

An Exhibition of Advanced Studio Practice Students

Playground





Alina Karmadanova

Caise McLellan

Ciara Myshrall

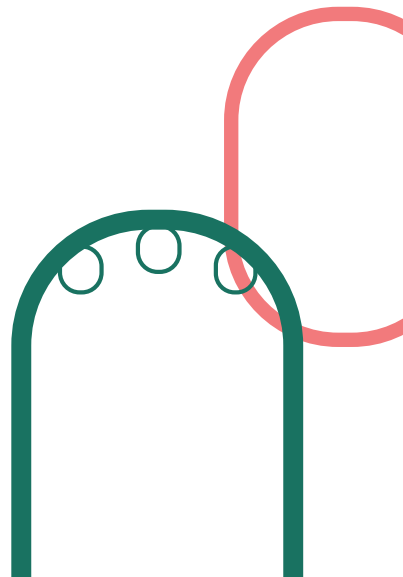
Grace Hallewell

Ivy Grenier

Katherine Neily

Emily Dào

Becca Hanley





Playground

Don't forget how to find your way back to the Playground!

Hold onto your berets, folks, because "Playground" isn't an art show of the old boys' club—it's a wild ride through the weird and wonderful perspective of eight fearless gals from Advanced Studio Practice. But it's not all fun and games, "Playground" is a riotous rebellion against art-

world seriousness. These artists are challenging the loss of play that comes with adulthood and are using it as a tool for fearless experimentation. So, put your outdoor shoes on, and join us on the Playground to celebrate the graduate work of Alina Karmadanova, Caise McLellan,

Ciara Myshrall, Grace Hallowell, Ivy Grenier, Katherine Neily, Emily Dào, and Becca Hanley.

The theme of “Playground” is more than just a catchy tagline; it’s a guiding principle for these artists who defy the pressures of adulthood. They see the world through the curious eyes of a child, where every material, shape, and colour hold the potential for pure magic and creation.

At the playground, a safe space is created, to share stories, to try things and explore without the pressure of expectation. A safe space where difficult matters come out easier, free of the taboo and complications of adulthood. They recognize that building a successful career requires hard work, daily practice, and critique. But at the heart of it all, play is their chosen attitude, inspiring us all to embrace our inner child and find joy in our work.

This graduate exhibition is a whirlwind of sensory experiences from the five different disciplines they have worked in: Ceramics, Jewellery-Metal Arts, Textiles, Fine Art Illustration, and Photography / Videography. The artworks aren’t just static displays; they’re eager to tango with your emotions and even

provoke existential questions (or at least make you wonder why everyone isn’t pursuing art and loving their careers as much).

Playground isn’t about conforming to rules; it’s about knowing them but trying something different to see what happens. It’s a celebration of weirdness, quirkiness, and everything that makes us human—flaws and all. The final showcased works offer commentary on valuing women, the nature of love, cherishing girlhood, embracing whimsical moments in design practice, and commenting on the uncomfortable, often macabre topics that only kids will talk about because they don’t know not to mention sensitive subjects.

Design isn’t just about aesthetics; it’s a language that simplifies complexities and communicates the heart’s desires. At first, all play is pretend practice. In design we use play as a preparation ground for the real world. Our students have spent an intense year practising in our Playground in the company of artist peers, who keep it real, cheer them on, and give them a push every now and again. They have shown they are willing and made a leap of commitment towards a serious design career. In other words, they are ready.

Jean Rooney

Studio Coordinator, Advanced Studio Practice



ALINA KARMADANOVA

Alina Karmadanova is a Siberian artist, illustrator, and anti-war artist from Russia. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Architecture and Design from National Research Irkutsk State Technical University, Russia and a Master's in illustration from Falmouth University, UK. From

2018, Karmadanova spent five years residing and creating art in Shanghai, China, before relocating to New Brunswick, Canada, to study the Advanced Studio Practice program at the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design.



Alina
Inside
Acrylic
20" x
2000

Artist Statement

I value women's position in contemporary society, and my work is a feminist act. My art explores the intersection of societal norms, social media, and technology on women's psyche and emotions. I unpack the intricacies of women's roles by creating artworks that make a safe space for dialogue and introspection.

It was my personal journey of healing from domestic violence, together with a national identity crisis (as a Russian), and my research on the impact of social media, that led me to become a contemporary artist. I work in acrylic paint on canvas, allowing for spontaneity, experimentation, and subconscious automatic exploration of colour and line.

I donate a significant part of my profit to women's organizations, including Ukrainian women's aid and women's shelters.

Instagram: @alinkarma

Facebook: @AlinaKarmadanova

Website: www.alinakarmadanovaportfolio.tilda.ws

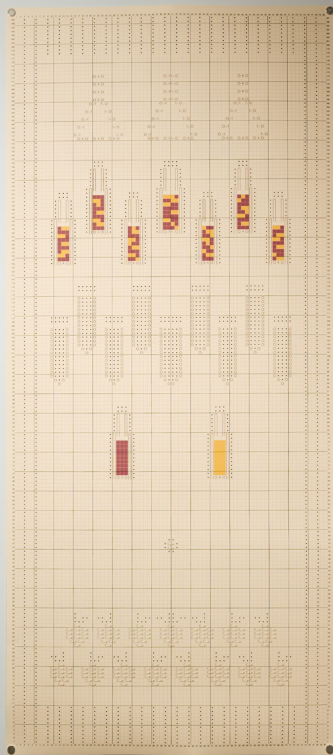




CAISE MCLELLAN

Caise McLellan is a New Brunswick textiles artist better known as WEIRDO! Yarns. She uses her weird and wonderful textile brand and handmade raw materials to focus on storytelling through textiles. Caise enjoys watching and listening to weird and unique

stories while working on her art. She likes to share these stories with others in order to discuss those stories and hopefully bring forgotten tales to the front of people's consciences so we can learn from them.



Artist Statement

I make and sell textiles under the name WEIRDO!

Yarns in New Brunswick. Through my work, I like to tell stories. My knitting, yarns, handmade paper, and prints call people back to the tales I'm teaching people about. I've been called a good storyteller, and many people enjoy engaging in my retelling of forgotten stories. As I ramble, I bring people into interesting worlds of true crime, weird history, cryptids, and other curiosities. Through this line of work, I showcase a range of fraud stories and transform them into unique textiles.

Instagram: @weirdoyarns

Facebook: @WeirdoYarns

Website: www.weirdoyarns.ca





CIARA MYSHRALL

Ciara Myshrall, a maker of production tableware and sculptural pottery from Saint John, is driven by a profound lifelong desire for sensory discovery. Her work reflects this passion, combining soft and comforting forms with a mystical and spiritual essence in her designs. Hex Pottery was created by Myshrall to explore her many

interests through clay and colour. Myshrall holds a Certificate in Foundation Visual Arts, a Diploma in Ceramics, and a graduate certificate in Advanced Studio Practice from the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design. Pottery, for Myshrall, is a way to keep her hands in the mud and continue the magic of creating.



Artist Statement

Under the name Hex Pottery, I create wheel-thrown tableware and sculptural pots. My work is a product of a lifetime of sensory overload, where clay becomes my medium for pursuing sensory bliss and spiritual exploration. My grad work, titled Tourist, delves into society's relationship with Pigeons and Doves as a tourist in our concrete landscape, roaming in search of seeds and shelter. These birds were domesticated at least 4,000 years ago for companionship, and as a form of docile worker. Only within the last 100 years have we cast them away. The domestication of birds has spanned thousands of years, because of this, they still trust and seek us out. We take them for granted. Tourist is a call to consider how we cast away the non-human when they no longer serve us.

Instagram: @hex.pottery

Facebook: @hex.pots

Website: www.hexpottery.ca



Caro Bird
Birding Box
Handbuilt, cone fired
glaze
10 1/2 x 7
200

Caro Bird
Birding Box
Handbuilt, cone fired
glaze
10 1/2 x 7
200



GRACE HALLEWELL

Grace Hallewell, a mixed-media artist, practices introspection and outrospection as part of her creative process. Her unique approach involves looking inwards to reflect on herself and outwards to understand her work through relations and empathy with others. This dual perspective is beautifully reflected in her body of work, which is a testament to her conceptual portraiture. Her compositions delve into the profound themes of connection and community, leaving a lasting impact on the art community. Hallewell's artistic journey has expanded beyond her art and writing to embrace curating. Her art has been showcased at the George Fry Gallery, the Charlotte Street Arts Centre, and the NBCCD Graduate

Exhibit at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery. In the past year, Hallewell has had the privilege of being mentored by Chris Donovan, a leading photographer in New Brunswick. This mentorship has been a transformative experience for Hallewell, pushing her to break free from the confines of her understanding of photography and venture into uncharted territories. Hallewell's artistic journey spans across continents. Born and raised in Bournemouth, southern England, she also has roots in Quispamsis, NB. Based in Fredericton, Hallewell leads a nomadic artistic life, frequently travelling. Her aspiration is to eventually bring her unique creative practice to the Netherlands, a testament to her global artistic ambitions.



Artist Statement

For me, photography is about sharing a story, whether that is an old story that has passed or documenting one as it develops. This year, my understanding of what photography is and what it can be has been challenged, and this series, Young Lady, is a result of that. I spent months shutting down every idea I had, critiquing myself beyond belief, and making no progress in my creative practice. I decided to do an experiment to get around my roadblocks. I put my camera on a tripod, took a photo every 40 seconds, and then went on with my day. I quickly forgot about the camera, resulting in a candid self-portrait. Looking through the pictures afterwards, I realized I was genuinely seeing myself. There was no self-posing involved. No one was attempting to capture me when I looked good. I was just being documented and portrayed as I am. This approach to photography changed my creative process, and I've documented hours of myself and my life. In a way, it reminded me of stop-motion animation, something I am quite fond of. Some people may consider this a time-lapse, but I disagree. I showcase these works, not in quick succession like time-lapse. Instead, each photo is given time to exist in space, separate from its accompanying photographs. This installation is a tender appreciation for this period of my life before my upcoming wedding and my final graduation from NBCCD. This work is a profound part of my self-actualization journey and discovering my identity. It is about these gentle moments of domesticity and mundanity that have shaped me.

Instagram: @Jgrace.anais.photography

Facebook: @GraceAnaisPhotography





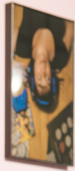
IVY GRENIER

Ivy Grenier is a Mi'gmaq artist, conceptual photographer, and curator from Listuguj, Quebec. She creates bright, bold, ever-changing creative portraits that explore deeper meanings through image and storytelling. Grenier graduated from the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design with a certificate

in Foundational Visual Arts in 2021, followed by a Diploma in Photography /Videography in 2023. She has now added a graduate certificate in Advanced Studio Practice to her portfolio. Grenier continues to explore femininity, gender roles, and Identity in her current photo series, Girlhood.



Any Gender
Anybody
Anytime
16" x 20"
2018



Any Gender
Anybody
Anytime
16" x 20"
2018

Any Gender
Anybody
Anytime
16" x 20"
2018

Artist Statement

Girlhood

My latest series, *Girlhood*, is a tribute to the sacred and beautiful time of being a girl. Through the lens of photography, I challenge stereotypes and at the same time, embrace them. Creating imagery of the girl you once were, the most authentic version of yourself, is also a moment that can never be replicated. In collaboration with the models, I delve into their unique journeys of womanhood, drawing from their memories and nostalgia to authentically capture their experiences. *Girlhood* is a celebration of femininity, a call for young women to confidently embrace their features, interests, and imperfections.

This series has not only deepened my artistic connection but also fostered a personal bond with the women in my life.

Instagram: @ ively_photography

Facebook: @IvyGrenierPhotography





KATHERINE NEILY

Katherine Neily is a New Brunswick-based ceramic artist who crafts functional art for everyday use and enjoyment. Drawing inspiration from maritime folk art, childhood, and her grandmother's dishware, she uses clay as the canvas and vessel for her stories. Neily earned her certificate in

Foundational Visual Arts in 2021 and her diploma in Fine Craft Ceramics in 2023 from the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design. She is now a graduate of the Advanced Studio Practice program at NBCCD, creating and exploring the landscape of function-based art.



Artist Statement

Sampler

For as long as I can remember, my favourite way to spend time with myself has been to create something tangible and learn something new. I find an exciting pattern or discover a new technique, then create something from scratch to hold in my hands and say, "I made that."

As a production potter, my craft is rooted in the pursuit of form and function. Working within this landscape of utility, I have found purpose in creating practical and hard-wearing work. Making Sampler has been a way for me to explore something new and unfamiliar to me: tiled surfaces. It has provided me the opportunity to learn about heritage quilt patterns, grouting, anchoring cumbersome things to a wall, and a little bit more about how I work as a person.

Instagram: @kat_neily

Facebook: @KatNeilyCeramics

Website: www.katneilyceramics.com





EMILY ĐÀO

Emily Đào is a Vietnamese jeweller living and creating in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Inside Emily are two wolves; one sells silly juice, and one works an office job. She works primarily in sterling silver and colourful gems. Her work seeks the playfulness in metal and the sleek, modern aesthetic while incorporating her own cultural twist. Dao now holds a graduate certificate in Advanced Studio Practice, a Diploma in Jewellery and Metal Arts, and a

Foundation Visual Arts certificate from the New Brunswick College of Craft and Design. Additionally, she obtained a Bachelor of Applied Arts degree from the University of New Brunswick in 2023. Dao's work has been shown in New Brunswick at the Governor House, Gallery 78, The George Fry Gallery. Additionally, her work has been shown nationally at Craft Council of BC, NSCAD in Nova Scotia, and OCAD in Ontario.



Artist Statement

A Heart's Journey is a series of intricately designed pendants that serve as a visual narrative for the complex and transformative voyage of love amid life-altering choices.

The project consists of three sterling silver pendants, each meticulously crafted to reflect a different stage of the heart's voyage, from initial confusion through grieving and mourning to the hopeful emergence of a new beginning.

This series is the result of the changes and uncertainty that rock the foundation of a relationship. The first pendant shows a heart trapped in a maze, with red thread bursting out symbolising anger and confusion. The second pendant, a Victorian-inspired mourning locket, enclosing within it a lock of hair, is a grieving symbol. However, the final pendant, featuring the lotus, is a beacon of hope and resilience. The lotus, a symbol of transformation, resilience, and the promise of a new beginning, is a hopeful reminder to myself and those who choose to listen to my story that love will bloom again.

Instagram: @jewelry.withem

Facebook: @EmilyDao





BECCA HANLEY

Becca Hanley is a jeweller and metal artist living and working in Fredericton, NB. She grew up on the shores of the Bay of Fundy in an area known as Pocologan, NB. She has shown her work in New Brunswick at the Lieutenant Governor's House, Gallery 78, The Beaverbrook Art Gallery, and the National Student Silversmithing show in

Halifax and Toronto. Hanley has earned a Foundation Visual Arts certificate, a diploma in Fine Craft: Jewellery/Metal Arts, and a certificate in Advanced Studio Practice from NBCCD. Hanley creates playful, haunting and obscure jewellery and metal art that she hopes will provoke appreciation and bring meaning to others.



Becca Har

Artist Statement

Dark Dragon Jewels was created by me as a brand for my jewellery and metal arts. I create jewellery and metal sculptures that bring out your inner dark whimsy. My process involves hand carving and casting wax forms into one-of-a-kind sterling silver creations that play on the idea of life and death and everything in between. An exciting life, a peaceful passing, or getting lost in a magical forest. I create each piece to be a capsule for these feelings and to hold stories waiting to be told.

Instagram: @DarkDragonJewels

facebook: @DarkDragonJewels

Twitch: [twitch.tv/darkdragonjewels](https://www.twitch.tv/darkdragonjewels)

Website: www.darkdragonjewels.com



Becca Hanley
The Sky
Sterling silver crow head
earrings
2.5 cm x 0.5 cm
2024

head

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COLLEGE OF CRAFT & DESIGN

Students with an NBCCD diploma, BFA, or equivalent experience in fine craft or visual arts may apply for NBCCD's three-semester certificate in Advanced Studio Practice (ASP). Students will focus on self-directed studio work, in addition to implementing a professional career plan through networking, pop-up shows, exhibitions, wholesale opportunities, and more. The key focus is studio practice in a student's area of concentration, supported by collaboration with celebrated faculty advisors and professional mentors. This program is suitable for graduates, designers, artists, and individuals with a fine craft practice who wish to engage in a supportive, collegial environment while evolving their distinct career goals. Students acquire business skills and enhanced studio practice to launch into self-employment or a successful career in the creative cultural sector.

Learn more at NBCCD.ca/asp.

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