



THE QUARTERLY

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Student Spotlight: Isabella Martino

BY DANIELA FRANCO

Who is Isabella Martino?

Isabella Martino is a senior majoring in Studio Art with minors in Chemistry and Anthropology at the University of North Georgia. Although drawing excites her most, she is motivated by the challenges and complexities of painting. When I asked Isabella what defines her, she simply said, "My family. Their unending love and support allow me to be where I am today. Therefore, 'Martino' defines me."

What inspired you to become an artist?

Like many art students, art was not the first choice when deciding what to explore. Isabella went down a few options (biology, nursing, chemistry) before finding where she really belonged. "Coming from a high school that did not have a high regard for art I chose biology as my first major, it wasn't something I was as passionate about but it was something I was good at." In 2016, Isabella lost her father - this event led her to take a look inside and find her passion even if it went against what was expected of her. Her family was hesitant but supportive of her art. In her senior show she exemplifies the personal growth she's experienced throughout her college career.

What advice do you wish you would have received as a college freshman?

"Easy - Always be grateful, trust your gut, and live in the moment." She also added that college is an opportunity for self-development, so get the most out of your time here. Her paintings for the senior capstone exhibition will reflect the personal growth Isabella has experienced throughout her college career.

What's after college?

This is a thought most of us are not sure how to answer. Isabella's plan is to take a year off and focus on finding a job. This way she can relieve some financial stress of grad school and help her family in any way she can since they have done so much thus far. She plans on going out of state to pursue a graduate program in Studio Art or Art Conservation.



A Conversation with Dr. Pamela Sachant

BY CAYLA HALL

Your education is in Art History. Where did you go to school?

"I went to school at the University of Washington for my undergraduate and my MA and then the University of Delaware for my PHD. I went to University of Delaware

specifically because I'm an Americanist and that was one of two premiere schools in American Art History. What might be interesting to some folks is that I got my MA and I taught at the community college level and I knew that if I didn't get my PHD I wouldn't be able to teach at the University level."

What was your focus for your doctoral thesis?

"I worked on a self-taught artist from Texas by the name of Eddie Arning. He worked in crayon and pastels."

Why do you think learning about Art History is important to student's artistic career and education?

"To begin with, [its important to have a] well-rounded education. But I think it's really important for artists to know what came before. There is so much to learn from other artists: their techniques,

how they approach subjects, whatever it might be. But it also is inspiration, and it also is a way for many artists to figure out where they are in the conversation of art throughout history."

The Department of Visual Arts has recently been approved for the BFA Program. What does that mean for the students at UNG?

"That program is the gold standard in terms of the professional program for artists. It will be the same number of credit hours: 120. But students will not pursue electives or a minor in another area, they will be taking art coursework and having a far greater number courses in the upper level, allowing them to really focus in on their disciplines."

What are the different disciplines of the BFA?

"Everybody who gets a BFA here for now will get a BFA in Visual Arts, but they can focus in photography, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking and ceramics. They can focus in graphic design and digital arts, as well, so any of the arts that we currently offer, except for textiles. We simply don't have the coursework to support that for now."

You have been teaching at UNG since 2005 and have seen many students pass through the program. Is there a certain set of qualities in their personality or work ethic that has been a common denominator for success?

"Perseverance, and open-mindedness are the two things I'd say."

UNG Art Galleries Calendar of Events

BY MEGHAN FOLEY

Dahlongega Bob Owens Gallery

Zipporah Thompson: Rootwork

February 25 - March 21, 2019

Artist Talk and Reception

March 21, 2019 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Through her textile constructions, Thompson seeks to embrace resiliency and action in our current political climate, growth, tension, and harmony. These are extracted from the landscape, producing potent results through complex, interwoven forces of nature and humanity grown deep.

Hal B. Rhodes III Student Exhibition: Drawing Boundaries

March 29 - April 26, 2019

Award Ceremony and Reception

April 4, 2019 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

This annual juried exhibition and awards ceremony showcases the best work of UNG Visual Arts students on the Dahlongega campus.

Library Technology Center Gallery

Senior Capstone Exhibition I: The Other Side of Us

April 4- April 12, 2019

Closing Reception

April 11, 2019 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Senior Capstone Exhibition II: Under Pressure

April 15- April 26, 2019

Closing Reception

April 25, 2019 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

These exhibitions feature the capstone projects for the graduating B.A. and B.S. seniors.

Gainesville Roy C. Moore Gallery

Manty Dey: Drops and Drizzle

February 4 - 26, 2019

Artist Talk and Reception

Feb 26, 2019 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Manty Dey is inspired the simple idea that a surface can fluctuate and be dimensional. She creates sculptural paintings from acrylic sheets and hand-cut paper forms as well as layered surfaces combining paper and canvas.

Student Scholarship Award Winners

March 6 - April 4, 2019

Awards Ceremony and Reception

April 4, 2019 5:30 p.m.

Each year, a panel of Departmental of Visual Arts faculty members chooses students on the Gainesville campus to receive scholarships. This exhibition features their award-winning work.

Senior Capstone Exhibition: Growth

April 8 - April 19, 2019

Closing Reception

April 19, 2019 7-9 p.m.

This exhibition features the capstone projects of the graduating B.A. and B.S. seniors.

Student Spring Art Sale

April 22 - May 3, 2019

The Gainesville Campus art students will hold their End-of-Year Spring Art Sale in the Roy C. Moore Art Gallery. The sale will include ceramics, prints, paintings, photography, digital media, and sculpture. Cash and check accepted only. All proceeds go to the students.

Oconee Faculty Center Gallery

Student Scholarship Award Winners

March 6 - April 4, 2019

Awards Ceremony and Reception

April 17, 2019 5:30 p.m.

Each year, a panel of Department of Visual Arts faculty members chooses students on the Oconee campus to receive scholarships. This exhibition features their award-winning work.

If you love cities that are lit up by neon signs, you should make a trip to the city of Las Vegas in Nevada. It has one of the most iconic signs, one being the famous *Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas Nevada*. This sign is located on the east downtown entrance of the city and is probably the sign that you are thinking of now. We can thank Betty Willis for that - in 1959, she was commissioned to create this sign and decided not to copyright it which allowed it to go viral. Little did the city of Las Vegas know that they were about to receive a gift that would keep on giving and would make a lifelong impact on the culture.



From the Outside: DoVA Alumni

BY MADELEINE COOK

When did you graduate?

“We both graduated in the Fall of 2015.”

What is your job title?

Brad: “We are co-owners of Sozo Bear Films, but we are involved in all facets of the production of our projects. We often wear the hats of producers, camera operators, screenwriters, editors, and directors. We are a concept to completion production house, so we have to be able to provide all aspects of production to our clients.”

Luke: “I’m a co-owner of Sozo Bear Films. We do wear many hats, as Brad mentioned. In a company like ours, we have to be ready to handle even the little details like web design, graphic design, emailing and scheduling meetings or production dates. The job requires leadership skills and people skills. So aside from producing our art, we also have to be able to sell and promote and communicate with people.”

What did you do immediately after you graduated?

Brad: “During our final semester of school, we did a joint senior show. It was a satirical sci-fi short film called, *The Apology Service*. After we premiered the film on campus that November, we were approached by the Department of Visual Arts to create a promotional film for the program. So immediately after graduation, we jumped right into creating a promo film for DoVA and we quickly started to get more work through word of mouth.”

Luke: “We were both uncertain of the future. Brad had gone back home to Dade County and my wife and I were still living in Dählonega. I was working for the bookstore on campus. During this period, Brad had to travel back and forth a lot. He’d stay at my apartment for a few days at a time so that we could film all the footage necessary for the DoVA Film. Even once we started the business he was still having to commute several hours any time he’d go back to Dade County. But you’re going to have to make sacrifices for your art. It takes commitment and a lot of drive to pursue your dream. In particular, starting your own business like we decided to do requires you to be a self starter. There’s no one to tell you what to do. We don’t have a boss so we have to be very disciplined in our daily practice.”



Luke Pilgrim & Brad Kennedy, Co-Owners of Sozo Bear Films

What would you tell current or future Visual Arts students?

Brad: “Work as hard as you can while you are in art school. You have the most resources at your disposal right now that you likely won’t have after you graduate. Now is the time to be obsessed with your portfolio. Create as much art as you can. The more work you do while in school, the better you become and the more valuable you will become to the job market after graduation.”

Luke: “Don’t be afraid to get started. You can’t always wait until you have every little thing you need for a project. Because sometimes you may never have everything you need and if you keep waiting you’ll never start on your art. Take the first steps. The hardest part is always that first stroke of paint or the first lines on the page. Remind yourself that it’s okay to fail. Because if you do, you are going to learn so much from that failure. If you want to be a professional painter, push yourself to paint something new every week. If you want to make films, go out and make them. Work on projects outside of your assignments. The assignments are awesome and I loved so many of my art class projects. But I believe it will make a huge difference if you are making more art than just what you are being told to make. Because once you graduate, there may be a difficult period where you are unsure what type of art you need to be working on. Don’t give up. Keep making art after graduation and find a way to turn what you love into a career.”

Meet the Staff

Meghan Foley

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