

# Students of CCS show off

*CCS artists display their best for the annual show and sale*

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Frenzied activity kept the campus of the Center for Creative Studies' College of Art and Design abuzz earlier this week as students worked round-the-clock to put the finishing touches on work destined for the annual student exhibition that begins Saturday.

## Center for Creative Studies Student Exhibition

201 E. Kirby  
Saturday through  
May 28  
10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
weekdays,  
11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
weekends

A freshman on a ladder applied wet cement to the wire mesh supporting his mammoth figurative sculpture in the central courtyard, while other students painted display cases black.

Senior Scott Hocking paused to survey the diverse body of work representing his time at CCS. Paintings, collages and sculpture shared floor space, awaiting final placement in this premier gallery spot with a window. Hocking is among 157 grad-

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Scott Hocking, 25, a senior at the Center for Creative Studies, sets up a display of his work before the Student Exhibition.

## CCS | Exhibit showcases years of work

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lege in the Cultural Center, so he rates more display space. Five hundred students will show their best work through May 28.

"The whole school is turned into a gallery," said associate professor Gilda Snowden. "The show is our time to shine. I see it mainly as a way to educate and to offer a window to the community about the range and depth of purpose of the kind of work done here."

Those in the know understand that this show — now more than 75 years old — is the place to find affordable art by emerging local artists. Work comes from all departments and includes paintings, photographs, ceramics, jewelry, fabric, glass and sculpture.

Prices range from \$100 to more than \$5,000. Students keep all the proceeds, which last year totaled more than \$102,000.

"Student Exhibition is the perfect venue for art collectors and beginner buyers looking for fresh talent," said exhibition director Todd Erickson.

In addition to the works in the main campus buildings, visitors should check out CCS' Center Galleries, which will host the Selections exhibition, a combined display of work by a graduating senior from each of seven departments.

"This exhibition also gives the audience an idea of how the work progresses from the time a person enters until the time they leave with a senior show," Snowden said.

Hocking, 25, of Redford Township is a fine example of that prog-



WILLIAM ARCHIE/Detroit Free Press

Scott Hocking's "Song for Beginner" is among his CCS work, built in part on his studies in painting, sculpture and photography.

ress. His work, made mostly from found materials, shows how exposure to each new skill or tool has helped his work evolve. In his pieces, there is evidence of work in the CCS foundry as well as in painting, sculpture and photography classes.

One huge canvas re-creates the rooftop of a forsaken downtown building, where he stood many nights observing the city. A horizon is created with photographs combined to afford a 360-degree view from the rooftop at sunset. The bottom two-thirds of the canvas is layered with tar, gravel from the roof, paint, lead flashing and an iron sewer grate.

Hocking became an expert scavenger because he had no car. His backpack often bulged with finds from the street — rusted iron tools, playing cards, scraps of wood. All have been recycled into his work. He even rescued one of his own metal sculptures from a CCS garbage bin. Accidentally squashed, the flattened sculpture is effectively combined with moss, paint, wax and polyurethane in a wall piece.

"CCS has been a great experience," Hocking said. "Without a doubt, what I'll miss most is the community. We fuel each other because there's the same intensity to make art."