

For immediate release: April 5, 2022 Media contact: Andrea Foust Membership and Public Relations Manager Hallie Ford Museum of Art at Willamette University | 503-370-6867 Public contact: 503-370-6855 | museum-art@willamette.edu Exhibition website: willamette.edu/go/hfma

# Hallie Ford Museum of Art features the art of senior studio art majors and faculty member Chelsea Couch

SALEM, Ore. — Each spring the Hallie Ford Museum of Art at Willamette University pairs its annual senior studio art majors exhibition with a small solo exhibition of recent work by one of the faculty members in the art department at Willamette University. The purpose of the exhibitions is to demonstrate the continuing connection and relationship between student and faculty research.

This year's senior studio art majors exhibition, "murmuration," features the work of seven senior studio art students, while the faculty exhibition, "Chelsea Couch: boots, bullets, britches, & bologna," focuses on recent work by Visiting Assistant Professor Chelsea Couch. The exhibitions open April 16 and continue through May 14 in the Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery and the Atrium Gallery, respectively.

#### "murmuration: Senior Studio Art Majors 2022"

"murmuration," an exhibition of work by senior studio art students at Willamette, is characterized by a variety of styles and approaches and includes photography, painting, fiber arts, and mixed media installations. This year's senior studio art students include Robbie Daugherty (Reno, NV), Ali Mackie (Santa Cruz, CA), Madison Munro (Salem, OR), Ellie Ossana-Galen (Columbia, MO), Sarah Powell (Mount Vernon, OH), Billy Ullmann (Greer, SC), and Minna Zhou (Salem, OR).

As a special feature, the students will discuss their work as part of two free virtual Tuesday gallery talks at noon on April 19 and April 26, via a Zoom link available at willamette.edu/go/sam2022.

#### "Chelsea Couch: boots, bullets, britches, & bologna"

This exhibition focuses on recent work by Willamette University Visiting Assistant Professor of Art, Chelsea Couch (American, born 1990).

Within "boots, bullets, britches, & bologna" Couch explores contemporary concepts through materials and forms traditionally used for safety, protection, and packaging, while framing it through Couch's identity as a queer nonbinary person.

On Tuesday May 3, Couch will give a virtual gallery talk via Zoom at noon through a link posted at willamette.edu/go/chelsea-couch.

Couch teaches courses in sculpture, video art, performance art, and time-based media, and received an MFA in Studio Art from University of Oregon and a BFA in Painting & Drawing from The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Couch is also the Co-Artistic and Executive Director of Ditch Projects in Springfield, Oregon.

Financial support for these exhibitions has been provided by general operating support grants from the City of Salem's Transient Occupancy Tax funds and the Oregon Arts Commission.

### About the Hallie Ford Museum of Art at Willamette University

As one of the finest academic art museums in the Northwest, the museum features works by Pacific Northwest and Native American artists, and includes a diverse collection of traditional European, American and Asian art, as well as artifacts that date from antiquity. Frequently changing exhibitions include lectures, special events, tours, artist demonstrations, educational opportunities for children and adults, as well as important publications.

The museum is located at 700 State St. in Salem. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. The galleries are closed on Sunday and Monday. Timed-entry tickets are highly recommended and can be purchased or reserved online at <u>www.willamette.edu/go/hfma</u>. People are encouraged to visit the website at <u>willamette.edu/go/hfma</u> for current COVID entry requirements and updates. General admission is \$6, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for students 18 and older. Students 17 and under and children are admitted free. Admission is free for everyone on Tuesdays.

For more information call 503-370-6855 or visit willamette.edu/arts/hfma.

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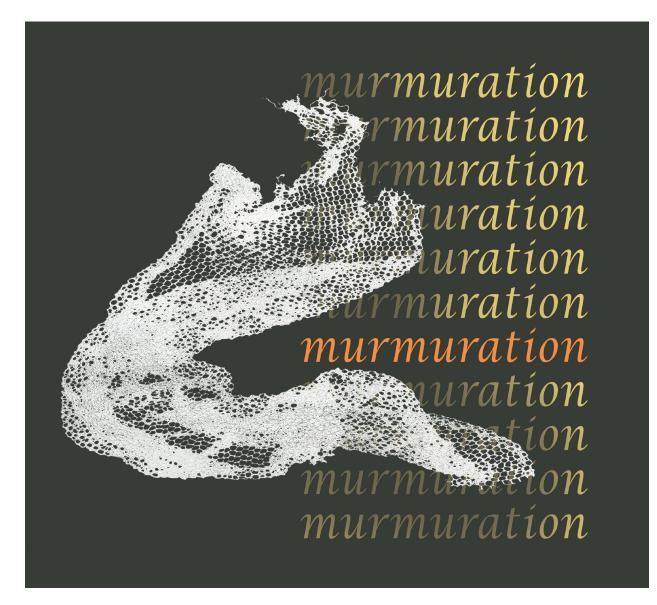
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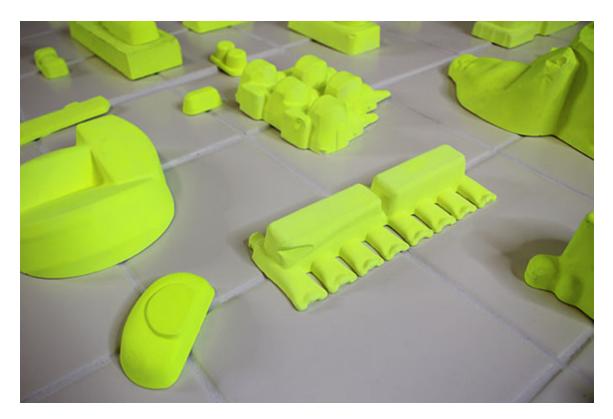
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#### For high-resolution images contact Andrea Foust at 503-370-6867 or at afoust@willamette.edu

"murmuration: Senior Studio Art Majors 2022"



"Chelsea Couch: boots, bullets, britches, & bologna"



Chelsea Couch (American, born 1990), *Handle with Care*, 2019-22, cast hydrostone, fluorescent pigment binder, ceramic tile, shipping palettes, foam tubing, 100 x 84 x 7 in., courtesy of the artist.



Chelsea Couch (American, born 1990), *Stopover* (detail), 2021-22, copper plates, found lamp, vintage fur, 4 x 36 x 7 in., overall, courtesy of the artist.



Chelsea Couch (American, born 1990), *PodPod*, 2022, cast Bullseye glass Tide pod, Juul pods, 36 x 36 x 2 in., courtesy of the artist.



Chelsea Couch (American, born 1990), *YOU ARE NOWHERE (detail)*, 2021-22, Bullseye glass, leaded solder, stainless steel chain, 84 x 120 in., overall, courtesy of the artist.



Chelsea Couch (American, born 1990), *YOU ARE NOWHERE (detail)*, 2021-22, Bullseye glass, leaded solder, stainless steel chain, 84 x 120 in., overall, courtesy of the artist.



Chelsea Couch (American, born 1990). Photo: Chelsea Couch.

## **INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES**

Interviews can be arranged by calling 503-370-6867.