

## ART DEPARTMENT STATEMENT

21st-century artists are versatile, adaptable makers and thinkers, capable of working across a variety of art forms.

In the Art Department students become part of a peer-based, collaborative and integrative learning community. We actively promote an intellectual context for artistic experimentation, risk-taking, and the development of a personal contemporary practice.

Through discourse in history, theory, and application, Art students find the opportunity to explore drawing, digital media, installation, painting, performance, photography, printmaking, research writing, sculpture, social practice, and endless hybrid combinations of the above, in pursuit of new art and new ideas.

Through the course \*Studio: Thesis Exhibition, seniors create artwork that engages with personal vision, life experiences, and cultural context present throughout contemporary art.

Introspection, the body politic, the sociopolitical environment, as well as dialoguing and connecting with the world outside of self, are themes showcased in the artwork here. In this exhibition, art speaks most eloquently to things that can't always be expressed with words.

**We are honored to share their work with you.**

**Kudos and congratulations to our graduating seniors of 2021!**

**-The Art Department Faculty**

## **DEPARTMENT CHAIR STATEMENT**

Every BFA exhibition is about a four-year event in the making. This one, however, had its own particular variable to confront in the form of a global pandemic. While the impact of this world event seems ever-present I would like to try and take a slightly broader perspective and not have that event overly color the work of these amazing artists.

Whenever you walk into an artist's exhibition, you're not experiencing static images and objects that are built over a defined period of time. Every time we view a work of art, we are looking at the culmination of an endless process of making and unmaking of an individual voice from the moment that person finds the motivation, or sometimes courage, to call themselves an artist up until the exact moment the work itself leaves the studio. Each image, object, video or performance is the result of that whole journey from start to finish, each and every time.

So, when you move your way through this exhibition, you are looking at a small measure of an incredibly long journey. This artwork is the result of four or more years of learning how to grow and adapt a personal voice or vision. This is an incredibly difficult thing to do, and yet the results of the work here sometimes make it look like it was the most natural thing in the world to accomplish.

I couldn't be more excited to introduce this work to a wider audience. These artists have grown so much in their time here at Cornish. Their voices both cut through and are a part of the difficult world we are living in at this moment and that goes beyond the expectations set for any student.

I hope you can all join me in celebrating this and the many other accomplishments of the Art Department's class of 2021.

**Kevin Goodrich, Art Department Chair**