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Ceramic exhibition examines the environmental impact of consumerism

January 29, 2018

STATESBORO, Ga.—Master of Fine Arts candidate, [Courtney Ryan](#)'s thesis exhibition "Irrational Aggregates" will be on view at the Center for Art & Theatre's Contemporary Gallery from Feb. 12-19. A reception will be held on Friday, Feb. 16 at 5 p.m.

Through excessive attention to detail and a strong sensitivity to surface, Courtney Ryan transforms clay into sculptures that she imagines have emerged organically from their surroundings. Her sculptures both suspend and amplify our natural and consumerist relationships with the materials and artifacts we display in our homes in order to create a sense of domesticity and belonging.

"It can often be considered mundane and trivial, but the everyday object or experience can bring inspiration into my studio," said Courtney Ryan, Masters of Fine Arts candidate. "It's refreshing to interpret my experiences through my hands in ceramic and sculpture."

While Ryan's artwork may not appear similar in shape or material, they all are focused on the same theme, which is nature changing along with society's consistently evolving urban and suburban environments. Tea cups, knick-knacks, and other materials have a vital role in the artwork, creating a discussion about nature developing and over-taking society's personal environment while humans themselves consume their own urban territory.

Ryan is actively involved within the community as well as outside of Statesboro, Ga. She painted an eagle that is outside of Howard Lumber & Hardware, and has also painted a mural at the lumberyard. Outside of Statesboro, Ryan's artwork has been featured at multiple universities and in magazines as well. Currently, she is a teaching assistant at Georgia Southern University.

"Courtney is a dynamo of ideas and activity, and is relentless in experimenting and pushing her work into new territory," says Gallery Director Jason Hoelscher. "That the range of forms and approaches she takes all emerge from a shared set of concerns and concepts makes her ceramics all the more compelling, and I look forward to seeing the work collected into one gallery."

All events are free and the public is invited to attend.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 142 degree programs serving more than 27,000 students through nine colleges on three campuses in Savannah, Statesboro, Hinesville and online instruction. A leader in higher education in southeast Georgia, the University provides a diverse student population with expert faculty, world-class scholarship and hands-on learning opportunities. Georgia Southern creates lifelong learners who serve as responsible scholars, leaders and stewards in their communities. Visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu.

Posted in [Events](#), [Noteworthy](#).

COURTNEY RYAN IRRATIONAL AGGREGATES



February 12 -19, 2018

Center for Art & Theatre • Statesboro Campus

Hines's work published in 'War is Only Half the Story: Ten Years of the Aftermath Project'

January 29, 2018

Professor Jessica Hines's work was published in "[War is Only Half the Story: Ten Years of the Aftermath Project](#)," a book showcasing the work of grant winners and finalists from around the world for the Aftermath Project Grant. The book was published by Dewi Lewis of London and released at the European book launch at Paris Photo where Hines traveled to sign books at the Grand Palais. "This was definitely a highlight moment in my career," Hines said. "I couldn't be more delighted to have taken part. A dream come true."

Posted in [Faculty & Staff](#), [Noteworthy](#).

Tags: [Jessica Hines](#)



Professor Jessica Hines, right, with founder of the Aftermath Project, Sara Terry, at the Grand Palais book signing in Paris.

Ryan's work accepted into 2017 Delaware Contemporary MFA Biennial exhibition

January 29, 2018

Master of Fine Arts candidate, Courtney Ryan's work was recently accepted into the [2017 Delaware Contemporary MFA Biennial](#) exhibition titled "Domestic" in Wilmington, Delaware. The exhibition will run from Nov. 30, 2017 — March 18, 2018, at the museum.

Posted in [Awards and Recognition](#), [Noteworthy](#).

Tags: [Master of Fine Arts](#), [Student Success](#)

Graduate exhibition focuses on erasing taboo on mental illness, depression

January 29, 2018

STATESBORO, Ga.—Dontay Farley's Master of Fine Arts thesis exhibition "Millions Like Me" will be on view in the Center for Art and Theatre's University Gallery from Feb. 12-19. A reception will be held Friday, Feb. 16 at 5 p.m.

Through a collection of posters, billboards and other graphic design mediums, Farley uses this exhibition as design activism to create awareness about depression and mental illness. Using the simple things in life as an inspiration, Farley's artwork aims to encourage kindness and compassion through words of encouragement and acts of goodwill.

"As a graphic designer, I understand that I cannot cure mental illness or rid the world of depression, but I can create awareness," said Farley. "Instead of designing to show the problem and the statistics associated with mental illness, my work focuses on solutions that help decrease depression, such as support, encouragement, patience and positive human interaction."

He uses his artwork as a way to make a connection with the public and alter the way people think. Utilizing greens and blues in his artwork, Farley uses these colors to convey unity and nature, which are necessary elements to move on from depression to being mentally secured.

The use of space in Farley's design is to portray new opportunities or beginnings, while it can also be seen in an unfavorable way by the absence of decorative elements so the message can be obvious to viewers.

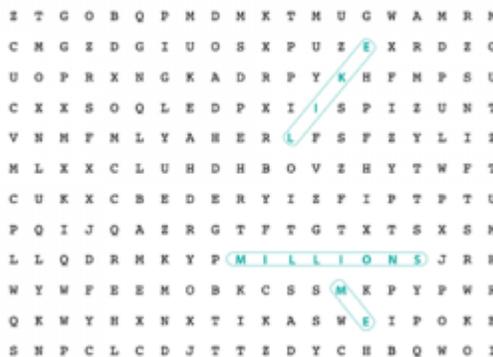
"Dontay's design work is important in that it not only highlights or explores problems but is not afraid to propose possible solutions," says BFSDoArt Gallery Director Jason Hoelscher. "It is too easy to focus on problems without looking for a way out, without reframing the context in which the problem arose. Dontay has explored these issues from a variety of vantage points over the duration of his studies here at Georgia Southern, and the insight of his ideas, combined with the strength of his graphic design talents, should make for a very compelling and thought-provoking exhibition."

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Posted in [Events](#), [Noteworthy](#)

DONTAY FARLEY MILLIONS LIKE ME



FEBRUARY 12-19, 2018

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