

Year End Report 2015

Submitted by Richard Fishman

Professor of Visual Art,

Director, Creative Arts Council and Granoff Center for the Creative Arts

I. Teaching

Spring 2015

Hybrid Art "Bricollage"

Fall 2015

Sabbatical

II. Advising:

I had 2 sophomore advisees and continued to meet with a number of former advisees now in their senior and junior year.

III. Service

a. Public Art Committee: I served another term on the University's Public Art committee

IV. Research / Exhibitions / Professional Work

a. Fondation d'entreprise Hermes Artist Residency Program

b.

c. I am in the second year of a three year appointment as an advisor and mentor for the artist residency program at Hermes, which invites 3 early career artists to work under the guidance of a mentor in situ at the Hermes workshops. The mentors travel three times per year for a one week visit to the Hermes workshops in Paris to work with their artists. This year I selected a talented glass artist D.H. McNabb who has been working in the Saint Louis Cristal factory advancing his knowledge and experience in fabricating sculpture with crystal under the guidance of world renowned artisans. D.H. McNabb received his MFA degree from RISD and has been working in glass for almost 20 years. I selected D.H. not only to expand his skills but with the hopes of bringing a fresh point of view to the artisans at Hermes which is one of the unusual goals of the residency. A final exhibition of his work will be scheduled in Paris for mid-year 2016.

This program has included internationally known artists and teachers some with academic affiliations. Mentors are selected "for their track record and talent as teachers, their existing work with the medium concerned, and, for their artistic excellence."

d. Personal Work

In December 2003, one of Brown's oldest elm trees contracted Dutch elm disease, and had to be removed. Its base was wrapped in rope and torn from the ground; its trunk cut into slices, becoming raw material.

The work I'm currently engaged in during my current sabbatical has been underway for the past ten years and will culminate in a one-person exhibition scheduled for Fall 2017 at the Bell Gallery. The theme of the exhibition focuses on an elm tree's dismantlement, reassembly, and ultimate destruction, exploring the cycles of creation and destruction we see in life, art, and desire.

This tree is now a series of ghosts and monuments fragments left alone or rejoined to their wholes, cross-sections carved and hung resurrected, or reassembled into full and heavy slabs. Impossibly rejoined, its own rebirth and death occupying the same space at the same time.

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