

Artist Bios

Aidan Boyle

Aidan Boyle was born in 1993 in Connecticut. She received her B.F.A from SUNY Purchase in 2019 and currently lives and works in New Rochelle, NY. Her first exhibition of paintings was included in a group show at the Dolly Maass Gallery in Harrison, NY. Several of her prints were included in the 2021 *Of Woman Born* exhibition, at the Housatonic Museum of Art in Bridgeport, CT. Her work seeks to portray needs and desires obstructed by inaccessibility. There is a narrative in the figurative imagery, but the full story is continually thwarted through the use of cropping, which hinders the complete apprehension of the visual information offered. What imagery remains the viewer is asked to complete. By showing a figure through shadow rather than through detailed form, the figure becomes an archetype but also a kind of void, weaving a sense of unease into each scene.

Tynan Byrne

Tynan Byrne (b.1992) is a photographer and book-artist based in Quincy, MA. He grew up on the coast of Maine, a place from which he draws deep inspiration and often references throughout his creative process. Fascinated by the intersection between language and image comprehension, he creates bodies of work investigating the impact that photography and sequence have when compounded with the written word. His series center around intimate and honest aspects of his life as a gay man, often containing links to his childhood, his romantic and interpersonal relationships, influences from various forms of magical realism, and a deep love for the craft, history, and methodologies of photography itself. Most recently, his work has been exhibited in Richmond, Virginia; Halifax, Nova Scotia; Montgomery, Alabama; Dallas, Texas; and Boston, Massachusetts, as well as several online galleries and publications. Byrne is a leading member of the Boston-based artist collective, Recently, a group of emerging artists who meet monthly to share work, offer and receive critique, and organize opportunities for public exposure. He currently works as the Instructional Media Technologist within the Art Department at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

Tynan is represented by Gallery Kayafas in Boston, MA

Isabelle Higgins

Isabelle Higgins is a Boston based painter, who completed her BFA in Painting at the Massachusetts College of Art & Design in 2019. Isabelle has exhibited both within the institution and outside of it. Including shows at SUPERCOLLIDER (LA,CA) and upcoming group and two person exhibitions at LaMontagne Gallery (Boston, MA). She was awarded the Yale Norfolk Residency in 2018 and attended Vermont Studio Center Residency in 2019. Higgins is a recipient of the 2018 George Nick Prize and the 2018 Rob Moore Grant in Painting. Higgins currently works at MassArt for sparC! the ArtMobile in the Center for Art and Community Partnerships.

Barbara Ishikura

Barbara Ishikura received a BFA in 3D from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 1985, an MA in Linguistics from Harvard University Extension in 1997, and an MFA in 2D from Massachusetts College of Art and Design in 2018. She won the St. Botolph Emerging Artist award in 2018, and was chosen by Art New England as one of 10 emerging artists to look for in 2019. Ishikura appeared in Big Red and Shiny in 2018, and the Boston Globe in 2021 with Praise Shadows Gallery. Her exhibitions include the Southern Vermont Arts Center in Manchester, Vt., and Praise Shadows Gallery in Brookline, Ma. Ishikura will have two 2-person exhibitions at LaMontagne Gallery in February 2023 and the Wilson Museum at SVAC in June 2023. She received fellowships from MASSMoCA, Jentel in Wyoming, and Cill Railiaig in Ireland. Ishikura teaches Drawing at MassArt.

Davie Kaim

Davie Kaim is an artist and visual merchandiser born in Paraguay and raised in Brookline, Massachusetts. He currently lives and works in Boston, MA. Kaim studied theatre at the Boston Conservatory (Boston, MA) starting in 2011. For several years, he continued to perform in local productions and an off-Broadway show before beginning a path in the fashion industry. This is Kaim's first time showing with a gallery.

Primarily working in photography, Kaim satiates his appetite for hands-on visual puzzles. His work is comprised of candid shots highlighting old and new friendships in flashes of nightlife and private encounters. All of the images featured in We Interrupt This Program were taken between 2015 and 2019 when Kaim lived in New York and Los Angeles as well as the Boston area. These photographs catalog intimate, transitory moments where lips touch, strangers dance, and finsel shines in the moonlight.

Andy Li

Andy Li is a Boston based artist who focuses on the power of now. His work is a reflection of the day to day mundane and the moments of greatness that we perceive in an instant. He is a Mass. Art graduate with a BFA in Media and Performance Art with a focus in Film/Video and 3D Sculpture with a focus in Fibers and Soft Sculpture. These two mediums have provided him with an understanding for the value of time and patience. Some days you will see him hunched over a single thread for hours on end, and other days you will see him running back and forth with three different cameras trying to find the best light. A believer in the suggestive nature of positivity, more often you will see him encouraging those around him to keep failing in order to keep getting better. Always trying to adapt and evolve, his work and his personal attitude is the visual exploration to the saying, "You can't make an omelette without cracking a few eggs."

Tim McCool

Timothy McCool is an Austin, Texas-based artist and educator. Originally from Pittsburgh, PA, McCool received his Master's of Fine Arts from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts / Tufts University located in Boston, MA. Selected exhibitions include those at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, MA, Montserrat College of Art in Beverly, MA, Carroll & Sons Gallery in Boston, MA, Room 68 Gallery in Provincetown, MA, and Launch F18 in NYC, NY. McCool is the co-founder of the DIY exhibition space Goodluckhavefun, operated out of a garage in West Austin. He has been the artist in residence at the Boston Center for the Arts, the Studios Program at MASS MoCA, and at the Arteles Creative Center in Finland.

Katie McColgan

Katie McColgan is an American artist who lives and works in Waltham, Massachusetts. She received her BFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design in 2016 and was a Post-Baccalaureate student at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville following. McColgan recently earned her MFA degree at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Her work conceptually centers ideas of memory, containment, and care. Her processes and materials vary from ceramics to fibers to painting, often reincorporating the remnants of past pieces into her new works.

Shantel Miller

Shantel Miller is a Jamaican-Canadian visual artist whose interdisciplinary practice incorporates drawing, painting, printmaking and photography to communicate complexities of the human condition. In 2021, Shantel graduated from Boston University with an MFA in Painting and received the Dedalus Foundation Fellowship in Sculpture and Painting, the Ester B. Khan Award and the Elizabeth Greenshields Award. Her artwork has been acquired by private collections around the world and she has participated in numerous group shows, residencies and art fairs in North America including the Nia Center for the Arts Artist-in-Residence Program, the Converging Liberations Residency at Mass MoCA, NADA Miami and Future Fair in NYC. Shantel is the recent recipient of the Ujima Boston Project's 2022-2024 Artist Fellow where she currently lives and works in Boston, Massachusetts.

Oscar Morel

Oscar Morel is a figurative sculptural painter from New York currently in the MFA program at Boston University. Oscar received his B.A. in Studio art and Computer Science at DePauw University in 2019. He is a Dominican artist focusing on narratives delving into the intersectionality of identity. He explores the iconographic significance of the afro Caribbean experience. Oscar's work provides a recording and performance of identity, a splatter of thoughts, and rigid displays of specificity, both relatable to the people who share that space and windows for those who live outside it.

He provides a small dissection of cultural breaths, fleeting and reconstructing through the only way self is created; through an amalgamation of surroundings. As a child of immigrants, Oscar explores the loss of agency in one's history and the alterations needed to adapt in spaces unknown to both him and his caretakers. Stewing these factors into the melting pot of New York City provides acute moments of childhood and growth distinct to his displaced populous.

The work provides a feeling of repurposing through its materiality and decision-making in figuration. His sampling of other's works provides a visual language that lives and interconnects the work to one another, like physical ancestry. Oscar cultivates different textures and colors to build murals and landscapes. Places where the things he creates can live and breathe in an active display. By relocating fragments of former things and mixing them to create something new, seeing displays of himself in the worlds created

Brian Smith

Brian Smith is a sculptor interested in philosophies of queer ecology, and human's relation to nature. His content translates a yearning to reconnect with the natural world and make sense of it through the language of reflection, desire, and awe. Smith holds a Master of Fine Arts from Maine College of Art & Design, where he also teaches as an adjunct professor. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Sculpture from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Smith has exhibited in a series of group shows in places such as Maine, Antwerp, Texas, Massachusetts, New York, Vermont, and Montana. He has been written about in the following magazines: *The Chart*, *Floor*, *Divide*, as well as *Working Artists*. Smith has spent time at Hewnoaks Artist Colony, and will attend Monson Arts Residency in the fall of 2022.

Brooke Stewart

Brooke Stewart (b. 1994) is an artist and educator working out of Boston, MA.

My paintings and woodcut prints are autobiographical in nature. As I sift through my internalizations of formative life experiences, my work is driven by feelings of loneliness, trauma, and gender identity, and grapples with the resulting effects on my navigation of the present. Spinning narratives between reality and perceived reality—the tangible and the dream—I often transition between woodcut and painting and feel this back-and-forth dance between mediums aligns with my thought processes. I find the mediums are a metaphor for my life, floating between the hard and permanent line of a woodcut, and the dream as expressed through the whimsical perspective in my paintings. It is a fight between what is real and what I will to exist.