Welcome to My World
The Work of Elmer Taylor
If you had asked Elmer Taylor in 1972 where he thought he would be doing in 2012, he probably would not have said “teaching at UNT.” But here he is, on the job! And, regrets Professor Elmer Taylor is being featured in a retrospective exhibition at the UNT Art Gallery. The exhibition’s title is, Welcome to My World: 1972-2012, and it will display from November 9-20.

Taylor chose to have this exhibition now because, as he explains, “The being light right. I try to listen to my voice now and not feel right, intangible to welcome people into world of things from my home and from my life. Art, enjoyed, my world evolved. This show represents the things in my life that are constant.”

Taylor designs his pottery “to satisfy the needs of kitchen and table,” continually refining a specifically finite set of forms for daily use. The show featured a small collection of earlier works and a large range of recent works.

Taylor started college as an architecture student at Kansas State University before transferring to UNT where he interviewed for an opportunity at an architectural firm and was offered the position. His inner voice continued to tell him to leave the program and enroll in classes in photography, ceramics and sculpture. He fell in love with ceramics because of what he could do with clay. Later, Taylor’s inner voice spoke to him again while he was doing his apprenticeship in England with Master Potter Michael Leach. The voice told him that he should design his own life. He secured a position at Pomona College in California where he stayed for two years before deciding to learn about new working environments. He moved to Arizona State University. After his second year, he interviewed for an internship at an architectural firm and was offered the position afterall. He has since taught at UNT ever since.

Taylor has seen NTSU become UNT. He has seen the Art Department chair at the time, called Taylor to set up an appointment to interview. He interviewed with the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, who asked him about his time at NTSU. At this point, Taylor knew there was confusion in regards to his applications. He asked if the department was interviewing the correct person! He was never meant to interview for the position, but something went in his favor and he was offered the position about 20 years after he had been teaching at UNT ever since.

Taylors has seen NTSU become UNT. He has seen the Art Department turn into the School of Visual Arts, and later, the College of Visual Arts and Design. He continues to set high standards for his students and has influenced hundreds of students with his commitment to teaching and studio practice.


Events Calendar
2012-2013

Monday, November 12
3 pm, Art Building Room 223
Mark Klett Lecture

Mark Klett is Regents Professor of Art at Arizona State University and co-founder of the 1977 Rephotographic Survey Project. Klett’s process involves mining photographs from corporate collections. His lecture, “Time, Place, History, and Culture in Rephotographic Projects,” explores the development of his Rephotographic Survey Project using a young women’s community photograph taken in 1973 and comparing these images with newer ones.

Monday, November 12
Opening Reception, Thursday 11/29, 5–7 pm
UNT Art Gallery, Art Building First Floor

The Joy Losee Collection: Art and Dress Along the Silk Road

The Joy Losee Collection: Art and Dress Along the Silk Road is being organized by Joy Losee and Dr. Jennifer Way, Associate Professor in Art History, that engages with students enrolled in CVAD’s graduate-level art history and art education courses to study artworks first-hand from private, public, or corporate collections.

January 15 – February 9
Opening Reception, Thursday 1/17, 5-7 pm with gallery talk by Joy Losee at 6 pm
UNT Art Gallery, Art Building First Floor

Collections, Cultures and Collaboration Series

The Collections Series at CVAD is a research exhibition project, developed in 2007 by Dr. Jennifer Way, UNT Associate Professor in Art History. The projects engage with students enrolled in CVAD graduate level art history and art education courses to study artworks first-hand from private, public, or corporate collections.

April 13 – June 22
Opening Reception, Thursday 4/19, 5-7 pm
UNT Art Gallery, Art Building First Floor

Vanguard

Total Faculty and Student Exhibition showcases art made in all media by the accomplished artists and design professionals working in the College of Visual Arts and Design.

AVANT-GARDE

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Amanda Wimberley began working for UNT in 2007 as a CVAD alumni working at UNT was promoted to Project Manager in 2009. She matriculated as an accredited professional. Wimberley was hired on full-time as a student design assistant. Wimberley was promoted to Senior Project Designer. But six CVAD graduates, did just that! Lacey Almager began working for UNT in 2007 as a student design assistant. She was hired on full-time as Project Manager in 2011. Cheryl Smith began working for UNT Facilities Management & Construction in 2006 as a student design assistant and was hired on full-time as a Project Designer in 2011. And Lynda Martin began working for UNT in 2006 as a student design assistant and was hired on full-time as a Project Designer in 2006. Mala Sambasivan left Malaysia in 2003 to come to the United States. She matriculated as an interior design student at UNT because her brother sent her to study in the United States. Sambasivan got his bachelor’s degree in engineering in Malaysia. Sambasivan began working as a student design assistant and was hired on full-time as Project Designer in 2011. The Medieval Symposium brings graduate students from different disciplines under the umbrella of Medieval Studies including students from art history, literature, language, history, and philosophy.

Every year UNT students from English, History and Art History have been selected to present papers at the Medieval Symposium. This year’s keynote speakers are Dr. Janet Snyder of West Virginia University and Dr. Thomas Reilly of Colgate University. Student presenters, selected from an international pool of applicants, have the opportunity to disseminate their scholarship and to receive feedback from leading figures in the field.

What began as a local event has quickly gone global. This event has put UNT on the map for international studies and just for graduate students. This event is co-hosting with the College of Visual Arts and Design symposium when it is hosted at the same time as the Medieval Symposium, started by Art History Associate Professor and Chair Mickey Abel, that this year will combine Medieval Studies including students from art history, literature, language, history, and philosophy.

The Fashion Committee at UNT held their Fall Fashion Show at the Student Union Ballroom on November 9, 2013, to kick off the semester and to promote the Fashion Collection and use the enclosed envelope to mail in your gift. Thank you in advance for your commitment to CVAD.

Dean’s Message From Robert Milnes

That’s right, the College of Visual Arts and Design (CVAD) proudly opens the 2013-2014 academic year with the largest, most comprehensive, and increasingly expansive Fashion Collection in the history of CVAD. CVAD, established in 1925, houses the largest, most comprehensive, and increasingly expansive Fashion Collection in the history of CVAD. CVAD, established in 1925, houses a Fashion Collection that contains over 3,000 garments spanning the history of costume and fashion.

CVAD Fashion and Fine Arts is a vital and dynamic community of students, faculty, and staff dedicated to the advancement of the visual arts and design. CVAD is the only gallery in Dallas devoted to historic and contemporary fashion. It provides a showcase for the College’s highly-regarded Fashion Collection and the Fashion Design program. We are in the process of developing a virtual site for the Fashion Collection. We are in the process of developing a virtual site for the Fashion Collection. The Medieval Symposium brings graduate students from different disciplines under the umbrella of Medieval Studies including students from art history, literature, language, history, and philosophy.

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When you purchase single tickets to the Medieval Symposium, you are also the focus point of our strategic planning. You are the driving force behind the growth of internationally recognized resources and faculty. Call 940-565-4001 for Susan Sanders, our Development Director, or me if you would like to make a larger contribution to CVAD's bright future. Thank you for all you do and please enjoy this issue of the Avant-Garde!