



**Institute of
Contemporary
Art / Chattanooga**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Announcing the 2023 BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition

Chattanooga, TN—Mar 20, 2023—The (UTC) Department of Art, along with the Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), announce the annual 2023 BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition—on view at the ICA in the Fine Arts Center on the UTC campus from March 29–April 22.

The annual BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition is the capstone achievement of graduating BFA studio majors, comprised of a public exhibition and artist lecture series, which represents the culmination of two years of intensive artistic and intellectual development for the department’s Bachelor of Fine Arts candidates. This year’s class is a cohort of 24 artists from four BFA studio concentrations— graphic design, painting & drawing, photography & media art, and sculpture.

“This year’s senior class are a cohort of very strong individuals and ideators who are thinking about issues such as environmentalism and social responsibility, community building and skill sharing, the impacts and implications of the proliferation of social media and digital identities, to personal artistic responses driven by experiences, intuitions, inspirations, and philosophies,” says Rachel Waldrop, director and curator of the ICA.

2023 BFA Senior Thesis Exhibiting Artists:

Show 1, on view March 29–April 8
Artist talks & opening reception:
Fri, March 31, 5pm, Benwood Auditorium
ICA Galleries reception until 8pm

Show 1 artists:

Kip Alexander
Dahlia Bowser
Jared Cizowski
Zoe Cothron

O’Len Quinn Davis
Cooper Haston
Callie High
Haison Hopkins
Sophie Johnson
Laurel Kuyrkendall
Aderrys Mitchell
Rudy Paxtor-Gomez

Show 2, on view April 13-22
Artist talks & opening reception:
Fri, April 14, 5pm, Benwood Auditorium
ICA Galleries reception until 8pm

John Everett Helm
Savannah Hodges
Hao Luong
Manuel Graves
Sadie Montague
Alex Murphy
Aisy Nix
Dylan Sanchez

Show 2 artists:

Erica Benton
Callie Billman
Cass Dickenson
KateLynn Fronabarger

Opening Artist Talks & Receptions, information:

UTC Art & 2023 BFA Thesis Exhibitions: Show 1 Artist Talks
Friday, March 31st, 5-6:30pm
Benwood Auditorium, EMCS Building, UTC Campus
Free and Open to the Public, no registration required
Reception follows until 8pm, ICA Galleries & Fine Arts Center Lobby

UTC Art & 2022 BFA Thesis Exhibitions: Show 2 Artist Talks
Fri, April 14, 5-6:30pm
Benwood Auditorium, EMCS Building, UTC Campus
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About the Institute of Contemporary Art and UTC Department of Art:

The Fine Arts Center is home to the [Institute of Contemporary Art \(ICA\)](https://www.icachatt.org), which presents challenging, curious, and adventurous encounters with contemporary art and artists. The ICA at UTC is the first ICA in the state of Tennessee and is always free and open to the general public as well as to our campus community. The ICA facility comprises two exhibition galleries. For more information, visit [icachatt.org](https://www.icachatt.org) or contact Rachel Waldrop, Director and Curator, Institute of Contemporary Art: hello@icachatt.org Public hours: M-Fri 10am-4pm, Sat 12-4pm

The [UTC Department of Art](https://www.utccampus.edu/department-of-art) strives to be at the forefront of undergraduate education in the making and study of art. As art has power and is woven into all aspects of the world around us, UTC Art aims to nurture diverse voices through curriculum, programming, pedagogy, and community engagement. UTC Art's mission is to offer an accessible, rigorous, and supportive learning environment that exposes students to a wide range of creative processes and intellectual models for contemporary practice. Faculty guide students as they strive to meet their individual goals, preparing them for successful futures in diverse

fields. With approximately 300 students and 16 full-time faculty, UTC Art offers BFA degrees with concentrations in Graphic Design, Painting and Drawing, Photography and Media Art, and Sculpture as well as BA degrees in Art Education, Art History, and Studio Art. UTC is an NASAD-accredited institution. For more information, visit utcart.com