

ACKLANDARTMUSEUM

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

Media Advisory



Versus: Selected Works by the Master of Fine Arts Class of 2018
The annual exhibition explores dueling tensions in art and society

(Chapel Hill, N.C. — April 12, 2018) — On April 20, the Ackland Art Museum at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will open *Versus: Selected Works by the MFA Class of 2018*, featuring artworks by eight Master of Fine Arts candidates.

Lauren Turner, the Ackland’s assistant curator for the collection, selected “versus” as the central theme for the exhibition, allowing the artists to provide artworks that explore combative tensions.

“When I met with the students last August, I wanted to try a different approach to this year’s exhibition. Instead of reviewing all available works and then seeing what sort of concept emerged, I asked the students to consider a specific idea from the outset – ‘versus.’ Many of the artists found ways to articulate previously existing works within the ‘versus’ rubric; some used it as an opportunity to create art specifically for the project,” Turner explained. “The benefit was that it gave us a common language with which to navigate their wonderfully varied assortment of individual styles and messaging.”

The following candidates will present their work:

- Britta Anderson
- Allison Coleman
- Kimberly English
- Sara Farrington
- Joel Hople
- Lindsay Metivier
- Jeanine Tatlock
- Carley Zarzeka

Throughout the spring semester leading up to the exhibition, MFA students also displayed their final thesis projects in week-long, solo exhibitions held in the Allcott Gallery at UNC-Chapel Hill's Hanes Art Center.

In recent years, the annual MFA presentation has been organized by a different curator for each graduating class, including guest curators Jeff Bell, director of the Vollis Simpson Whirligig Park, Kelly McChesney, the City of Raleigh's public art director, and Chris Vitiello, *Indy Week* arts contributor.

This exhibition of work by the 2018 Master of Fine Arts candidates at UNC-Chapel Hill is made possible by the ongoing dedication and support of the Ackland Art Museum's members and annual fund donors.

Press Preview/Public Opening:

Thursday, April 19, 5 – 8 p.m.
Ackland Art Museum
101 South Columbia Street
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

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Versus: Selected Works by the MFA Class of 2018

Open April 20—May 13, 2018
Ackland Art Museum

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About the Ackland Art Museum:

Featuring a year-round calendar of special exhibitions and dynamic public programs, the Ackland Art Museum is UNC-Chapel Hill's local museum with a global outlook. Our location and programs bridge campus and community. We're free, open, and accessible to all. The Ackland's holdings consist of more than 18,000 works of art. The collection spans all cultures and time periods, showcasing the breadth of human creativity. We are a vital teaching resource that puts the art of understanding at the heart of what we do. We empower you to get close to art – the familiar, the unexpected, the challenging – and connect with the complexity and beauty of the wider world.

The Ackland Art Museum is located at 101 South Columbia Street, just south of Franklin Street, on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday 10 AM-5 PM, and Sundays 1 PM-5 PM. The Museum is open until 9 PM for Chapel Hill-Carrboro's 2nd Friday ArtWalk. More information is available at ackland.org.

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Allison Coleman, American, born 1977: *Pine-Sol*, 2017, oil on panel, 24 x 48 inches. Lent by the artist.