



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 4, 2007

**Cornish College of the Arts Presents 2007 Art & Design BFA Exhibition**

SEATTLE, WA – Cornish College of the Arts presents the Cornish Art & Design BFA Exhibition to showcase the work of the graduating seniors from the Art & Design Departments.

**Cornish Art & Design BFA Exhibition**

May 11–May 25, 2007

Opening reception: Friday, May 11, 6-10 pm

Press preview: Friday, May 11, 4-6 pm

BFA Exhibition hours are Monday-Sunday, Noon-7 pm

Cornish Main Gallery

Cornish College of the Arts

1000 Lenora Street, First Floor, Seattle

Free and open to the public

**About the BFA Exhibition**

The exhibition features the work of 40 art students and 37 design students and includes paintings, sculptures, installations, prints, photographs, books, toys, and videos made from traditional, found, and new materials and technologies. Also included are projects in interior design, visual communications and motion design. *“Projects range from the esoteric to the practical, investigating themes such as representation, cultural identity, authority, consumerism, escapism, social responsibility, sustainability, interaction and environmental experiences,”* states Allyson Vanstone, Design Department Chair. Most of the pieces in the BFA Exhibition are available for sale.

**Statement from John Overton, Art Department Interim Chair**

The Fine Art program culminates in the student’s BFA show. In the four years they are at Cornish, they are immersed in Art History, theory and studio practice. The students explore several mediums before deciding to concentrate in two areas of the five that are offered: Painting, Sculpture, Print, Photo and Video/Digital Media. The work represented in the BFA exhibition is conceived at the beginning of a student’s senior year. From a personal area of interest, conceptually and formally, a thesis is proposed and this thesis evolves and is refined throughout the year through peer and faculty critique and the student’s own studio practice. What is special for me is the transformation that takes place within the work and the Artist. Their self directed investigation is formative. They discover more than they set out to. The process becomes clear by which they will continue to make skillful, deeply personal art.

**Statement from Allyson Vanstone, Design Department Chair**

The BFA Show is the final event of a four-year design program culminating in the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Following an integrated freshman year, students in the Design department focus their studies on Graphic Design, Illustration or Interior Design. The exhibition represents the conceptual, visual and technical sophistication students achieve upon graduation. The individual student exhibits consist of a senior thesis project, a semester long exploration of an idea, problem or question initiated by each student. Students undertake a rigorous process to develop their ideas for public presentation. Projects range from the esoteric to the practical, investigating themes such as representation, cultural identity, authority, consumerism, escapism, social responsibility, sustainability, interaction and environmental experiences. The projects are created to alter, support, enrich, entertain and inform the perception and experiences of the intended audiences.

### **About Cornish College of the Arts**

Cornish College of the Arts provides aspiring artists with the educational opportunities to become professionals in their fields. The College offers Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in Art, Dance, Design, Performance Production and Theater, and a Bachelor of Music degree. It is one of three private colleges in the United States focusing on both the performing and visual arts, and the only college of its kind in the Northwest. The College is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design and has a national reputation for its faculty, curriculum, and student performance and exhibition opportunities.

Since its founding by Nellie Cornish in 1914, Cornish College of the Arts has contributed to the nation's cultural and intellectual heritage through its alumni and faculty. Historically, these figures include choreographers and dancers Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, Syvilla Fort and Bonnie Bird; composer John Cage; painters Mark Tobey, William Cumming, and William Ivey; photographer Imogen Cunningham; educator Calvin B. Cady and broadcaster Chet Huntley, to name just a few. More recently these figures are joined by Brendan Fraser (film actor), Patrick Haskett (painter), Steve Jenson (sculptor), Paul Owen Lewis (illustrator), Lois Rathvon McCarter (dancer/choreographer), Evyind Kang (violinist/composer), Jarrad Powell and Joshua Kohl (composers). And, the College continues to represent the Northwest's largest concentration of professional artists dedicated to instruction.

- END -