

ARTIST STATEMENT

All that can be seen at this moment are...shadowy shapes.
—Alan Lightman, *Einstein's Dreams*

As the world trends towards practicality, I am instead fascinated by the almost imperceptible stillness before, during and after the moment of discovery; still, frozen moments which slip away as soon as our analytical minds take control. My artwork aims to capture these moments, employing surrealist language in a dynamic approach. The experience is an intriguing game between real and illusory, questioning our social constructs. The imagery becomes the impossible; an illusion of imitation, which always arrives at its own peculiar destination.

I create subtle forms and drawings, which combine aspects of the natural landscape with human elements. These pieces are designed to draw the viewer into other dimensions, exploring relationships between the human psyche and moments of chaos, solitude, tension, excess and absence. These emotions are woven within these fantastical landscapes, while leaving the physical state of the viewer undisturbed. The landscapes allow access into private worlds not unlike our own, creating connections across boundaries of time and space.

My recent sculptural work engages the relationships between nature, objects, and the viewer's perception. Existing on an intimate scale, these pieces are immersed in the language of repetition, emphasizing the vastness of our surroundings. Each piece exists, informing the viewer of a lost moment. However, when used to create a larger installation, a sense of overwhelming abundance takes hold. Materials are varied but are all centered on a cast (human) appendage. Each morphs into a corporeal object, which spans the line between growth and decay. While some may push the boundaries of grotesque, each has a sterile yet playful appearance.

My drawing process is a fluid, unconscious act where thoughts transfer themselves to paper. I draw with graphite, using subtle yet complex line work depicting human, nature and object. When paired, one engulfs the other element, merging them into meticulously shaded masses. Within this merger, minimal use of carefully selected color directs the viewer's eye to a moment that otherwise would be lost. This moment itself is inconsequential, but once merged with the landscape, transforms into the most significant element. The metamorphosis of the drawing extends across boundaries: the inanimate object and landscape become somatic, while the human elements begin to take on terrestrial characteristics.

TATIANA FLIS
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EDUCATION

M.F.A. 2008 Sculpture Cranbrook Academy of Art
B.F.A. 2006 Studio Art Ringling College of Art and Design

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2017

The Calm Before the Storm, Attleboro Arts Museum (September 2017)
Ten Associates: Heated, Kingston Gallery, Boston, MA (August 2017)
Yellow Too!, Fountain Street Gallery, Boston MA (August 2017)
Scarcely Awake, Fountain Street Gallery, Boston, MA
Yellow - 6th Annual Members Show, Fountain Street Fine Art, Framingham, MA
Divergent Thinking, Fountain Street Fine Art, Framingham, MA

2016

Small Obsessions, Boston Realty Online, Brookline, MA
Small Works Showcase 2016, Fountain Street Fine Art, Framingham, MA
Art Unites Communities (AUC), Pawtucket Arts Collaborative, Pawtucket, RI

2015

Twice as Good, Boston Sculptors Gallery, Boston, MA
"Winter Works" Annual Juried Holiday Show, Bromfield Gallery, Boston, MA
Visual Expression Side-by-side (AUC), Attleboro Arts Museum, Attleboro, MA
ART Off The Wall, Brookline Arts Center, Brookline, MA

2014

Folk, Gallery 263, Cambridge, MA
30 Under 30, Arsenal Center for the Arts, Watertown, MA
Massachusetts, Gallery 263, Cambridge, MA

2013

Tatiana Flis: Tethered, Brookline Arts Center, Brookline, MA
The 10th Annual Boston College Faculty and Staff Art Show, Chestnut Hill, MA

2010

Tatiana Flis and Andrew Maydoney: Landscapes, Surreal Image, Chestnut Hill, MA

2009

Litmus, Adaptation, Philadelphia, PA

2008

Stateless, Morpho Gallery, Chicago, IL
Joseph Frasca Works on Paper, Around the Coyote, Chicago, IL
Here and Now, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI

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SELECTED EXHIBITIONS (CONT.)

2008

Under New Management, Bolton Gallery, Bloomfield Hills, MI

2007

Multiples and Miniatures 2007: Mapping, Around the Coyote, Chicago, IL
The Greatest Damn Sculpture Show on Earth, Forum Gallery, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Environ-Meant, Forum Gallery, Bloomfield Hills, MI

2006

X-Change, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
2006 Fine Art Thesis Exhibition, Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL
Best of Ringling, Selby Gallery, Sarasota, FL

ART FAIRS/MARKETS/FESTIVALS

2016

The Boston Home Decor Show, The Cyclorama, Boston, MA
The Boston International Fine Art Show, The Cyclorama, Boston, MA

2013

Western Avenue Open Studios, Lowell, MA
Color Fall Arts Festival, Brookline Arts Center, Brookline, MA

2012

Ukrainian Heritage Festival, Soyuzivka, Kerhonkson, NY

2010

Hyde Park Open Studios, Hyde Park Artist Lofts, Hyde Park, MA

2009

Hyde Park Open Studios, Hyde Park Artist Lofts, Hyde Park, MA

2008

Chicago Art Open, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

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GRANTS/AWARDS/RESIDENCIES

2017

Drop Forge & Tool, Artist Residency, Hudson, NY

2012

Honorable Mention, www.artistportfoliomagazine.com

2008

Emerging Artist Finalist, Daimler Financial Services, Rochester Hills, MI / Berlin, Germany

2007

Teaching Assistantship, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI

2005

Trustee Scholar Nominee, Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, FL

BIBLIOGRAPHY

"SoWa gets a Fountain (gallery, that is)"

The Boston Globe

May 31, 2017

<http://www.bostonglobe.com/arts/art/2017/05/31>

"Artist Portfolio Magazine Issue 9,"

www.myartcontest.com

2012

p.22

<http://issuu.com/artistportfoliomagazine/docs/issue9>

"Creative Investment,"

Florida Travel and Life

Oct-Nov 2005

p.76

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COMMISSIONS/ART CONSULTATION

2011-Present A Modern Armada, Branding, Boston, MA

* Graphic design work and art consultant for Indie Rock Band

2012 Oxford & Silk, Branding, Boston, MA

* Graphic design work for a local fashion designer.

Main objective: logo and website development

2008 Art House, Prop Production, Ann Arbor, MI

* Created four original pieces of artwork to be used as the artwork for the character Becky in the production of the film Art House.

www.savearthouse.com

GALLERY AFFILIATIONS/REPRESENTATION

Core Member and Assistant Director, Fountain Street Gallery, Boston, MA

Associate Member, Kingston Gallery, Boston, MA

COLLECTIONS

Ringling College of Art and Design Printmaking Archives, Sarasota, Florida.

Ronald Bladen Estate, Consuelo Reyes, New York, New York.

Anonymous: Brussels - Belgium, Dundas - Ontario - Canada, Ann Arbor - MI, Detroit - MI, Bloomfield Hills - MI, Boston - MA, Brookline - MA, Brighton - MA, New York - NY, Chicago - IL, Brookline - MA, Watertown - MA, Raleigh - NC, Durham - NC, Philadelphia - PA