Stephanie Ellis, "Hair Brooch"

Aaron Doerder, "Impellent Line"

Jason York, "Mustache Urn"

Joshua Goss, "Shell Form"
METALS MFA

METALS GRADUATE PROGRAM

Our individualized program in Metalsmithing emphasizes the development of aesthetic values, critical thinking and dialogue, technical skills and personal commitment to the craft. A broad spectrum of aesthetic principles is stressed, from traditional forms within the media to modern experiential approaches, all leading to highly individualized work in both precious metals and iron. The program environment is one of diversity, seeking students with a range of interests, backgrounds and goals for achievement.

The metals program at SIUC has developed links in Europe, the Pacific Rim and Mexico that may provide opportunities for student participation. The perseverance and focus of our students have led many of our graduates to a range of careers in academia, museum work, as well as that of a self-sustaining independent artist. MFA graduates of the program have been highly successful in their professions over the last 30 years.

The success of the program is due in large part to the distinguished leadership of L. Brent Kington, Emeritus Professor, who is credited with reintroducing the craft of blacksmithing work as an artform to the United States. Since his retirement, the program has been under the leadership of Associate Professor Richard Smith, who has also brought much to the department, obtaining grant funding to modernize equipment and expand the teaching environment in the L. Brent Kington Blacksmith Shop, making for a more enriched and safe learning experience. For 24 years Professor Richard Mawdsley led the metals program at SIUC. After his retirement, the department welcomed Sun Kyoung Kim as Assistant Professor in metals in 2008.

COVER WORK:
Rick Smith, Associate Professor, "Split Division"
Sun Kyoung Kim, Assistant Professor, "Pair"

FACULTY
Sun Kyoung Kim, Rick Smith-Program Head

FACILITIES

The program offers students an experience in an unparalleled studio environment where they can learn and develop skills using some of the most advanced equipment in the field, including:

- 5 coal forges
- 3 gas forges
- 4 power hammers ranging in size from 75 lbs. to 300 lbs.
- 100 ton press
- 17” Lathe
- Milling machine
- Iron worker
- English wheel
- Fabrication equipment
- A large collection of forming stakes and hammers
- 5 natural gas/air torches
- 4 acetylene torches
- Vacuum casting/ wax injector/ rubber mold vulcanizor
- Enameling equipment

REQUIREMENTS

Master of Fine Arts, Blacksmithing/Metalsmithing Specialization
Total Degree Requirements: A minimum of 60 graduate-level semester credit hours is required for the Master of Fine Arts degree with a major in Art.
Primary studio emphasis: 26 credit hours
Graduate Art History: 12 credit hours
Studio Electives (may be within specialization): 9 credit hours
Thesis or terminal project work: 6 credit hours
Other Electives: The remaining 7 credit hours may be selected from any area within the School of Art and Design or from the University at large.

www.artanddesign.siuc.edu