

# VISIVO

Explorations in Fine Art, Design and Photography

2006 Volume I Issue 1



# visivo

HUBER  
ART  
CENTER  
KAUFFMAN  
GALLERY

**V**isivo (pronounced va-see-vo) is a new approach to the former Shippensburg Art Department magazine, The Creative Compost. The name change came about as Professor William Whiteley decided that the Compost needed a fresh face. The word visivo is Italian for visual. This started the forward thinking that would ultimately yield the new branding of not only the magazine, but the art department as well. Shippensburg University continues as a major player in the development of young artists.



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## Painterly Ways

Steven Hart

**H**idden away on the second floor of one of the oldest buildings on the Shippensburg University's campus, Stuart Hall, there is an art studio inhabited by a senior student artist named CJ Stahl.



Inside the small cluttered space are tubes of oil paint and brushes scattered around two large canvases that CJ is patiently working on. Upon meeting CJ, the first thing you notice of are the various tattoos that line his arms, though he is nothing of the stereotypical punk and is conversely very reserved and thoughtful.

Coming from the traditions of Surrealists, such as Salvador Dali, the famed Surrealist, and Alex Gray, a more obscure psychedelic artist derived from the spiritual movements of the 60s and 70s, CJ Stahl is striving to develop and communicate his own artistic vision, conveying an underlining and universal unity of individuals within a society. His art while placing emphasis on organic forms and figures also incorporates classic motifs such as mandalas stressing the interconnectedness of humanity and the universe. Like many of his predecessors, he is also inspired by sacred Hindu and Buddhist texts along with existentialist writers, such as Kierkegaard and Camas.

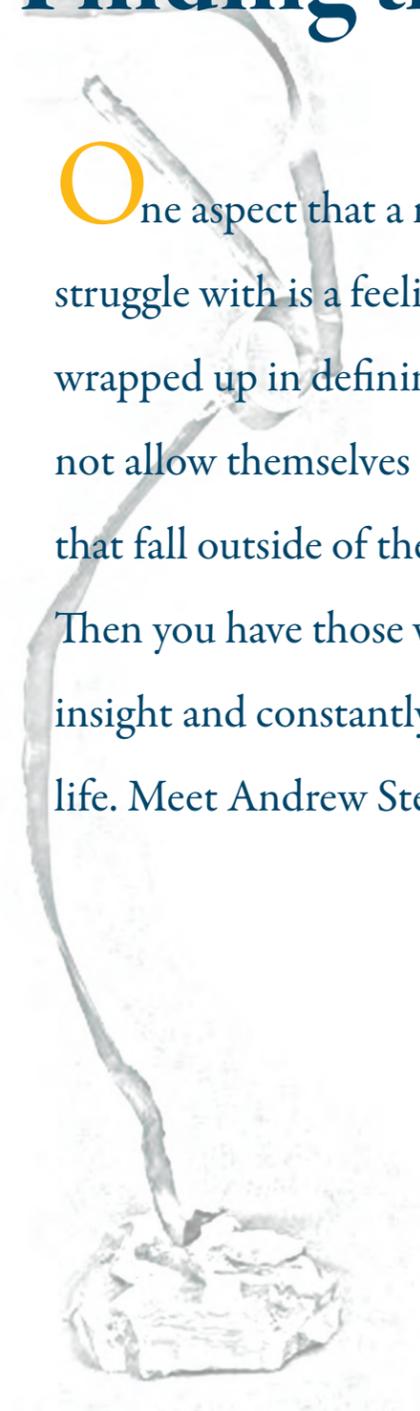
CJ has been studying the art of painting for several years, and is attracted to the medium of oil painting because of its versatility and fluidity. His work incorporates a wide array of symbolism and techniques, with the use of vivid colors to highlight the painting's subject matter, which is usually a figure.



# Finding the Light

Matt Rhodes

One aspect that a majority of art students struggle with is a feeling of self. Some become so wrapped up in defining themselves that they do not allow themselves to experience new events that fall outside of their self-conception realm. Then you have those who have no idea of personal insight and constantly fail to determine a path in life. Meet Andrew Steck.





“I don’t understand people who go through life and they don’t learn from the experiences they’re given,” says Andrew.

Steck lives true to this. Even just a few years ago he was in Florida learning to surf and living as a beach bum, when life gave him an unexpected turn. Nearly overnight he decided that Florida was not where he belonged and made his way back to central Pennsylvania.

The one thing that remained constant throughout his travels was his curiosity for the world around him and a love for creativity. It was only natural that he bring this passion to his Fall sculpture class. As quickly as he learned that he didn’t want to stay in Florida, he embraced the complex world of sculpture. Within one year he quickly soared to

the forefront of sculpture at Shippensburg. The following spring semester he acted as both an intern to Professor Dolbin and completed a more in-depth independent sculpture study.

The work that Andrew has produced has been featured in shows and has drawn the attention of buyers as well. Additionally he has been commissioned to produce works since starting his sculpture work.

Each step was a learning experience that Andrew embraced, and he is now preparing for graduate school to further develop himself as an artist which he should be well prepared due to his artistic training. Andrew has been able to both define himself conceptually as an artist while remaining flexible enough to learn from each experience.





# Designer Dress-Up

Judean Fox



**W**hen young Jennifer Long played dress-up in her mother's clothes or made-up her friends, she did not realize that she was actually preparing for her journey to fashion school. As a young artist, Jennifer was interested in fashion design, but never thought she could make a career out of it.



Jennifer discovered her sense of fashion in high school while taking an Advanced Placement Art class. This class allowed a “free” semester, which meant she could explore a field of art of her choice - Jennifer chose fashion. Once college began, she let go of the idea of fashion design because she never thought of it as a realistic goal. Instead of living out the dream, she pushed it to the back of her mind as she worked on her other artistic talents, such as her paintings and mixed medias.

Jennifer’s senior year approached her quickly. It was not until she had to make a decision on what to do for her senior seminar project that she realized this was her last chance to explore the fashion world. Her first step in making her dream of becoming an assistant fashion designer came when she secured a job at the Fashion Archives. It was not until she worked there that Jennifer actually gained the appreciation for clothing design; working at the Fashion Archives gave her the opportunity to gather inspiration by looking through magazines and searching through

rooms of antique clothes. Initially, Jennifer held the idea that fashion was superficial, yet after research, she came to appreciate everything that goes into making an outfit. This time around, she learned that fashion designing was an obtainable career and found that the career was something she wanted to pursue. Jennifer discovered that now designing clothes is actually the only release from her chaotic life. Her greatest inspirations come from watching shows like Sex and the City or looking at designers like Michael Kors and Christian Dior. Jennifer is quite intrigued by their use of simple fabrics and lace. Jennifer describes their style as being “simply classical and chic.”

Presently, Jennifer is finishing her senior year at Shippensburg University by completing her senior seminar project while she waits to start her new journey in New York City at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT).



the League  
of Super Artists  
Story by Amy Yocum

LOOKING TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM THE EVILS OF BAD ART ONE MAN TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO CREATE A TEAM OF ARTISTS SO POWERFUL THAT ONLY GOOD COULD LEAVE THE HALLS OF HUBER ART CENTER...



Jeremy Hopewell is not your average Shippensburg senior, he is majoring in computer science with a minor in business. He does not stop there with a mere major and minor, he also has a concentration in computer graphics. This particular concentration allows him to combine two things he loves: computers and art. Jeremy's father was an art professor while Jeremy was young, which Hopewell says

made an impact on his artistic ability and interest. Jeremy also became passionate about caricatures through his father, but developed his own passion for computers.

While enrolled in Computer Design II, Jeremy was interviewed by Shippensburg University's The Slate for some caricatures he had designed. After being interviewed, Jeremy and his Computer Design II professor decided that Jeremy would take an independent study in caricature making to replace his Computer Design III course. At a later date, Jeremy came up with the idea to create caricatures of all the art professors as superheroes. At the end of his independent study, he created Mr. Design, Aqua Man, and the Secret Keeper. Jeremy still has a few of the superheroes to finish creating, and he plans to make a 3-D movie incorporating all of the superheroes.





# Teaching Art

Judean Fox

After already earning a bachelor's degree in studio art and becoming a successfully employed artist designing and illustrating full-color party decorations, Lisa Gardner is now working towards receiving a teaching certification in art.



**W**hen she reached her seventh year in the work force, she chose to give up her career to become a full-time stay-at-home-mom. Lisa's career was extremely important to her, which is why it is very satisfying to her to see her creations in stores, classrooms, churches, and on television, but it had to take a backseat so that she could take the time to raise a family. Several years after making the choice to take care of her children, she began to work for camps, clubs, and churches with her daughters, which resulted in her teaching arts and

crafts. It was those times that she claims to be responsible for her decision to return to college and become a professional art teacher.

Lisa's artistic talent derived from her ancestors. Both of her grandmothers created a lot of handy-work and decorative crafts throughout their entire lives, such as making clothing and seasonal decoration. For many years, her paternal grandfather created finely crafted wooden furniture as a hobby; her mother has immense talents in home decorating and floral design. Lisa's father is a retired art director, who produced countless unique works of art; he is now working in the party-goods industry where Lisa had at one time been employed. Both of her daughters are artistically talented, but, like most parents, she wishes they would be more focused on their work. Lisa believes, "if any child is directed to work intensely at an early age in the areas that he or she shows talent, he or she will be much more successful, much earlier than their peers." This is exactly the reason that she is pursuing her art certification- so that she can positively impact the lives of many young art students.



# Explorations in Clay

**F**rom a young age, Rebecca had an interest and love for art. In second grade, she won an art contest and from then on, knew she had a special gift for creating art. Her love for art continued through middle school and high school, during which she found herself skipping classes in order to go down to the art studio and work. In the midst of all this, she was struggling with a very busy family life that involved taking care of a disabled brother and other family needs. Creating art was her way of releasing the stress and chaos from home; it allowed her to wander into her own world and escape everything.

After high school, she moved out of her parents' house and enrolled in Shippensburg University to study art. Having her own place and being able to escape her family life allowed her to finally be free and express herself. Through her many classes and studies, she was able to establish her own style and became very bold in her art. She was pushing herself to new limits in many mediums. After exploring various ways of making art, she found ceramics to be her favorite medium.





Doing ceramic art came naturally to her and she found herself immersed in the many dynamics that clay had to offer. She began experimenting with all the different shapes, forms, materials, and ways of working with ceramics. Working with ceramics was quite challenging, but at the same time, very forgiving and fun. She found herself on a journey not just to learn, but also to master the material and use it to express her inner- most feelings. The forms she began to create inspired her to go further and mold something that others would be amazed by. Once she had created amazing forms she began to see what reactions she could trigger from people through her work. Her goal was to make more “in your face” art. Art that draws you in by its beauty, but stirs something inside of you when you begin to examine it up close.

Her latest body of work deals with the beauty of the female figure. It is made up of cylindrical, flowing, and voluptuous forms that show the organic beauty of the female body. She feels that women are beautiful creatures and should be appreciated for their aesthetic beauty. Along with their beauty is their sensuous side that is able to captivate the eye. Women also have a motherly and nurturing side that she felt must be conveyed. She has been inspired by artists like Georgia O’Keeffe, who paints beautiful female forms with vibrant colors in a fluid and organic way. Also, artists like Judy Chicago and Frieda Kahlo have been an immense influence on her work.

She has future hopes of starting a local gallery to sell ceramics and work with other local artists. She feels there is something to be said for a local group of artists working together in a smaller community to raise art awareness. Additionally, these artists would begin to teach in schools and build a community of artists that could learn from each other and make a difference.

Wherever she goes and whatever she does, art will always be a large part of her life. Art is her escape from the repression and gloominess of society. When she creates art she can escape to her own world and express herself in a way that is unlike any other.

This is the beauty of art and that is what art is all about.



**Professor  
Will Whiteley**  
Faculty Advisor



**Amy Yocum**  
Photography  
Junior



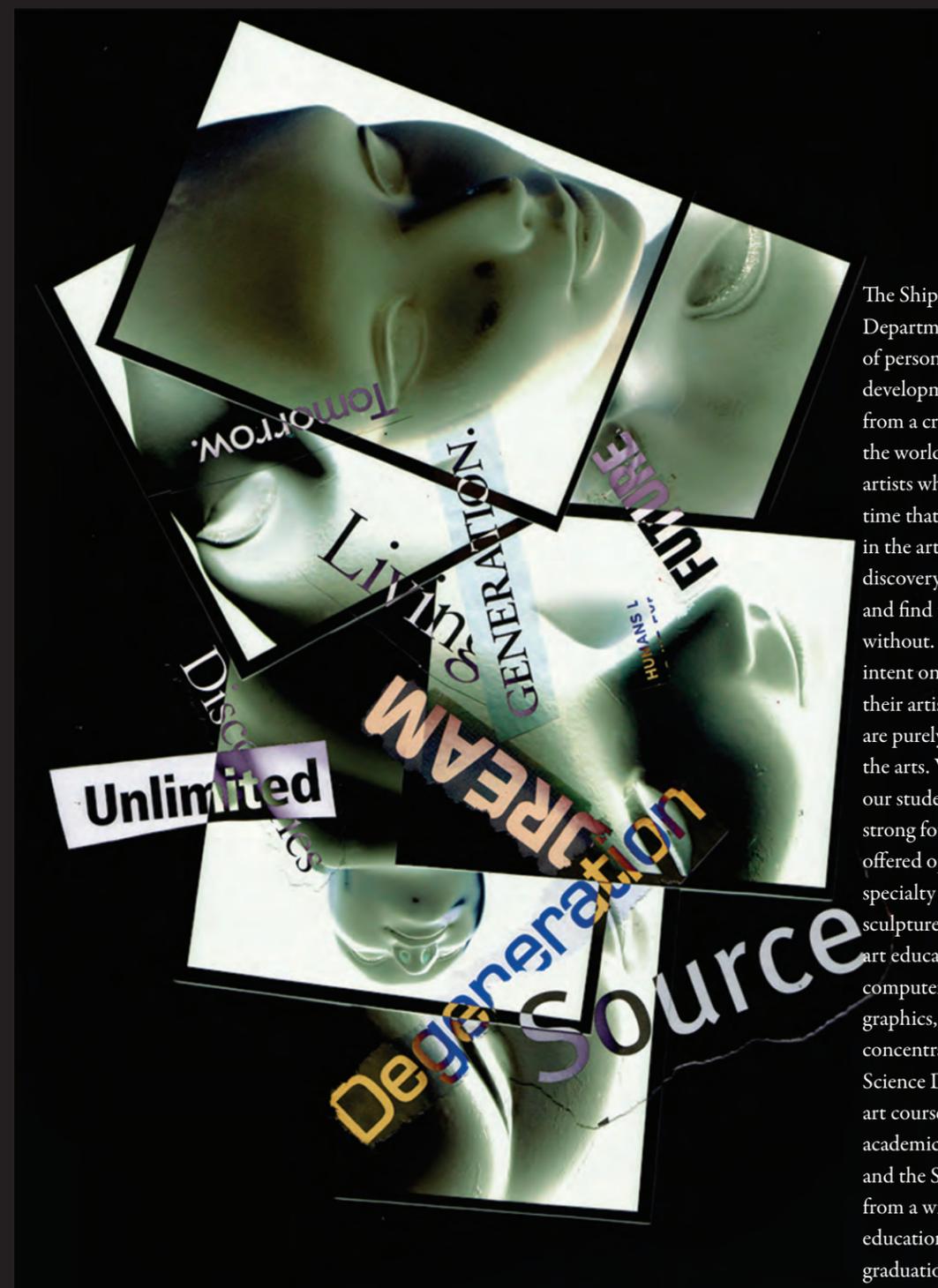
**Matt Rhodes**  
Photography  
Design  
Senior



**Steven Hartt**  
Design  
Senior



**Judean Fox**  
Design  
Senior



The Shippensburg University Art Department is a place of learning, of personal growth and artistic development. Our students come from a cross section of America and the world. Some are already serious artists who have known for a long time that they would pursue a career in the arts. But for others, art is a discovery they have recently made and find they simply cannot live without. Some of our students are intent on earning lots of money in their artistic futures, while others are purely romantic in their love of the arts. While at Shippensburg, our students are provided with a strong foundation in the arts, and offered opportunities to learn a specialty such as ceramics, painting, sculpture, printmaking, art history, art education certification, k12, computer design or computer graphics, an interdisciplinary concentration with the Computer Science Department. Along with art courses, our students also take academic courses in English, Math and the Sciences. Students choose from a wide variety of general education courses to fulfill their graduation requirements.

# VISIVO

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