

T E X A S
C H R I S T I A N
U N I V E R S I T Y

M A S T E R O F
F I N E A R T S

2 0 2 0



Table of Contents

04 Introduction



06 Francisco Josué Alvarado Araujo

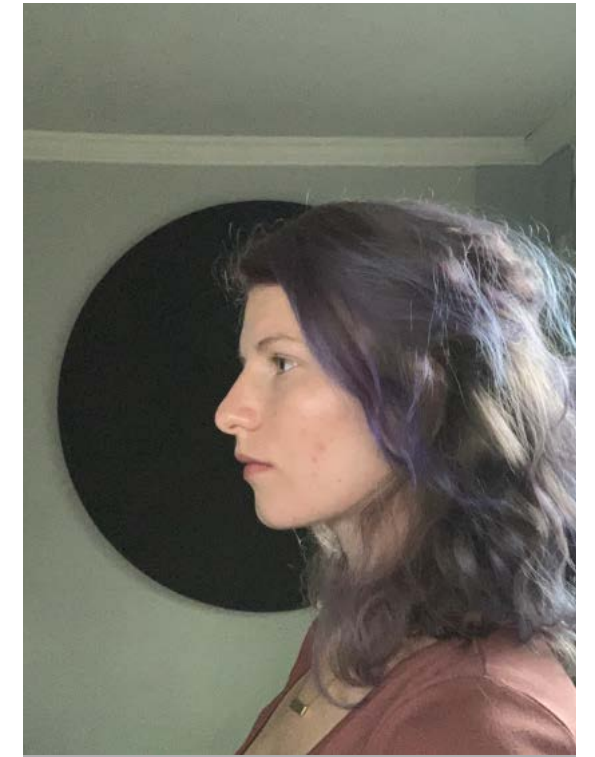
"The themes explored in the work stem from the first-generation experience, drawn outwards as both anxious and delicate temporary gestures that mirror internal preoccupations with stability, movement, and language."

46 About the Moudy Gallery

26

Sierra Forester

"I work as an observer, a questioner, as an individual attempting to understand. Through autonomic gestures it is my aim to grasp and visualize our existence as well as the constructs that we build around us; however lofty that may be."



16

Dario S. Bucheli

"For me, they [the paintings] are an opportunity to reflect on the different aspects of the psychological process of perception and the role they play in the experience of looking at painted images. They speak about physical and psychological distance, admiration, and desire."



36

Hector A. Ramirez-Morales

"[His] practice takes on the vernacular of architectural finishes where he grew up. This presents itself in an informal style while maintaining an earnest attitude toward ideas, events and memories of his experiences."



INTRODUCTION

For many Master of Fine Arts students in Studio Art at TCU the apex of their graduate school experience is the presentation of their solo thesis exhibition in Moudy Gallery. It is the culmination of three years of exploration, making, experimentation and learning, and is regarded as a moment to celebrate hard work with friends and family. However, this special occasion was cancelled in Spring 2020 when the coronavirus (COVID-10) pandemic disrupted regularly scheduled exhibition programming. With the School of Art temporarily closed and access to their studios impossible, the four graduating MFA students looked for alternative ways to present their work. Faced with an uncertain path they leaned in to creativity with determination and produced new, resourceful iterations of their long-planned exhibitions. As part of these revised plans, the TCU School of Art is proud to present the work of Francisco, Dario, Sierra and Hector here in celebration of their achievements and resilience.



FRANCISCO JOSUÉ ALVARADO ARAUJO

Francisco Josué Alvarado Araujo is based in the DFW Metroplex. He acquired an MFA in Sculpture from Texas Christian University in 2020, and a BFA in Printmaking from the University of North Texas in 2015. Francisco's work has been included in multiple juried and group shows in North Texas, Oklahoma, and Japan.

FRANCISCO JOSUÉ ALVARADO ARAUJO, GOLDSTEIN MOOD

Artist Statement

My work pivots on found objects and materials configured in delicate and precarious composite forms, while touch and balance help expand their occupation of the space through scale. The themes explored in the work stem from the first-generation experience, drawn outwards as both anxious and delicate temporary gestures that mirror internal preoccupations with stability, movement, and language.

FRANCISCO JOSUÉ ALVARADO ARAUJO,
TRANSMISIÓN



Francisco Josué Alvarado Araujo

Hometown: Carrollton, TX

Field of Study: Studio Art

Website/Social Media: Instagram - francisssssco

What motivated you to pursue graduate school?

I had professors who encouraged me to consider it, and after I completed my BFA I realized that I wanted to continue. A number of different things in the world justified my inclination to do it, and I saw a great value in being in a graduate program.

How has your work developed during your time in the MFA program? Where do you see it developing in the future?

The ideas and persons I was introduced to gave me the freedoms to think outside of my boundaries, a lesson I will continue to think about going forward. I had studied printmaking previously and during my graduate career I changed to sculptural work, which has enriched how I approach art-thinking and making.

What were some of your successes or challenges that you encountered in through your artistic practice at TCU?

Self-examination was challenging. Deconstruction was challenging. One great success for me was to open up to different methods of “making”, and with that came offshoots and tangents, which lead to places not previously conceived.

What are your plans after graduation?

I hope to make a quick transition, without forgetting too much, and continue to play. Ideally, I would like to explore alternative exhibition spaces, something that has interested me for some time now. Given current events, it will be challenging to navigate the world, at least in the vicinity of the near future, and the lessons are still being given, and I am still processing. It's a new challenge.

Any fun facts?

As of April 2020, I own 20 boots.



FRANCISCO JOSUÉ ALVARADO ARAUJO,
TRYING TO BALANCE *ARRRASTRE*,
WOOD AND TILE, 2020



FRANCISCO JOSUÉ ALVARADO ARAUJO, INSTALLATION
VIEW OF *ELEVA MASA* AT SYUZHET, DALLAS, TEXAS, 2019,
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE



FRANCISCO JOSUÉ ALVARADO ARAUJO, SKETCH FOR *PHUENTE*. GLASS, MOTOR OIL, METAL,
SILICONE, PAINT, DIMENSIONS VARIABLE



FRANCISCO JOSUÉ ALVARADO ARAUJO, SNAPSHOT IN THE STUDIO, 2020.

INSTALLATION VIEW, *LIMINAL SPACE*:
FRANCISCO JOSUÉ ALVARADO ARAUJO,
MAH CUALLI OHTLI AT BLIND ALLEY
PROJECTS. 2020.





DARIO BUCHELI, PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AT BLIND ALLEY PROJECTS

DARIO SALVATORE BUCHELI

Dario Salvatore Bucheli was born in a small industrial city in northern Mexico, and is currently located in Texas. He received his BA in Art with a concentration in painting from the University of Dallas and his MFA from Texas Christian University.

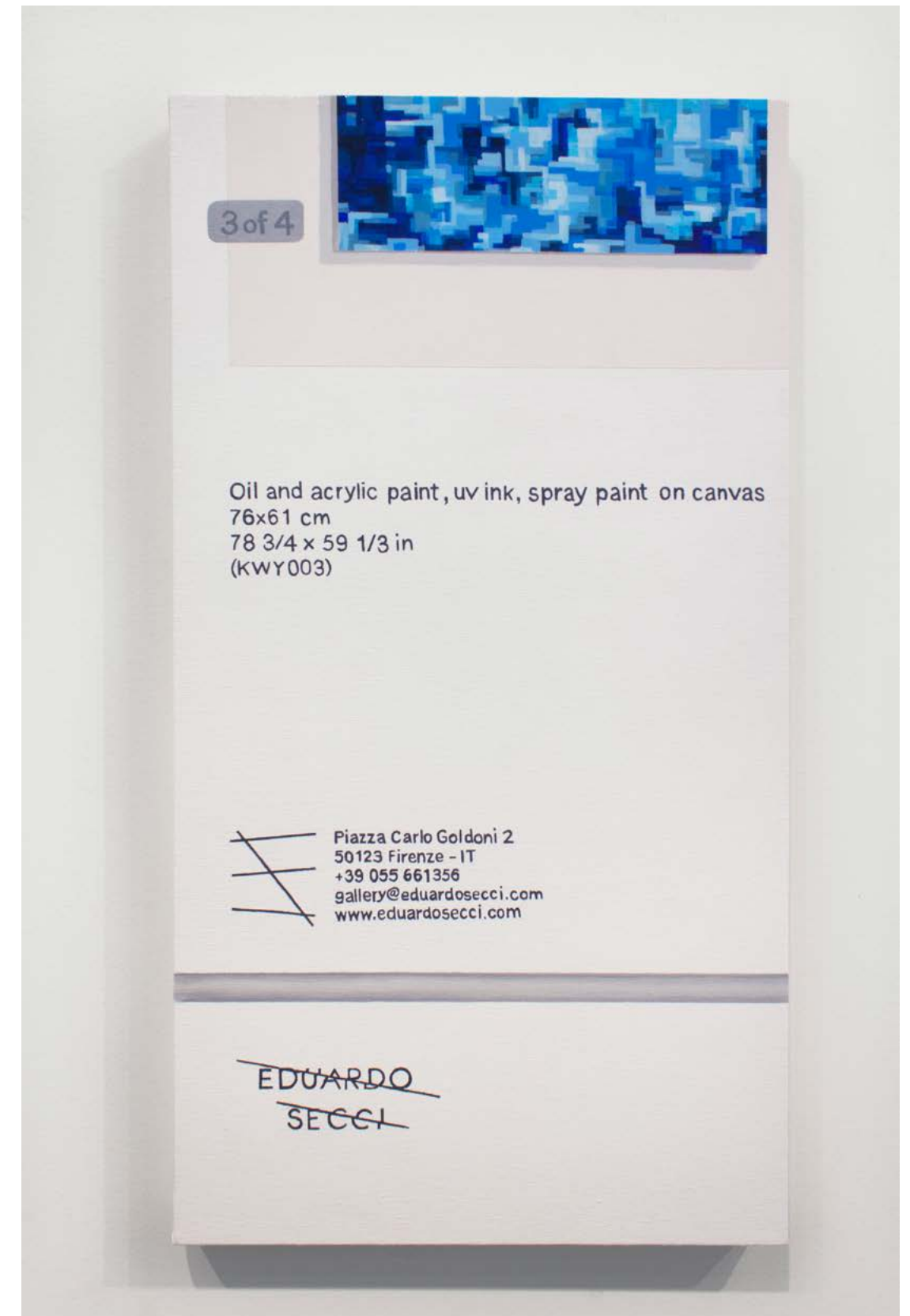
Artist Statement

These paintings are part of my most recent body of work: it consists of paintings of photographs of paintings, as they were found on the internet. The works incorporated were made by artists who I admire, but whose paintings I have only experienced online.

For the viewer, they are an invitation to consider the differences in experience between looking at photographs of paintings as opposed to looking at the work in person.

For me, they are an opportunity to reflect on the different aspects of the psychological process of perception and the role they play in the experience of looking at painted images. They speak about physical and psychological distance, admiration, and desire.

Even though I have worked on this project since 2019, it became more relevant since art institutions around the world closed their doors to the public due to COVID-19. Many people can only encounter art through digital means; this project reflects on this reality, and its underlying implications.



DARIO BUEHLI, 3 OF 4, 2020, ACRYLIC ON CANVAS, 30 X 16 X 1 ½ INCHES

Dario Salvatore Bucheli

Hometown: Monclova, Mexico

Field of Study: Fine Arts - Painting

Website/Social Media: www.dsbucheli.com,

Instagram - @dsbucheli

What motivated you to pursue graduate school?

Although I wanted to attend graduate school for the career opportunities it would open for me, my main motivation was to improve the quality and conceptual focus of my work.

What are your plans after graduation?

Given that I came to graduate school to improve my work, I intend to continue practicing as an artist. Otherwise, I also have the goal of working as a museum professional (in an Exhibitions/Preparation Department).

How has your work developed during your time in the MFA program? Where do you see it developing in the future?

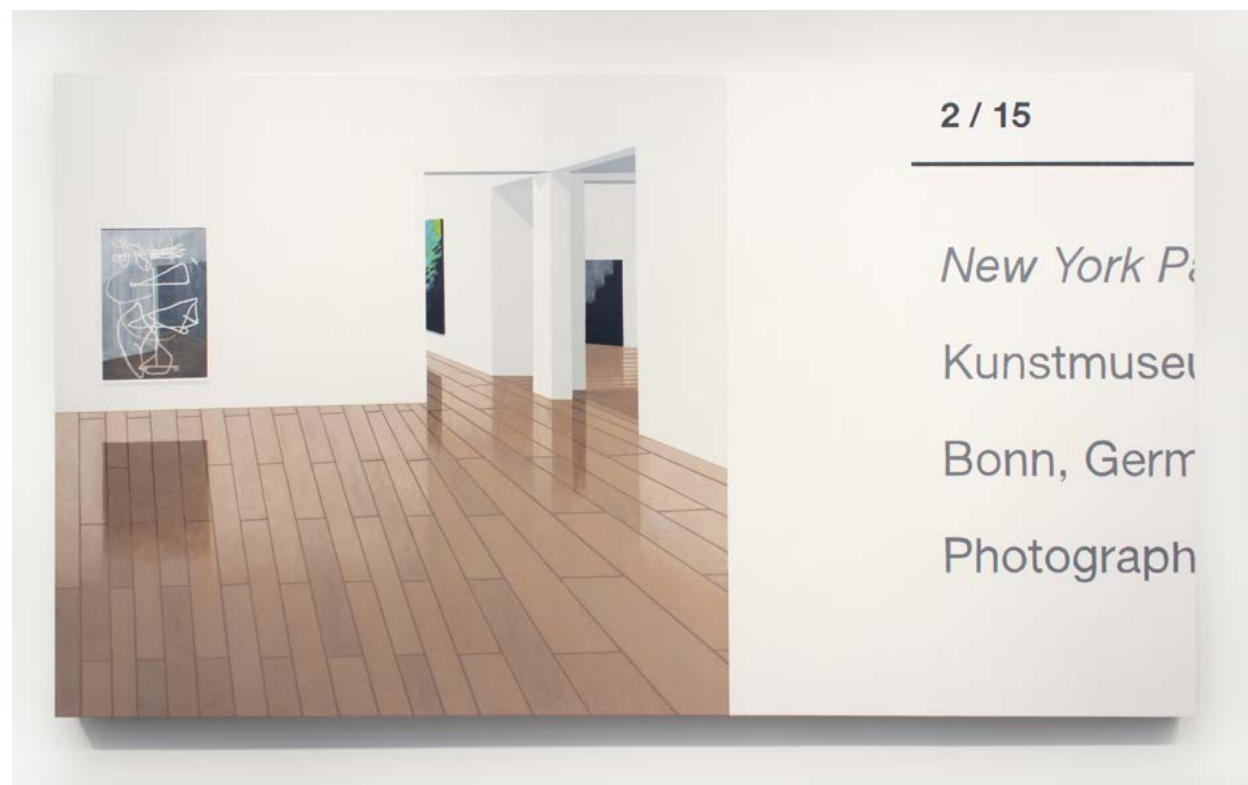
I have tried many different things throughout in my time at TCU. However, it was guided by an interest in finding points of intersection between the realm of the digital and traditional approaches to painting. Now that I am graduating, I find that I am dealing with many of the same things that I started in my first year, but in a more refined way.

Any fun facts?

Fun Fact: My last project for graduate school is an online exhibition space called 405_Gallery (www.405gallery.com , IG @405_Gallery) I am working with artists and curators around the world; we are organizing exhibitions that further the discourse about artistic practices that respond to the internet, and the effects that it has in our contemporary culture.

What were some of your successes or challenges that you encountered in through your artistic practice at TCU?

As a graduate student, I found that I needed to identify dead ends in my practice, as well as gaining the discipline to dedicate myself to a project that I believed in.



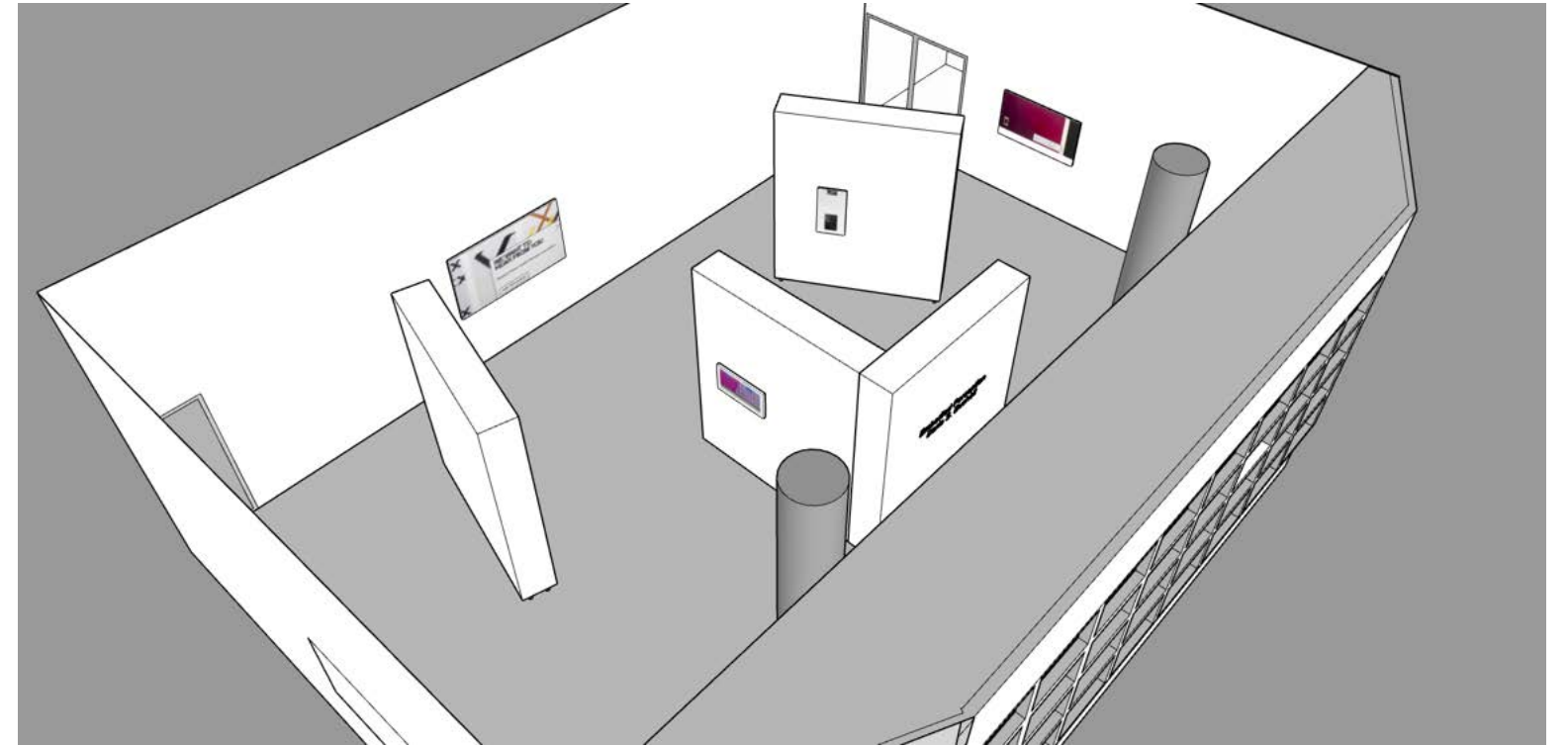
DARIO BUCHELI, *NEW YORK*, 2020, ACRYLIC ON CANVAS, 40 X 71 X 1 ½ INCHES



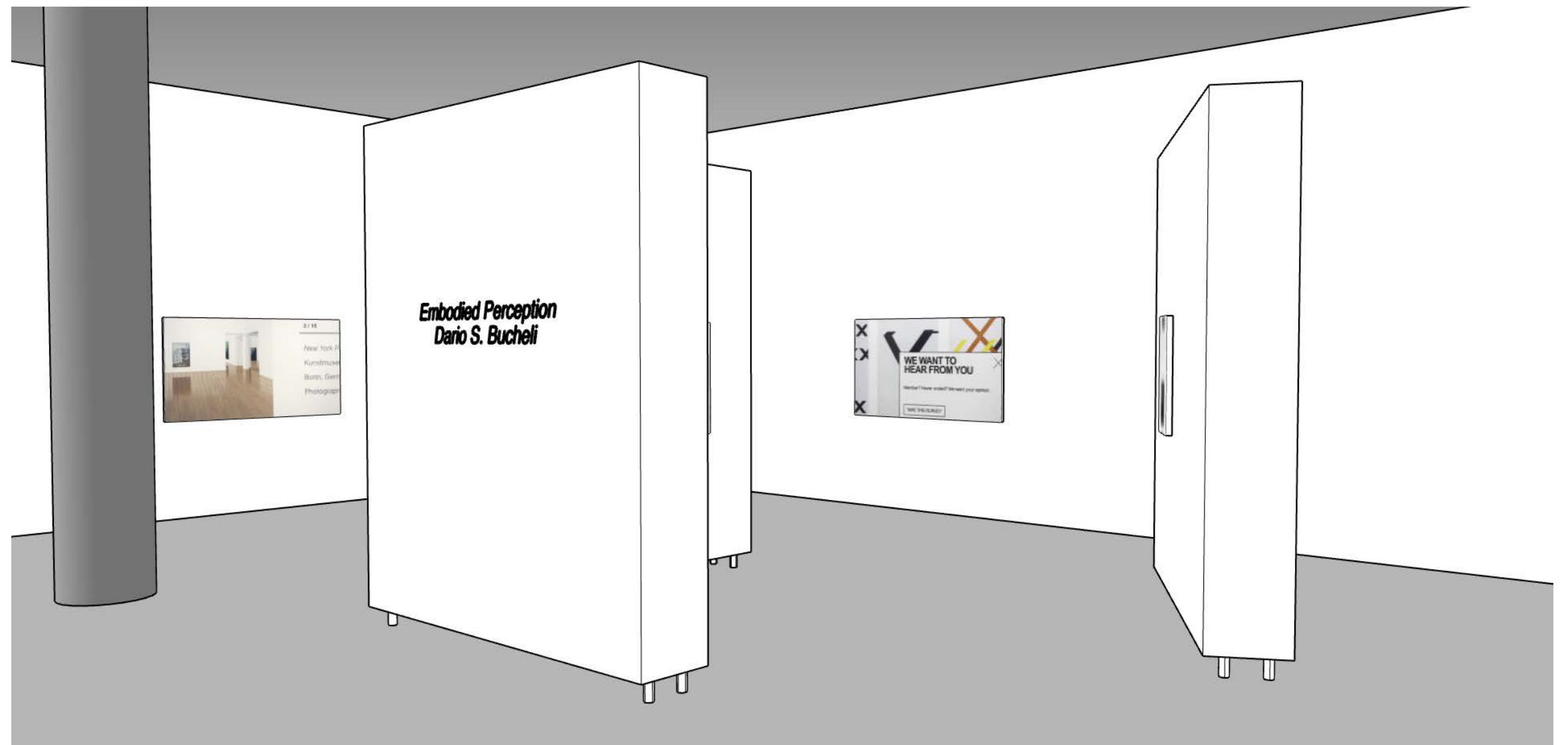
DARIO BUCHELI, *OPEN IN APP*, 2019, ACRYLIC ON CANVAS, 54 X 30 ½ X 1 ½ INCHES



DARIO BUCHELI, *GRACE*, 2019, ACRYLIC ON CANVAS, 30 X 16 X 1 ½ INCHES



DARIO BUCHELI, *SURVEY*, 2020, ACRYLIC
ON CANVAS, 40 X 71 X 1 ½ INCHES



DARIO BUCHELI, DIGITAL STAGING OF *EMBODIED PERCEPTIONS* EXHIBITION AT THE MOUDY GALLERY



SIERRA FORESTER, PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST

SIERRA FORESTER

Sierra Forester is an artist who grew up in northern California and is now living and working in Texas. In her work she emphasizes the immediate environment through found materials and installation work.

Artist Statement

I work as an observer, a questioner, as an individual attempting to understand. Through autonomic gestures it is my aim to grasp and visualize our existence as well as the constructs that we build around us; however lofty that may be. Specifically, the social frameworks we use to navigate our relationship with the world as well as our perception of time are frequent studies in my practice. Minimal in form, the work remains open-ended and porous with hopes of allowing a multitude of perceptions - amongst my own - to be drawn from the work.



SIERRA FORESTER, *SELF-PORTRAIT*, OIL, LINEN, AND WOODEN PANEL, ABOUT 28 x 40 INCHES

Sierra Forester

Hometown: Vacaville, California

Field of Study: Fine Arts - Sculpture

Website/Social Media: Instagram - @serrrrs

What motivated you to pursue graduate school?

I knew throughout my undergraduate experience that I wanted to go to graduate school eventually, but I didn't have a plan. About 2 months after my graduation I had a small window of an opportunity to apply for TCU and I went for it. Three years later, and many beautiful connections made, I couldn't have been more grateful for the opportunity.

How has your work developed during your time in the MFA program? Where do you see it developing in the future?

I entered the program as a painter, I was really connected to the figure and would try to depict that in my paintings. Early on in my graduate experience I was influenced by my peers to try new modes of working and it was incredibly refreshing. My work has now developed into drawings, installations, sculptures, found materials, ceramic sculpture. Really, I'm not sure what to call it just yet, but to me my work feels much like an environment.

I can't see too far into the future as far as what my work will look like, but after spending so much time toward my thesis show I'm trying to stay as open as possible to new ways of working (or old, I still haven't ruled out painting).

What were some of your successes or challenges that you encountered in through your artistic practice at TCU?

The biggest challenge was confronting myself. I don't think this is a challenge that will ever fully be realized, but I know that it is most important for me to be completely honest with myself and in my work. This isn't to say my work was disingenuous, but there was a lot to my work that I couldn't see clearly. As well, my work at times can be extremely personal. It was challenging to open about this, but I eventually did (just very slowly). I have my mentor, Cam Schoepp, to thank for this.

What are your plans after graduation?

After graduation I will be in San Antonio. I hope to explore their art community and to find a job as an instructor. I also wish to keep the connections I've made with the community here in DFW. It's important that in some way we stick together, now more than ever.

Any fun facts?

When I go on walks in my neighborhood, I collect a lot of material - usually tiny things that fit in my pocket. It's super common for me to show up to an install with a hand full of goodies to disperse around a room as part of an exhibition. There are a couple moments like this in the show opening at Blind Alley Projects on May 9th.



EXTERIOR VIEW OF *LIMINAL SPACE: SIERRA FORESTER*, A WELL DISPERSED MASS IS THE HARDEST TO CONFRONT, BLIND ALLEY PROJECTS, 2020



INTERIOR VIEW OF *LIMINAL SPACE: SIERRA FORESTER, A WELL DISPERSED MASS IS THE HARDEST TO CONFRONT*, BLIND ALLEY PROJECTS, 2020



FROM *LIMINAL SPACE: SIERRA FORESTER, A WELL DISPERSED MASS IS THE HARDEST TO CONFRONT*, BLIND ALLEY PROJECTS, 2020



SIERRA FORESTER, IMAGES FROM
ROTATE: TWO-PERSON EXHIBITION
WITH DAISUKE KURODA, DALLAS,
TEXAS, 2020



HECTOR RAMIREZ, PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST

HECTOR A. RAMIREZ-MORALES

Hector Antonio Ramirez-Morales was born in El Paso, Texas. He earned a BFA in sculpture from the University of Texas at Arlington in 2014. In 2017, Ramirez was awarded a Graduate Assistantship from the Texas Christian University in studio art. While working on his Master Of Fine Arts degree, he worked as a shop technician at TCU (2017-2018), as a teaching assistant in 3D-Design and Ceramics (2018-2019), and as a Graduate Instructor for 3D-Design in 2019 - 2020.

Artist Statement

Hector A. Ramirez's practice takes on the vernacular of architectural finishes where he grew up. This presents itself in an informal style while maintaining an earnest attitude toward ideas, events and memories of his experiences. Ramirez's objects then become residual artifacts reflecting traditions of his home. His current show at Blind Alley Projects, *entre Piedras y Copia* is an exhibition rooted in the vernacular of a Mexican-American working class. Its sculptures explore the aesthetic and material adaptations worked through cultures, necessity or language.



HECTOR RAMIREZ, BEHIND THE SCENES SHOT OF INSTALLATION AT PRP GALLERY IN DALLAS, TX OF *MEMORY FOAM, SLEEPER INSIDE*, 2020



HECTOR RAMIREZ, SOCK, 2018, COTTON AND BLACK MARKER, DIMENSIONS VARIABLE

Hector A. Ramirez-Morales

Hometown: Chuco Town (El Paso)

Field of Study: Fine Arts - Sculpture

Social Media: Instagram - @ektor_ram

What motivated you to pursue graduate school?

Honestly by chance, I had nothing going on at the time. (LOL)

How has your work developed during your time in the MFA program? Where do you see it developing in the future?

I think my technique got better and understanding what I was doing became a lot clearer. I don't know where I see my work developing in the future, I like to take one day at a time.

What were some of your successes or challenges that you encountered in through your artistic practice at TCU?

The challenging part of the program was talking about the work, I just couldn't get the hang of it . (HAHAHA)

What are your plans after graduation?

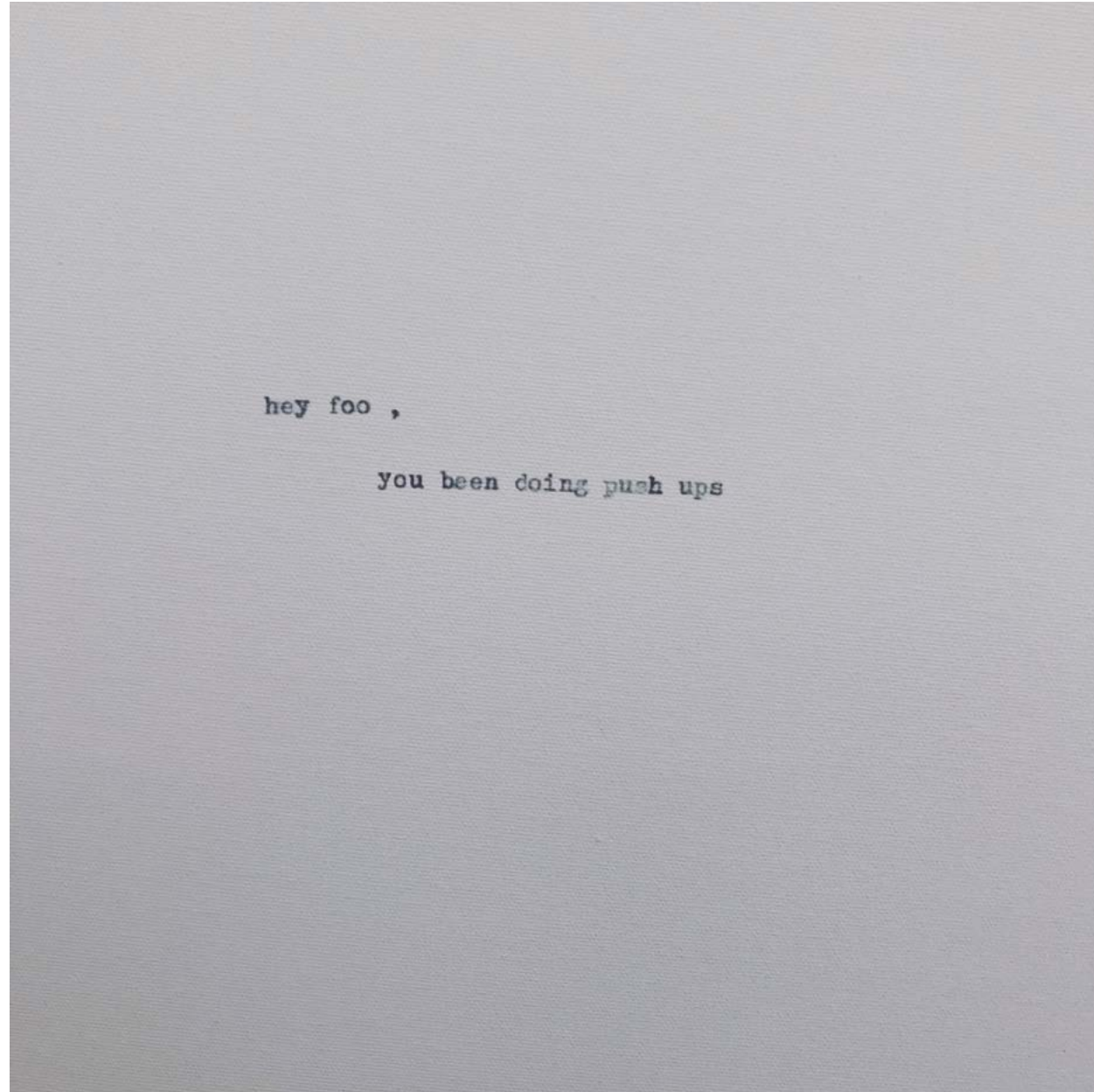
My plans are to get a job and keep making work. I was told this was a marathon.



HECTOR RAMIREZ, *UNTITLED*, 2019, JET INK ON PHOTO PAPER, DIMENSIONS VARIABLE



HECTOR RAMIREZ, *UNTITLED*, 2020, L.E.D LIGHTS, PLASTIC, DRYWALL TEXTURE, ENAMEL PAINT, DOS X ALUMINUM, DIMENSIONS VARIABLE



HECTOR RAMIREZ, *HEY FOO*,
2018, JET INK ON CANVAS,
DIMENSIONS VARIABLE



HECTOR RAMIREZ, *UNTITLED*, 2020,
CLAY, CONCRETE AND DRYWALL
TEXTURE ON CANVAS, DIMENSIONS
VARIABLE

ABOUT THE MOUDY GALLERY

Located in the same building that houses the School of Art, Moudy Gallery showcases student work, including exhibitions by undergraduates and MFA students. This 900-square-foot space also functions as a responsive place for one-off or pop-up projects that students and faculty develop. TCU regularly shows its support for local professional artists by providing a collaborative environment in the Moudy Gallery as a testing ground for work-in-progress. Exhibitions or events of this kind help artists get involved in numerous ways and significantly benefit TCU students by enabling them to develop their professional networks with the local creative community.

2805 S University Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76129

(817) 257-2588

theartgalleries@tcu.edu

www.theartgalleries.tcu.edu

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/moudygallery/>

INSTAGRAM: @tcuartgalleries

TWITTER: TCU_Galleries

DESIGN: Kim Phan Nguyen, TCU MA Art History (2021)

THE ART
GALLERIES
AT TCU



COLLEGE *of*
FINE ARTS

