

Art Spotlight

Samantha Huntley

By Hayley Bahnemann

"The overall theme of concealed abundance emerged from the process of changing the identity of the recycled materials to create nature inspired forms." This is the background for Latent Profusion, the senior show of Samantha Huntley, which ran from March 20 to March 30 in the H. Williams Teaching Gallery in the art building.

When Huntley was a young girl, she was not sure what exactly she wanted to be. "I knew I wanted to be in a field where I could be creative," she said. "At one point when I was young I said I wanted to be an artist, but I'm not sure I knew exactly what that looked like." This thought never went away. Even though she has switched majors a few times, all of her ideas revolved around art as an option. She started as a community art major, switched to an art education major, and then realized she wanted to be in the studio more often and switched to studio art major.

"I still feel the same way about becoming an artist today," said Huntley. "I don't have an exact idea of what sort of setting I want to work in, but I know that studying art has pushed me to be open to anything. I was initially hesitant to pursue art because of the broad career field that an art degree could apply to but I couldn't stop myself from taking classes, and I don't want to be limited to a specific career path because of my degree."

Growing up, Huntley was a daydreamer and art was always a part of her wardrobe, drawings, singing, acting, or storytelling. She took various art classes throughout her community and eventually became very involved in performing arts through choir and mu-

sicals. Once in college, the love for visual arts resurfaced and she rekindled her love for sculpture and creating large physical objects.

Huntley spends most of her time on campus in the studio, rarely venturing out but when off campus she volunteers at the Cedar Cultural Center and grooves to new types of music. She also likes to be outside and she has a job at a camp in Hudson, WI where she works with children and teaches outdoor education and team building. Huntley said, "If you are a student in the Twin Cities you should go to art openings, because it is a great way to get off campus and expand your sense of community. Looking at and experiencing art is a big part of what inspires my work, and I think if more people found the time to look at and experience art they would find it enhances their life and passions." The overall theme for Huntley's senior show Latent Profusion "emerged from the process of changing the identity of the recycled materials to create nature inspired forms. My work for the show explores organic forms through the use of recycled materials in multiplicity." Huntley also said, "It is really cool to be able to have a whole gallery as a senior to exhibit my work. There aren't



many schools that do that. I think, like many universities in the United States, the art department is underrated and underfunded compared to other departments. It is a shame that art is not valued in our country the way it should be. Luckily Concordia is starting to make some changes in the art department that are really boosting the program closer to where it should be."

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