

Molly Blann

My work investigates the body on an emotional and psychological level. Drawing from memories and experiences to make pieces that are charged and often reflections of the self, I create spaces that stimulate a dialogue with the viewer.

Much of my work is indiscernible from portraiture; my interest is rooted not in the depiction of the subject through realism, but rather in recording a physical trace. The concept of abjection—what Julia Kristeva describes as “what disturbs identity, system, order...a visceral unconscious...and notion of base materialism,” is integral to my work.

In considering my connection to the body, I often use a combination of materials: charcoal and ink allow a freedom of movement that informs the way I handle non-traditional materials, such as bandages or packing supplies.

Various dichotomies exist within my work; it is at once vulnerable and aggressive, raw and layered, beautiful and grotesque. The impulsive nature of the process lends itself to working on multiple pieces at once, which enables an interaction between works done during the same period. The spontaneity and immediacy of my process create an effect that can all at once be personal, dream-like, and confrontational. Because my process of working is very physical, I expect to trigger a guttural or visceral response from the viewer.

Cover: *Glut* (detail), 2009, graphite, ink, watercolor on paper, 40 x 28 in.

EMIL AND TAMAR WEISS PRIZE IN THE CREATIVE ARTS

The Emil and Tamar Weiss Prize in the Creative Arts is awarded each year to a promising student or students majoring in Art & Art History, English, Music, or Theatre & Dance. Weiss Prize winners are selected on the basis of proposals submitted at the end of the junior year for a senior year creative project. Proposals are evaluated on a solid body of existing work, artistic vision, and the potential for advanced creative expression.

STUDIO ART FACULTY: Todd Arsenault, Andrew Bale, Anthony Cervino, Ward Davenny, Barbara Diduk

Photos: Andrew Bale

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THE TROUT GALLERY / DICKINSON COLLEGE

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EMIL AND TAMAR WEISS PRIZE
IN THE CREATIVE ARTS
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blann



Top: *s.*, 2009, ink and watercolor on pillow, 25 x 16 in.

Bottom: *Want*, 2009, graphite, ink, watercolor on paper, 40 x 28 in.

Above: *Dream study no. 17*, 2009, graphite, ink, charcoal on paper, 4 x 2¼ in.