

## CHRISITAN BENEFIEL

### CURRICULUM VITAE

#### EDUCATION

- 2008 MFA University of Maryland, College park MD  
2004 BFA East Carolina University, Greenville NC

#### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- 2007 **Program Coordinator**, Pirkkala Sculpture 2007, Pirkkala, Finland.  
(Directed student workshop in metal casting, assisted in direction of large-scale sculpture symposium.)
- 2007 **Studio technician**, Estonian Academy of Art (maintained equipment, renovated facilities, basic instruction in metal and wood working, mold making, basic translation.) Tallinn, Estonia
- 2007 **Instructor of Record**, University of Maryland, *ARTT 110 Intro to Drawing*, winter term.
- 2006-2008 **Teaching Assistant**, University of Maryland, (Steel Sculpture, Metal Casting, Wood Design, Mixed Media)
- 2006 **Internship**, Franconia Sculpture Park. (large scale sculpture handling/installation, Instruction for youth workshops.)
- 2004-2005 **Production Manager**, Earthtones Pottery studio. (oversaw production, product design, taught classes, maintained equipment and supplies.)

#### AWARDS/GRANTS

- 2007 **Goldhaber Travel Grant**. University of Maryland, College Park MD
- 2006-2008 **Graduate Teaching Assitanship**, Sculpture, University of Maryland
- 2006 **Daniel Nicholson Ohlke Memorial Fund Award.**  
**Sadat Center for Peace and Reconciliation Award** (purchase)
- 2005 **Graduate Assistantship**, The Art Gallery, University of Maryland.
- 2004 **Graduation Award for Excellence in the Field of Sculpture.** East Carolina University

#### EXHIBITION RECORD

##### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2007 “*New works*”, Amandus Adamson Museum,  
Paldiski, Estonia

- 2006 *Imaginescape*, Maryland Federation of Art City  
Gallery, Baltimore MD
- 2004 *A Practical Application of Mathematics and Geometry*, Wellington  
B. Gray Gallery, Greenville, NC
- 2003 *One mans Trash...* Kingston Community Counsel for the arts,  
Kingston, NC

#### **INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS**

- 2007 *Pirkkala Sculpture*. Pirkkala, Finland  
"Ugly But Necessary" Dock Gallery, Merikarvia, Finland.
- 2004 *Karosta Iron*, K.maksa? gallery of temporary art, Liepaja Latvia  
"Iron Sculpture" Tallinn Art institute, Tallinn Estonia  
"Territory", Pedvalle Outdoor Sculpture Gallery, Sabile Latvia
- 2002 *Iccarus International*, Ghost Fleet Gallery, Kitty Hawk, NC

#### **GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2008 *Sculpture Now*, Washington Square, Washington DC  
*Hand-Made*, The Museum at the Mansion at Strathmore, Rockville  
Pike MD. Juried
- 2007 *Solstice*, Woodman Studios, Silver Spring MD, Invitational  
*Intervene/Activate*, Union Gallery, College Park, MD  
*WPAC Benefit exhibition and Auction*, The Corcoran Museum of  
Art, Washington DC, Invitational  
*Midpoints MFA* Union Gallery, College Park, MD, Invitational
- 2006 *Franconia Sculpture Park 2006-2007 Exhibition*, Shafer MN  
*Selections*, Union Gallery, College Park MD Juried
- 2005 *The Down East*, Mendenhall and Emerge Galleries, Greenville NC
- 2004 *Sculpture Salmagundi VIII*, Rocky Mount Arts Center, Rocky  
Mount, NC, Juried  
*Look to The Left...* Emerge Gallery, Greenville NC,  
*The Third Annual 'Barbie' Show*, Emerge Gallery, Greenville NC  
(Invitational)  
*East Carolina University Undergraduate Exhibition*, Wellington B  
Gray Gallery, Greenville, NC, Juried  
*Tiny Art Show*, emerge Gallery, Greenville, NC
- 2003 *East Carolina University Undergraduate Exhibition*, Wellington B  
Gray gallery, Greenville NC, Juried  
*UNC and David Nash Juried sculpture exhibition*, Center for Craft  
Creativity & Design, Hendersonville, NC, Juried
- 2002 *East Carolina University Undergraduate Exhibition*, Wellington B  
Gray Gallery, Greenville, NC, Juried  
*Rebel 45: Rebel Against Mediocrity*, emerge Gallery, Greenville,  
NC, Juried

- 2001 East Carolina University Undergraduate Exhibition, Wellington B  
Gray Gallery, Greenville, NC, Juried

### **MEDIA BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- 2007 Robin Tierney, Agents of Social Change, Review, *DC Examiner*,  
January 22.  
2002 *Rebel 45: Rebel Against Mediocrity* (Image)  
Catalogue, Iccarus International 2004.

### **SYMPOSIUMS/CONFERENCES**

- 2007 *UK iron*, Visiting Artist, Butley Mills Studio, Butley England.  
*Pirkkala Sculpture 2007*, Program coordinator, Lecturer, Pirkkala,  
Finland  
*Southern Iron conference*, Panelist, Sloss furnaces, Birmingham  
AL  
2006 *1<sup>st</sup> Annual University Of Georgia Iron Invitational*, Slide Lecture  
Athens, GA  
*NC Sculpture Consortium*, Greenville, NC  
2004 *Mesalands Community College Iron Workshop*, Tucumcari NM  
*The Four Basic Elements Project: "Territory"*, Pedvalle Sculpture  
Park, Sebile, Latvia, Visiting artist  
*Estonian Iron*, Tallinn, Estonia, Visiting artist  
*Midsummers Iron*, Liepaja Latvia

### **COLLECTIONS AND COMMISSIONS**

Two years growth, Sadat Center for Peace and Reconciliation,  
College Park, MD Purchase  
Disappearing and Reappearing Triangles, East Carolina University,  
Permanent  
The lovers, Goldsboro Arts Center, Goldsboro, NC Permanent.  
Fork and Knifespoon Tree, Kinston Arts Counsel, Kinston NC,  
Purchase  
Economically Produced, Eagerly Consumed, Emerge Gallery,  
Greenville NC, Purchase  
'Then the idea hits you and suddenly its the worst day of your life.'  
Raleigh NC

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

- 2006-2007 University of Maryland College Park- College of Arts and  
Humanities/ Estonian Academy of Art Student Exchange Program  
Planning Committee

2005-2006 University of Maryland College Park- College of Arts and  
Humanities Foundry Renovation Project

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

College Art Association  
Washington Sculptors Group (Wash DC)  
Sculptors Inc (Baltimore MD)  
International Sculpture Center. (NJ)

### **TECHNICAL EXPERTISE**

- Metalworking:** MIG, TIG, AC/DC arc, and oxy acetylene welding, steel fabrication, machining, blacksmithing cold joinery.
- Foundry:** Blast furnace operations for bronze, copper, aluminum, lead. Cupola furnace operations for bronze, iron. Furnace construction/repair. Mold making technique in resin bonded sand, large scale mold work, loose sand, ceramic shell, clay bonded (green) sand, plaster investment, wax working, general pattern making, Patina, finishing work, ferrous and non ferrous welding technique.
- Woodworking:** Mastery of general woodshop tools, proper use and repair, joinery, lamination, finishing work. carpentry and framing technique
- Digital:** Working knowledge of MS office, Photoshop, Illustrator, Rhinoceros 3D, Sketchup, AutoCAD and HTML.
- Ceramics:** Proficiency in Electric kiln operations, stoneware, wheel throwing, hand building/modeling technique, slip casting, glaze chemistry.
- Material handling:** Gallery installation/handling, lighting, Basic rigging technique, heavy material handling/installation technique, Familiarity with industry terms and specifications for ferrous and non ferrous materials, soft and hard woods, refractory, cast able stone.
- Miscellaneous:** Paper making, casting and forming technique, plastics, industrial sewing technique, inflatable sculpture, basic electrical work

### **INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2008 Appointed technical director for USUK annual Iron pour, Suffolk England
- 2007 I formulated and piloted an exchange program between the University of Maryland and The Estonian academy of art in Tallinn, Estonia. In addition that summer I invited several recent graduates from UMD to participate in a workshop as a part of a larger international sculpture conference, involving over 60 artists from 9 countries which I helped organize in Pirkkala Finland.
- 2004 Participated in sculpture symposiums in Latvia, Estonia, and Finland.

