **Gesture of Invitation** is part of a developing series of sculptures that are meant to prompt the viewer to wonder, to ask questions, to become more aware of themselves and the importance of their living presence in the world.



MELISSA MARTELL

In Orbit is a digital visual installation. In this piece I have decided to explore multiple concepts using the female body as a metaphor. Originally installed on a large rear projection screen, **In Orbit** connects astral bodies and planetary rotation with the female form. The magnetic movement of the torso rotates as if on its own planetary orbit, whilst simultaneously placing the viewer in a womb like environment; Thus connecting the cyclical process of the universe with the creation of life itself.



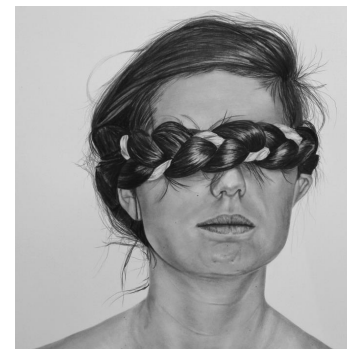
NATALIE NICKERSON

Home Series is a sculptural exploration about the process of creation. Each of the creations is an interactive piece that invites the audience to move the hinged parts and discover the various limits of balance within art/within a home, uncover the secrets hidden at the center of the art/home, and conceive of their own space as a dynamic home/art piece inviting participation; a constant provocation of expression. In this way, the collection provokes introspection about the interaction humans evoke from their environment and vice versa.



MIRIAM ST. PIERRE

I originally created **Modesty** as an exploration to better understand my views concerning nudity and nakedness, leading to the questions that they provoke such as what is appropriateness, where does it fit in our society, and what are the personal limits of others. The work is not meant to pressure the viewer into being comfortable with any nudity, but rather encourage and challenge them to recognize their own limits on the subject matter and what is appropriate in what situation.



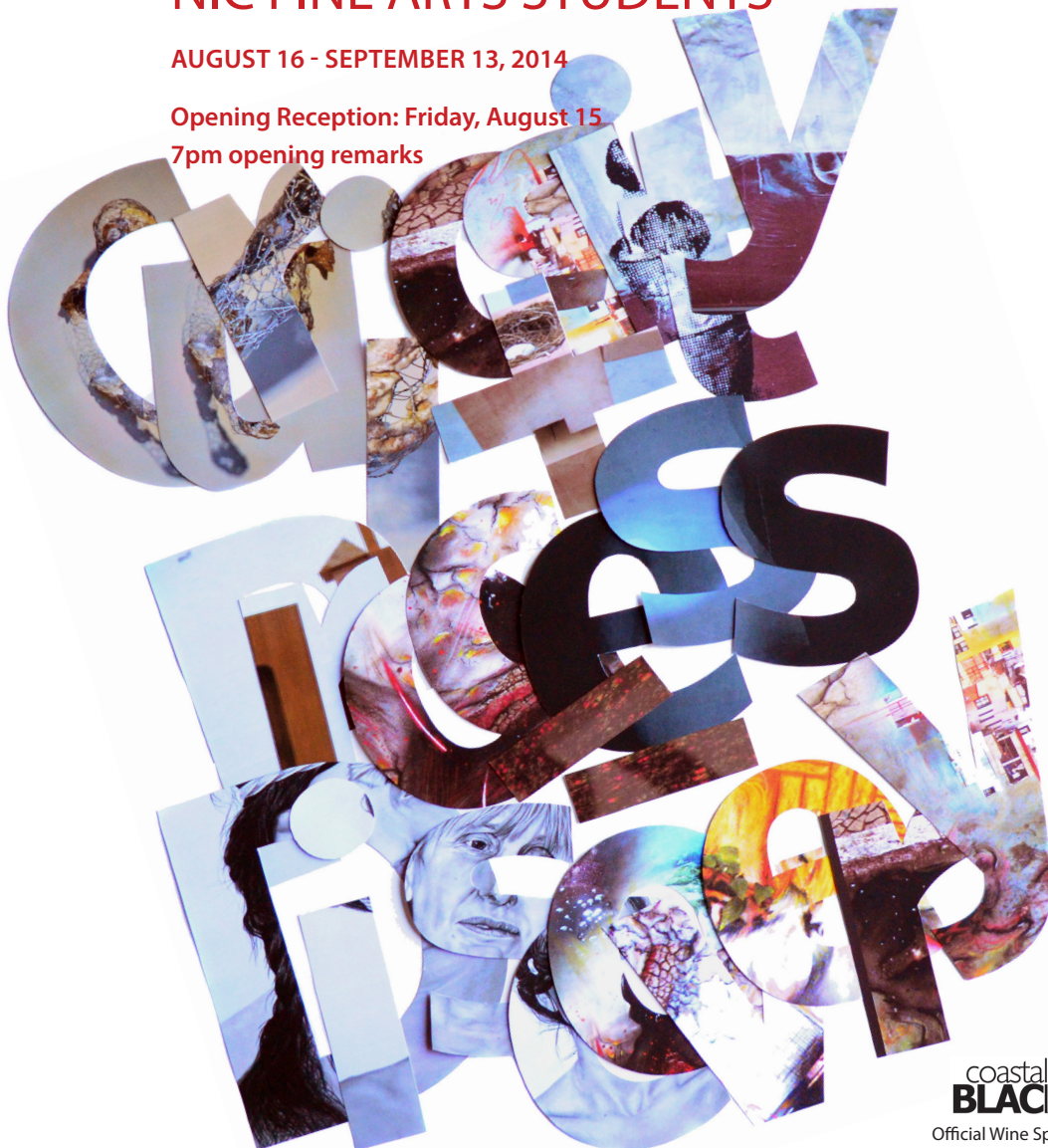
FIONA THOMSON

Within all three of my graphite drawings **Cerebration**, a rope is shown in connection to braided hair, stressing a physical connection to the skull, the protector of our thoughts. The emotive qualities, or "state of rope", expressed in each portrait corresponds to a situation within each subject's personal life. Through the experiences and expressions of others I am aiming to capture and release the psychological tension, insecurities and emotions that were, and are, kept suppressed in my own mind. The revealing of bare shoulders is a physical gesture of the vulnerability found in the act of exposing ones inner-self.

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NIC FINE ARTS STUDENTS

AUGUST 16 - SEPTEMBER 13, 2014

Opening Reception: Friday, August 15
7pm opening remarks



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