2025 MFA CATALOG

UNT | COLLEGE OF VISUAL ARTS & DESIGN
Department of Studio Art

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We are excited to present this catalog celebrating the 2025 Master of Fine Art graduates from the Department of Studio Art. Building on rigorous studio investigations and critical dialogue, this cohort interrogates boundaries between permanence and fragility, humor and tension, and the personal and cultural. Through hybrid forms, artists address cultural identity, bridging histories of migration and heritage, and craft visual narratives that reimagine collective traditions. Transformative processes emerge in works that question ecological collapse, resilience, and the capacity of stories to endure. Many projects uncover layers of personal and communal memory, reconfiguring domestic objects and bodily traces into places for introspection. These practices not only advance contemporary dialogue through form and content, but also demonstrate a commitment to scholarship, innovation, and community engagement. We extend our gratitude to the graduates for their dedication, intellectual curiosity, and for sharing their work. Their contributions have enriched our academic community and beyond, opening new possibilities for artistic research and expression.

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Veronica Ibargüengoitia, ***My friends... Stranded,*** Detail View Site 131, Dallas, TX.

Courtney Broussard

Is, Was, & Will Be

Courtney Broussard is a ceramic artist with an interdisciplinary approach, exploring intimacy, sentimentality, and shared experience through installations, sculpture, and functional pottery. Rooted in generational craft traditions, her practice engages in a tactile dialogue with clay, using purposeful play, problem-solving, and material exploration to infuse humor and surrealism. Processes like ceramic burnout introduce a tension between permanence and fragility, allowing for unexpected results that challenge perceptions of memory, material, and domestic space. Broussard was selected for the Dallas Contemporary NTX Graduate Program Cohort "Open University" and a residency at Taoxichuan Art Center in Jingdezhen, China.

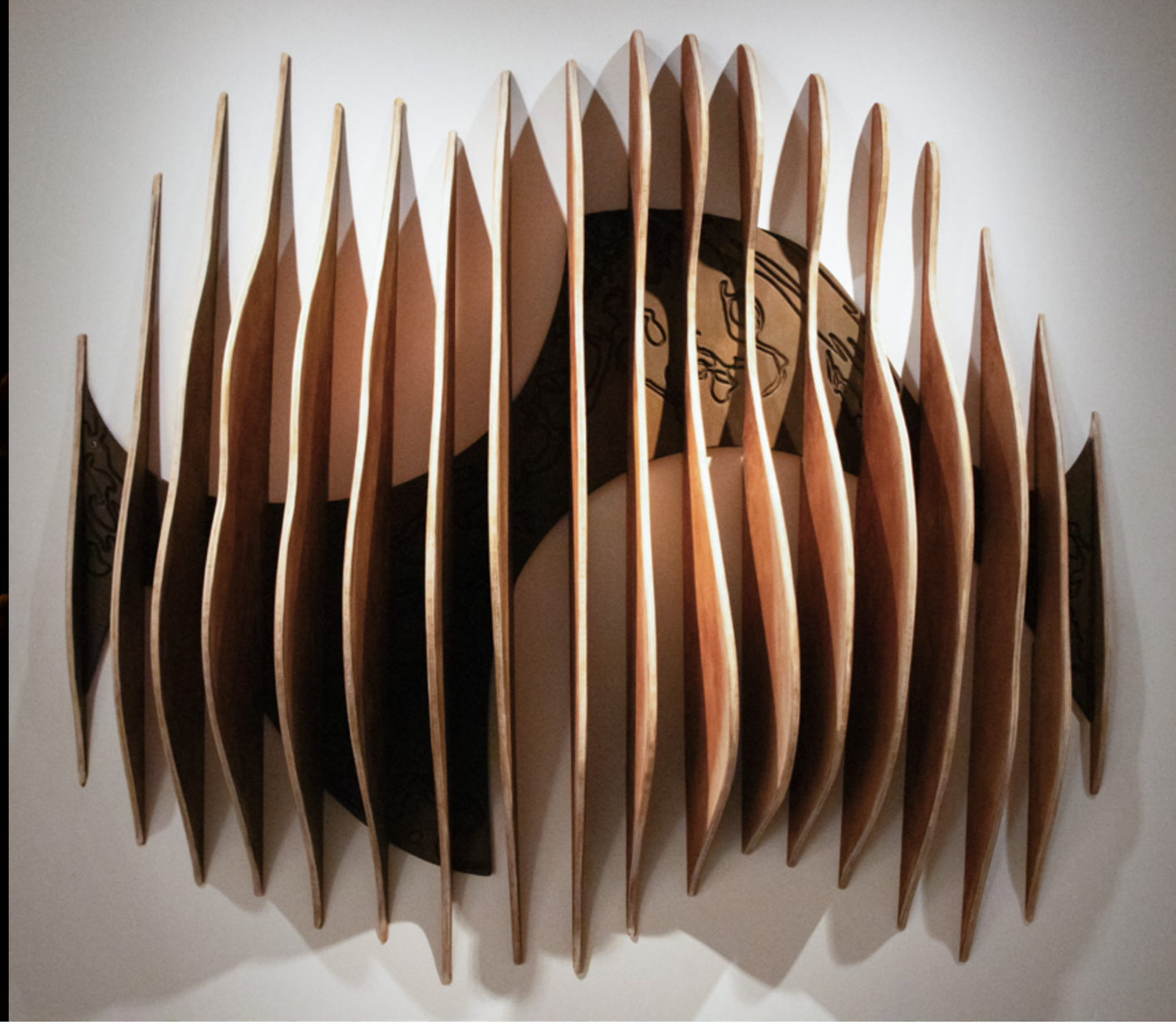
@brush_people

Courtney Broussard, images from ***Is, Was, & Will Be***

Jeremy Bunda
Gambal

Jeremy Bunda is an interdisciplinary artist melding together areas of painting, sculpture, and video/performance to construct dynamic installations that capture ideas of elasticity and exigency. His latest body of work, Gambal, is an exploration of queer mythology through a Filipino lens about shapeshifting, survival, and adaptation, built upon a hidden language. Mirroring both personal narratives and the material trajectory of natural rubber within Philippine ecology, the work is a meditation on assimilation, acclimation, and transformation in environments and thresholds of constraint.

www.jeremybunda.com



Jeremy Bunda, images from ***Gambal***

Pablo Alonso Cruz
entre dos tierras

Pablo Alonso Cruz reflects on his hyphenated identity as a Mexican-American and the in-between space that bridges both cultures, mainly through the history of photography that has shaped the Chicano experience. As a tool of documentation and portrayal during the Mexican Revolution, photography contributed a sense of national identity to an emerging republic that still resonates today. Cruz's photography practice—across photojournalism, studio lighting, and alternative processes—is informed by this history of mechanical reproduction and its importance to Mexican and Chicano cultures to reconcile the gap between cultural and racial identity and reflect the tapestry of the Mexican-American experience.

@pablo.a_cruz

Pablo Alonso Cruz, images from ***entre dos tierras***

Madeline Herrera

Of fell creatures and those who stray

Madeline Herrera is an interdisciplinary artist based in Denton, Texas. Herrera is best known for spliced fibrous creatures and mixed-media sculptures. Herrera's recent body of work, Of fell creatures and those who stray, unravels personal narratives and journey through religious deconstruction. She dissects tradition, religion, and oral histories through the feral. Herrera utilizes domestic and bodily imagery contrasted with animalistic abstractions of nature. The feral is used to reimagine objects into living creatures and question the boundaries of what is expected and accepted. Herrera has shown work nationally at 500X Gallery, Dallas, TX, Union Street Gallery, Chicago Heights, IL, and The Greater Denton Arts Council, Denton, TX.

@madelineh.art

Madeline Herrera, images from ***Of fell creatures and those who stray***

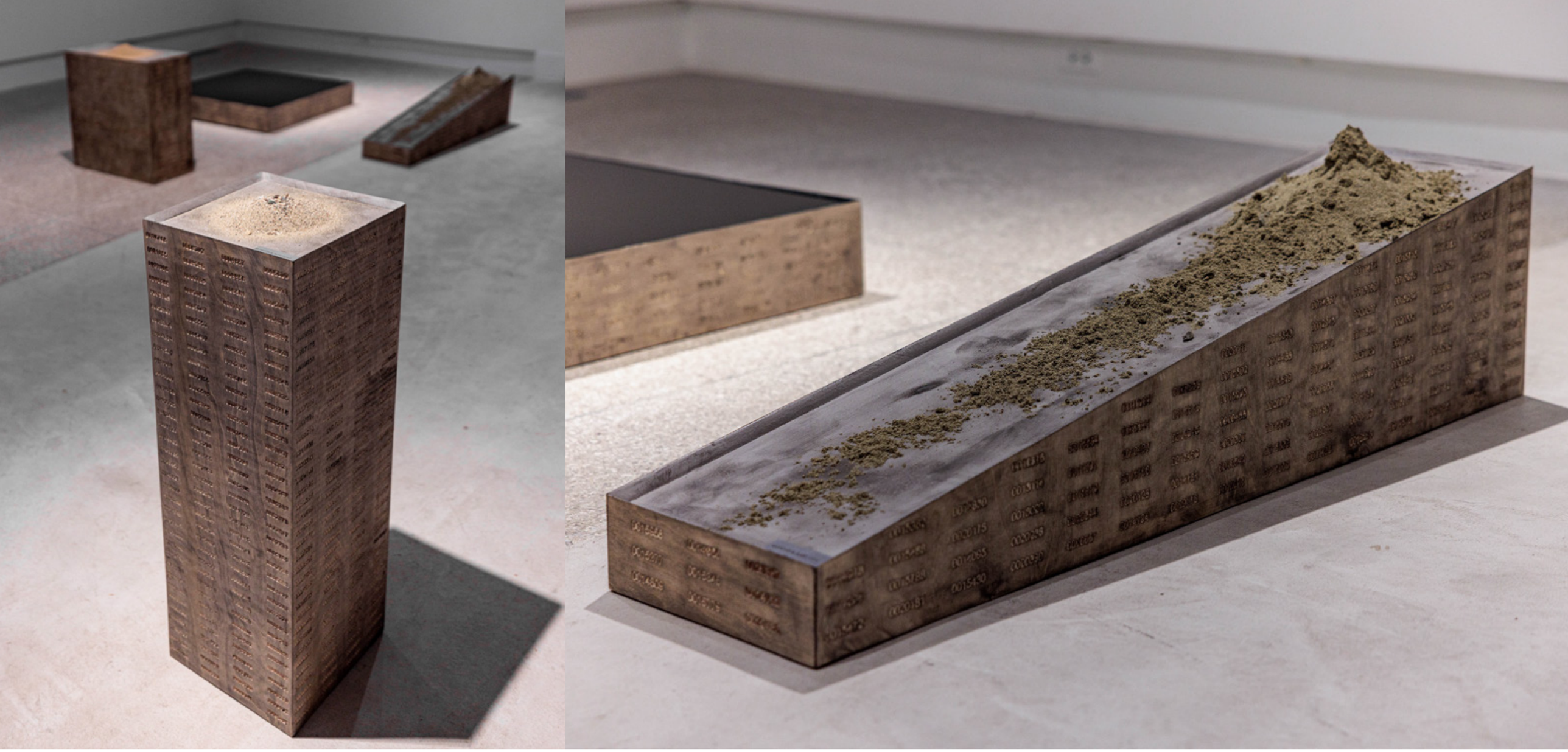
Veronica Ibargüengoitia

La Tierra Llama

Veronica Ibargüengoitia is a Mexico City-born artist who immigrated to the U.S. in 2009. Her work explores resilience and identity reconstruction in conditions of displacement, addressing themes of migration, cultural belonging, and adaptation.

Ibargüengoitia is particularly interested in how identity transforms within new dwelling experiences and how factors such as landscape, language, culture, physical risks, and disorientation shape this process. Her work not only questions global immigration systems and the ongoing migration and refugee crises but also creates spaces for understanding and empathy, building connections between the self and the other. Rooted in Collaboration and Social Practice, her work actively engages communities, fostering dialogue and collective reflection on migration and identity.

www.veronicaibarguengoitia.com



Veronica Ibargüengoitia, images from ***La Tierra Llama***

Anna Smith

In Every Gnarled Hum of My Underbelly

Anna Smith is an interdisciplinary artist based in the Denton, Texas area. Smith is most well known for her sculptural abstractions of body through the use of metals, glass, and fibers. In Smith's upcoming show, In Every Gnarled Hum of My Underbelly, iterations of body are explored through reimagined objects of domesticity and familiarity. Her work is informed by personal experiences and recalling or building off sensations from the past. Through tender prose, representational bodies, and contrasting material, Smith reimagines a realm of in-between, a space for these experiences and new bodies to rest. She has shown both regionally and nationally within Union Street Gallery Chicago Heights, Illinois, The Dairy Barn Arts Center, Athens, Ohio, 500x, Dallas, Texas, and Center Gallery at the Midwest Center for Photography, Wichita, Kansas.

www.biteandtouchstudios.com

Anna Smith, images from ***In Every Gnarled Hum of My Underbelly***

Narong Tintamusik
Almshouse

Narong Tintamusik is a second-generation Thai American artist working in painting, sculpture, and wearable art, often incorporating waste, food ingredients, and craft-adjacent techniques. His work imagines a dystopian future shaped by ecological collapse, where survival depends on being nomadic and utilizing preserved foods passed down through generations. As infrastructures like housing, technology, waste management, healthcare, and food production fail, he envisions how Thai culture adapts. By situating the work within this desolate vision, he can ensure his community's cultural memory, resilience, and spirit endure beyond this time.

@narong.tintamusik

Narong Tintamusik, images from ***Almshouse***

Bailey Weiss

The Subtle Dewdrop ... With a Faceted Kaleidoscopic Surprise

Bailey Weiss is a Louisiana-born artist and holds a BA from Southeastern Louisiana University. Her work explores subtle, unexpected moments of nature that emerge within mundane spaces. Through nonrepresentational oil paintings, she replicates fleeting encounters which evokes transcendental headspaces. She utilizes a consuming process of wiping away layers of paint to reveal the veiled marks, forms, colors, and surprise 3D elements.

@baileymweiss

Bailey Weiss, images from ***The Subtle Dewdrop ... With a Faceted Kaleidoscopic Surprise***

In the Department of Studio Art, we serve our M.F.A. students by focusing on their intellectual and creative growth, fostering their professional and studio-based practice, and preparing them for a lifetime of accomplishment and meaningful contributions as culture creators. The program frames the individual needs of each student through the development of conceptual, aesthetic, and technical skills. While in the program, students engage with theory and practices across disciplines while engaging in the critical practice of the fine arts. A world-class Tier 1 research institute, UNT is a short drive from the vibrant cultural and art centers of Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas.

Our graduate programs are led by engaged artists and educators who are recognized nationally and internationally for their intellectual and creative research. The studio art faculty are passionate and work tirelessly to ensure that students realize their potential.

We support a multiplicity of student investigations and welcome students into one or multiple areas of study, including ceramics, drawing and painting, metalsmithing and jewelry, new media art, photography, printmaking and sculpture. In the program, students form an interdisciplinary cohort where they engage in a deep and sustained studio practice and expand their critical and historical knowledge of art. We are proud of the diverse means of research modes and art-making processes in our program and the many successes of our M.F.A. graduates who make their impact through creative inquiry, scholarship, and innovation. Our M.F.A. students are passionate, skilled, dedicated and have a unique vision. Our students receive generous support through competitive fellowships, individual studios, in-state tuition rates, and appointments as teaching assistants, teaching fellows,or graduate student assistants.

The M.F.A. degree in Studio Art is a 60-credit-hour program culminating in a solo exhibition. For more information or questions about the program, please visit : *https://cvad.unt.edu/studioart/mfa-graduate-application-process.html*

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