

Tristan Lindo
Graduate student
Lost Time, 2019
oil on canvas
32in × 37.5in

If there is anything about 2020 I want to address as an artist, it is that I refuse to let 2020 drag me down. I created this painting in response to losing a dear friend in the fall of 2019. Though that experience was challenging, I was able to feel empowered by the love we shared. As this year progresses, there are no absolutes, but I am certain of one thing: I will continue to pursue optimism and spread the joy and positivity my friend passed down to me.



Kelcie Matousek
Senior
Breaking Barriers, 2019
video, 1 min 58 sec

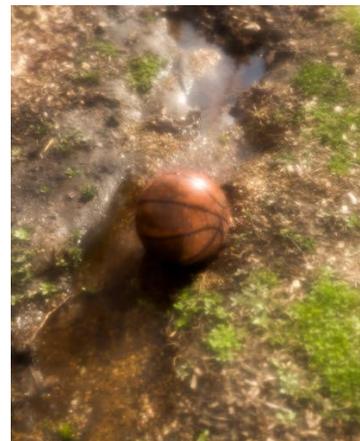
Much of my performance work deals with embracing femininity and the potential of power we have as women. In this video, I am quite literally breaking down a barrier—something I hope we can do together in the coming year as we grieve and recover as a country from what we have been through in the last several months in order to open up new possibilities.



Video link: <https://youtu.be/HIO4VJKDrgA>

Hilah Katherine Thomas
Senior
2007, 2020
inkjet print
10in × 13in

I spent my childhood quietly as a closeted trans girl in the Midwestern suburbs. As I grew up excluded from the girlhood I dreamed of, my experiences were shaped by the pressure of the gender I was expected to enact. This work is a grieving process for double-edged memories. When I photograph, I reenact my childhood and impart a dreary haze; an effect that reminds me of what it's like to see while holding back tears. In letting grief manifest, I find, within the soberness that follows, a will to acknowledge the past, but no longer be haunted by it.



Guang Chen

Senior

Life, 2020

photograph

I'm from China. I came to America to study photography. I often go to the street to observe people's lives. I'll film them and maybe one day I'll find different people doing the same thing in the same place. Write it down and make it history.



Hannah Lindo

Graduate student

Scaffolded Head, 2020

mixed media, balsa wood, construction paper, tissue paper, found objects, acrylic paint, plastic film

16in × 29in × 17in

Scaffolded Head relates to the theme of 2020 as the collective unknown pieces support a structure that is unknown until witnessed at a certain point a view. This year has been so full of uncertainty, but we will reach a point of clarity.



Hannah Lindo

Graduate student

Isolation, 2020

oil on panel

9in × 12in

Being isolated for the start of 2020, you begin to lose touch with who you thought you were and realize that there is no need to hide behind the illusion of makeup or hair.



Emma Jensen

Senior

Dawn to Dusk - untitled, 2018

photograph

10in × 15in

This work is about life on a farm—noble work that never ceases, even in the midst of a pandemic. Rain or shine, from dawn until dusk, Mark is there, tenderly taking care of his animals and his land. I hope this project inspires you to go spend some much-needed time in the warm embrace of sweet mother nature.



Shannon Maltbie-Davis

Sophomore

Quarantine Entertainment, 2020

photograph

18in × 12in

2020 is the year of the Coronavirus Pandemic. As the world struggles to deal with and overcome the debilitating fear and extreme ramifications of this deadly disease, our communities have been placed on lockdown to stop its spread.

During the government-imposed quarantine, my children have been attempting to accept the enforced restrictions on travel and the mandated social distancing by turning to those activities that comfort and entertain them. My youngest son has taken to sleeping in, wearing his pajamas all day, eating junk food, watching YouTube, and playing endless games of UNO.



Taylor Miller

Senior

I Feel, 2020

oil on canvas

36in × 48in

We're in a very uncertain and stressful time right now. What was supposed to be a bittersweet last year of college has turned into something of a nightmare. I've been caught in a whirlwind of anxiety and depression for most of this year. At some point I was so desperate to get some of this emotion out of my body, that I felt like tearing my chest open, if only to relieve some of that pressure and set it all free. This piece is an expression of all my anxieties and a release of emotions.



Olivia Michka

Sophomore

Pills for Pandemic, 2020

scratchboard

8.5in × 8.5in

This piece is from a collection of scratchboard images depicting objects which have become routine to people's lives in 2020, after a shift in lifestyles due to a global pandemic. My friend Liliana told me a vitamin supplement bottle most accurately represents a new habit that her family has established during this time. While many of us have increased our health regimens, her family is especially and passionately dedicated to keeping healthy as her mother works at a hospital that has treated COVID-19 patients. The pill bottle is a reminder of the much larger effects of this unprecedented time.



Genevieve Prescher

Senior

Mom on Porch, 2020

oil on canvas

12in × 9in

My mom was on the porch performing a Zoom call and I thought all of the little elements were representative of the moment we're living in.



Genevieve Prescher

Senior

Birthday Party For An Onion, 2020

oil on panel

9in × 12in

Without my usual inspirations from around town or my travels, I feel the need to entertain myself with items around the house.

