

John Ralston V

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Education

Bachelor of Fine Art
Old Dominion University
2011

Master of Fine Art
Maryland Institute College of Art
2014

Employment

Eisenbrandt Companies
Project Manager
2020-present

ADR Builders
Lead Carpenter
2017-2019

Goodturn Contracting
Lead Carpenter
2014-2017

Maryland Institute College of Art
Adjunct Faculty Assistant
2013-2014

Bihrl Applied Research
Graphic Designer
2009-2013

Recent Exhibitions

The Endless Wake
D'Art Center Gallery
September 2021
Solo Show

Omni-Threshold
Abington Art Center
November 2021
Solo Show

Primal Disposition
Vestige Concept Gallery
November 2021
Curated Group Show

Fresh Ruins
The Parlour
March 2021
Curated Group Show

42nd National Juried Art Show
The Arts Council of Wayne County
October 2021

OXAA National Juried Exhibition
Oxford Arts Alliance
October 2021
Juried by Charles Goolsby

Recent Press

BmoreArt: Friday Gallery Roundup
Written by: Nora Belblidia

First of All, Farewell plays in contradiction. At Cardinal Space, Melissa Webb and John Ralston V explore the push and pull between hard surfaces and soft underbellies, and the thin line between natural and artificial worlds.

Ralston works in rougher materials such as house paint and resin, but the artists' sensibilities meet in collaborative works such as "Man Crush" and "Angle of the Dangler," in which colorful doilies sit embedded in cracked paint and epoxy resin, encircled by an antique embroidery hoop. Of the 12 pieces in the show, five are collaborations and seven are solo works tied together by a palette of greens, purples, pinks, and yellows. While one might guess that the goopy, shiny mass, "Flopagalopagos," is the individual work of Ralston, or that the interwoven grid of cattails, synthetic raffia, and various fabrics, "Ode to an Erstwhile 10 x 12" Swamp," is by Webb, the distinction between their individual styles is not hard-lined. In other words, their work complements each other, and it's clear through the vivid colors and harmonious approach that the two enjoyed collaborating. "The GenderiZer" employs Webb's familiar grid structure of sticks but embeds them in Ralston's signature gypsum powder and paint. The left of the piece is all cracked baby blue paint with rubber tubing sticking out, the right powder pink with tender fake flowers. There's a sense of play at hand, like this show was an excuse for two friends to hang out and make each other laugh.