

BFA Senior Thesis Conversations featuring Annaleah Gregoire

Questions by Daniela Segovia



Annaleah Gregoire is a painter and sculptor from Massachusetts who is currently working towards her B.F.A. at California College of the Arts. Her design work has been seen on Spotify, Apple Music, and more. Gregoire is further investigating material in an effort to accommodate the shifting circumstances of the pandemic.

See more of her work on Instagram [@annaleah.moon.studios](https://www.instagram.com/annaleah.moon.studios) or visit her website www.annaleahmoonstudios.com.

What is your thesis investigating?

My upcoming thesis exhibition, "Unpleasantly Beautiful," investigates a physical and conceptual notion of peeling back layers to expose one's interior. By touching on my own vulnerabilities, I can open a door for conversations around discomfort and the process of healing. I have built a visual language with art and science revolving around the visible and invisible wounds of trauma. Through dissection, amputation, and exploring anatomy in many mediums, my work examines the human form by exposing its interior. I use medical images such as x-rays as a way to depict the internal form. By exposing spots of trauma layer by layer, I can illuminate the uncomfortable and honest pain of healing.



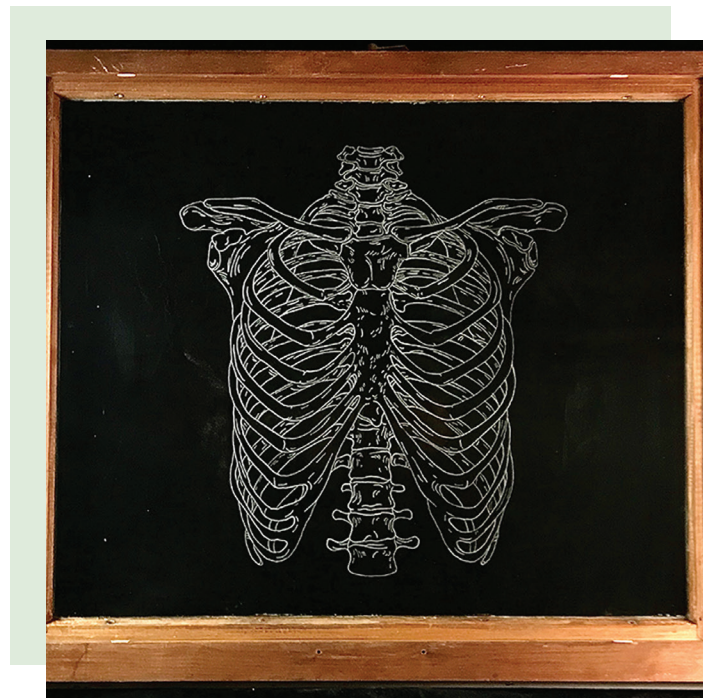
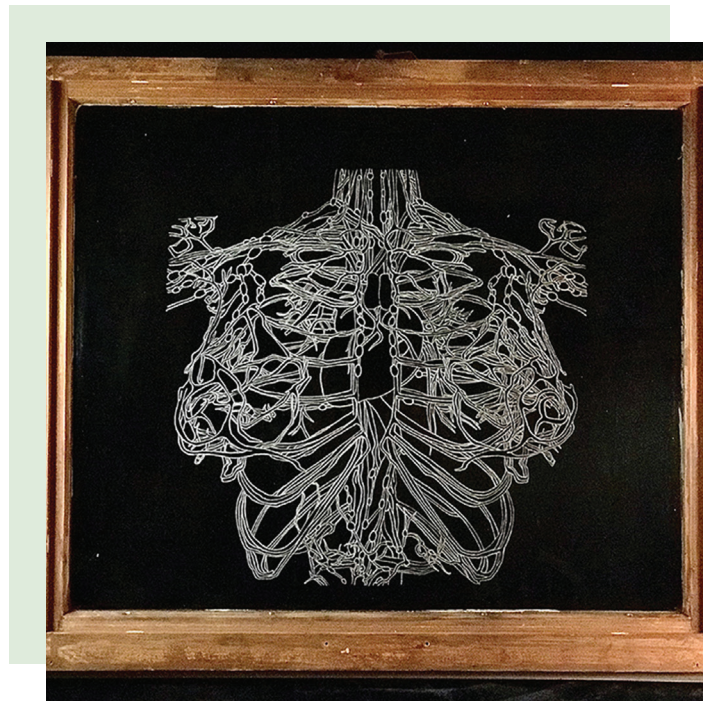
Sweet Tooth

What is your major influence at the moment?

I've recently found myself fascinated with grotesque art. When we are confronted with images and experiences that defy our aesthetic conventions, we have been culturally conditioned to label this as grotesque. It seems the more violent one's repulsion, the more apparent it is that the individual has unresolved issues regarding the subject at hand. My work sits between the real and fantastic to highlight moments where beauty and the grotesque merge.



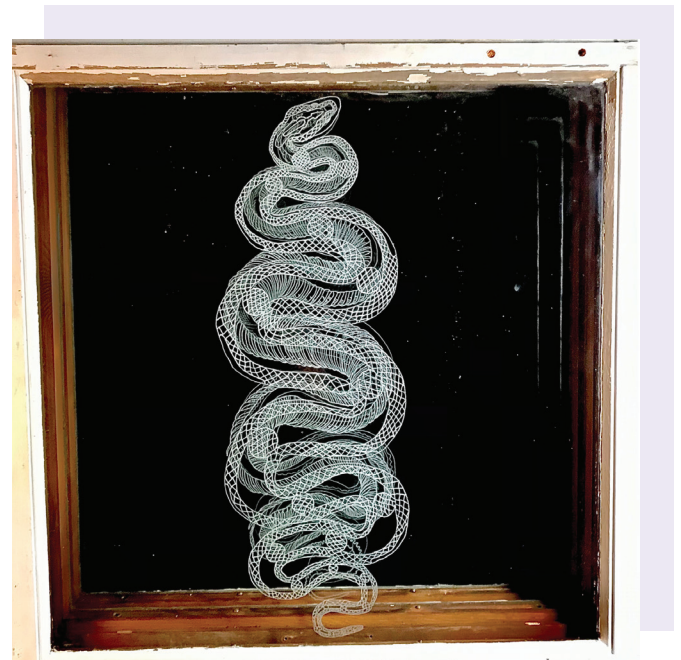
Wrong Tooth



Top to Bottom: Exposed Part 1; Exposed Part 2

What's next for you?

After receiving my Bachelor of Fine Arts from CCA, I will likely work in a secondary school and take my time researching and applying for Masters programs in sculpture, so I can one day teach at a college level. I also plan to complete a residency in the coming year. I am slowly expanding my at home studio in Western Massachusetts—an essential aspect of preparing for an in person solo exhibition this fall, which will accommodate COVID-19 regulations.



Shed Your Skin