



Southern
Illinois University
Carbondale

School of Art and Design
www.artanddesign.siu.edu
www.siu.edu

Dear Prospective Graduate Student:

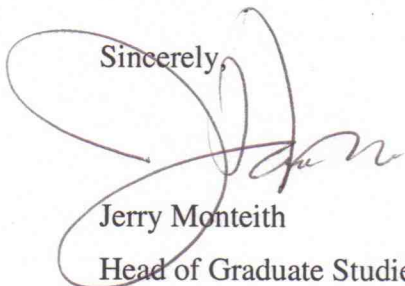
We are pleased to learn of your interest in studying fine arts at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The faculty and approximately 50 graduate students who comprise the program feel that this is a rather special place in which one may develop skills and intellectual discernment in a stimulating atmosphere of challenge and mutual respect. The level of professional activity found among both students and faculty is quite exceptional, and the degree of financial support that we receive from the University allows us to offer virtually all accepted candidates some form of aid with the expenses of graduate education.

Entering a graduate program is a major commitment of time and resources that will affect the rest of your life in many ways. It is important that you ask yourself some critical questions. The place to start would be, "Do I need an MFA to do with my art what I want to do?" You might ask, "Am I ready?" "Does my work need the association of other artists and the intellectual give-and-take of a formal program?" "Am I ready to explore and experience critical dialogue?" Graduate study is not for everyone, and no two schools are alike.

This is a program for the person who is ready and willing to work for his or her goals and is determined to grow as an artist. We encourage you to visit our campus to talk with the faculty and students in your studio area. More than buildings and tools, they are the program.

If you decide to apply, please be aware that our MFA program space is limited and the admissions process is competitive, so please organize your slide portfolio and introductory information with care to give us a clear picture of your abilities and intentions. Enclosed is our general information packet, which includes applications, instructions, and the most general descriptions of the programs offered. After reading it, should you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the major professor in your area. A list of useful web sites is attached, perhaps the most important of which are for SIUC, www.siu.edu, the School of Art and Design, www.artanddesign.siu.edu, and the SIUC Graduate School, <http://www.gradschool.siu.edu/>. The graduate secretary, Kathy Holt, is available at (618) 453-4313, or e-mail at kholt@siu.edu. I am best reached through her or at monteith@siu.edu.

Sincerely,



Jerry Monteith

Head of Graduate Studies

JM/kh