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# Comic book superheroes tackle race, identity

November 7, 2013

The Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art (BFSDoArt) presents *Narrowing the Margin*, the 2013 Fall Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) thesis exhibition of Julian Strayhorn II, from November 15 through December 13 in the University Gallery at Georgia Southern University's Center for Art & Theatre. The Department will host a reception on Thursday, December 5, at 5 p.m. in the Center for Art & Theatre. Visitors will have the opportunity to meet the M.F.A. candidate, as well as discuss the ideas and imagery that shaped his work.

*Narrowing the Margin* investigates aspects of race and identity through comic-book imagery. Often inserting African-American figures within traditional comics, Strayhorn challenges socialized concepts of black identity. By installing large-scale African-American comic characters on facades of buildings, Strayhorn poses questions to the community regarding how history informs the present commentary on what society recognizes and what it overlooks.

"Like many within the graphic-design industry, Julian has become interested in utilizing public space to present information and elicit a response," said Ed Rushton, BFSDoArt associate professor of graphic design. "This exhibition is a wonderful example of a student who is exploring all of the facets and possibilities of graphic design, from traditional print to installation and social awareness and even digital media."

Dedicated to serving the public of southeast Georgia and the University community, the BFSDoArt is geared toward an interdisciplinary interpretation of art and culture.

"The Department's Master of Fine Art graduate program is extremely diverse and offers degree specialization in two- and three-dimensional art, as well as graphic design," said Marc Moulton, the director of the Department's M.F.A. program. "Courses are specifically tailored to develop the professional practices necessary for contemporary artists. Our graduate-student body is dynamic, energetic and passionately focused on creating work that reflects its broad interests."

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Tags: [Julian Strayhorn](#), [MFA Candidate](#)

# 19 renowned faculty share creative works

*November 7, 2013*

The Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art (BFSDoArt) presents the 2013 Faculty Exhibition from November 15 through December 13 in the Contemporary Gallery at Georgia Southern University's Center for Art & Theatre. The exhibition includes an artist lecture by new faculty member Sarah Bielski, on Wednesday, November 20, at 5 p.m. in the Visual Arts Building, Room 2071. A reception for this exhibition will be held on Thursday, December 5, at 5 p.m. in the Center for Art & Theatre. At this time, visitors will have the opportunity to meet and discuss art with faculty of the Department.

This exhibition will feature the work of 19 renowned faculty in all disciplines and reflects each artist's academic specialty as well as their individual endeavors. "Many of these artists are unique because they spend a great deal of time and energy with their students. Yet, they still manage to continue their own studio practice and produce great work," said Gallery Director Marc Mitchell. "Many of our faculty members are known both locally and nationally. Having an exhibition such as this allows us to highlight their artistic achievements. In addition, it is a fantastic way for both students and the local community to see all of their works in one space."

This year the BFSDoArt welcomes two new faculty members, Sarah Bielski and Kimberly Riner, who will be exhibiting alongside Donald Armel, Jessica Burke, Patricia Carter, Elsie Taliaferro Hill, Jessica Hines, Derek Larson, Christina Lemon, Santanu Majumdar, Julie McGuire, Marc Mitchell, Hans Mortensen, Marc Moulton, Onyile B. Onyile, Ed Rushton, Jeff Schmuki, Tiffanie Townsend and Pat Walker.

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