To many, the artistic process is an enigma: cloaked under a veil woven in creative genius and eccentric mysticism. Few are privileged to see the countless hours of trial and error and tedious details that result in what we see on a gallery wall or projected on screen. For the artist, this is just part of the job- the ‘work’ of the ‘art’- constructing a tangible portrayal of an abstract concept or the choreographed climax of a one time performance. The artist is simply trying to find that outlet- a brush stroke, a composition, a form- that communicates their message or idea succinctly. This process is not unlike that of any other chosen field: a scientist running experiments, a mathematician configuring algorithms, a detective hunting for clues, or a teacher exploring new curricula. Years are spent honing their chosen crafts, countless hours wasted on failed ideas and dead end solutions. All the while, these artists work toward that sometimes definitive but oftentimes flux solution, trying to resolve a traffic jam of ideas and concepts to find The Way Out.

The annual exhibition of the Master of Fine Arts thesis candidates from the College of Visual and Performing Arts features the work of 21 artists working in a variety of traditional and new media. As with any true thesis exhibition, there is no curatorial rationale: the artwork is selected by the artists as the culmination of three years of artistic research and practice.

What sets these artists apart is the reinterpretation of traditional media into a contemporary context – changing our perception of the artistic process: what a painting is, what a ceramicist does, how a photographer works. Painting and drawing, printmaking, sculpture, photography and film- all familiar instruments in the foundation of art making- have been introduced in a fresh milieu of concept and craft. Oil on canvas partnered with documentary video, works on paper that combine printmaking, drawing and painting, and site-specific installations of ceramic sculpture and photography. They are fused with both familiar and previously unexplored concepts that range from notions of gender, family and place to abstract narratives and sensory interaction.
## EXHIBITION CHECKLIST

**NOTE:** Height precedes width.

**REBECCA ALOISIO**
- *I, 2014* digital and screen print on paper 76 x 60 inches
- *II, 2014* digital and screen print on paper 76 x 60 inches
- *III, 2014* digital and screen print on paper 76 x 60 inches
- *Non-place (Electric Antennas), 2012* mezzotint with drypoint on wove paper 6 x 13 inches
- *Thurber St. Nocturne, 2012* mezzotint on wove paper 16 1/4 x 24 inches

**EMILY DUNLAP**
- *Mama Says He’s the Best in Town, 2014* bridal gown, lace, satin, pearl pins, sequins, paint and pearlescent medium on insulation foam, paper mache and plastic 52 x 74 x 36 inches
- *Body Becoming, 2010-2014* digital archival print; white bronze and silver variable dimensions

**JIM GALLAGHER**
- *Black Rainbows/ Tap the Rockies, 2014* paint and grnr on concrete 42 x 54 x 2 5/8 inches
- *First Try, No Warm Ups, 2014* oil on canvas with documentary video 23 1/4x 29 1/4 x 2 1/4 inches
- *Un Bagel Tout avec Rien sur Lui (Canvas on Canvas), 2013* scanned canvas printed on canvas 36 x 48 x 2 1/2 inches

**LANA HIJAZI**
- *War’s daughter, 2013* video running time: 8 minutes, 42 seconds

**JACOB CROOK**
- *Comstock at Thurber, 2013* mezzotint on wove paper 13 1/2 x 24 inches
- *Know Where/Nowhere/ Now Here, 2014* mezzotint with drypoint on wove paper 24 x 36 inches

**CAYLA LOCKWOOD**
- *Cosmic Inflation, 2014* LED lights, drywall variable dimensions

**KIU PARK**
- *Chasing the Dragon, 2014* color HD video running time: 10 minutes

**SARAH PFohl**
- *Apples and Corn, 2013* photograph 22 x 28 inches
- *Aspen, 2013* photograph 16 x 20 inches
- *Bulb, 2013* photograph 14 x 11 inches

**DEBORAH ROBERTS**
- *Buttress, 2014* acrylic, ink, black photo collage on canvas 72 x 84 x 2 inches

**EMILY DUNLAP**
- *Red Dress, 2014* archival inkjet print 24 x 16 inches
- *Poke, 2014* archival inkjet print 21 x 14 inches

**VAUGHN SLEIGHT**
- *Red Truck, 2014* archival inkjet print 24 x 16 inches

**LAUREN COMLY**
- *Late Earth #000, 2014* digital inkjet print 30 x 17 inches
- *Blue and Yellow, 2014* digital inkjet print 30 x 17 inches
- *Frames on Blue, 2014* digital inkjet print 30 x 17 inches

**TIAN GUAN**
- *Lilac in Winter, 2013* photograph 10 x 8 inches

**VICTOR RIVERA**
- *Alpha, 2014* archival inkjet print 10 x 15 inches
- *Andy, 2014* archival inkjet print 27 x 18 inches
- *Bag, 2014* archival inkjet print 8 x 12 inches

**ROBERT WEISS**
- *Inner Sanctum, 2014* acrylic on linen, video variable dimensions

**DAVANA WILKINS**
- *Quintessence, 2014* polyvinyl acetate variable dimensions
- *Revival, 2014* plastic sheeting, polyvinyl acetate variable dimensions

**ENDAM NIHAN TASBASI**
- *Hold it, 2014* installation, 3-channel HD video, sound, continuous loop variable dimensions