

Hite Institute of Art + Design

Fall 2024 BFA Thesis Exhibition: Relevance

November 14 – December 6, 2024

Opening Reception: Thursday November 14 | 5-7pm

Schneider Hall Galleries
University of Louisville

The Hite Institute of Art and Design is excited to announce our Fall 2024 BFA Thesis Exhibition: Relevance. On view in the Schneider Hall Galleries November 14 – December 6, 2024, our graduating group this semester includes Hope Arnett, Rebekah Flowers, Sophia Fowler, Clare Hart, Kim Wang, and Barry Wolvin.

The annual BFA Thesis Exhibition is an opportunity to showcase and celebrate the culmination of our Studio Major's time at Hite, with each presenting a body of work that represents their individual skills and perspectives.

For example, **Hope Arnett's** photographic collages investigate growing up in a digitally dominated era, and address the power of the ways we maintain connections using our seemingly endless array of technology. Hope's project demonstrates the complexity and chaos of forming and maintaining these connections, and aims to reflect the discomfort we often feel in navigating these bonds with others. Themes of technology, human interaction and connectivity are also reflected in other student's work. Through oil painting, artist **Sophia Fowler** creates portraits depicting human connections and memory. The layered approach, often with spaces left undone, represents the building of relationships and the fracturing of memories. Additionally, **Clare Hart** explores the dynamics between modern digital technology and surveillance through painting. Her work details her own relationship with feelings of constantly being watched both online and off.

Next, Artist **Rebekah Flowers** utilizes installation and historical photographic processes to reflect on her family's connection to the local Louisville plantation, "Farmington." By creating a mock living room, Flowers challenges viewers to consider how history is both preserved and distorted within personal and public memory. Ultimately, urging the audience to explore the complexities of her modern connection to slavery. The work of **Kim Wang** briefly revives China's Golden age through ethereal figurative digital illustrations inspired by Art Nouveau and Chinese paintings. And finally, **Barry Wolvin's** installation of ceramic sculptures of coral reefs and marine life address the pressing the issues of climate change and plastic pollution.

While each student's thesis reflects their personal approaches to artmaking common themes emerge throughout. A shared focus on human interaction with technology, culture, history, and the environment unites their work and positions it amongst similar contemporary concerns in the arts.

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We hope you will join us to celebrate our students work at the Thesis Exhibition Opening reception on Thursday November 14 from 5-7pm. This event is free and open to the public!