

PORTFOLIOWORKS WINTER/SPRING 2023



Photo collage self-portrait by a London based senior.

Hello from Paris! We are so happy to share with you recent news of our current cohort of students.

During the 2022-2023 school year thus far, we have worked with students in California, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Hong Kong, Chile, Switzerland, France, Italy, Greece and the UK. They were preparing portfolios for entry into programs in fashion, architecture, film, animation, design, furniture design, fine art, jewelry design and UK Foundation Year.

While we are still waiting for most English and European school announcements, we have so far received wonderful acceptances in the U.S., including impressive merit scholarships. Some of these include, art/architecture/animation/design degree specific entries at: RISD, Parsons, Pratt, Otis, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, The School of Visual Arts, Cornell University, Columbia University, Savannah College of Art and Design, Drexel, Fordham, Emerson, The American University of Paris, IE Madrid, University of Westminster, University for the Creative Arts (with over \$300,000 in merit based scholarships offered).

We would also like to extend a big thank you to all of our partner counselors! You know who you are, and it has been a real honor to work with all of you around the world.



Installation by a Paris based student applying to BFA programs in the US and Foundations in the UK.



Photographic self-portrait by a Paris-based student applying to U.K. Architecture programs.

Don't forget! We also work with area-specific specialists:

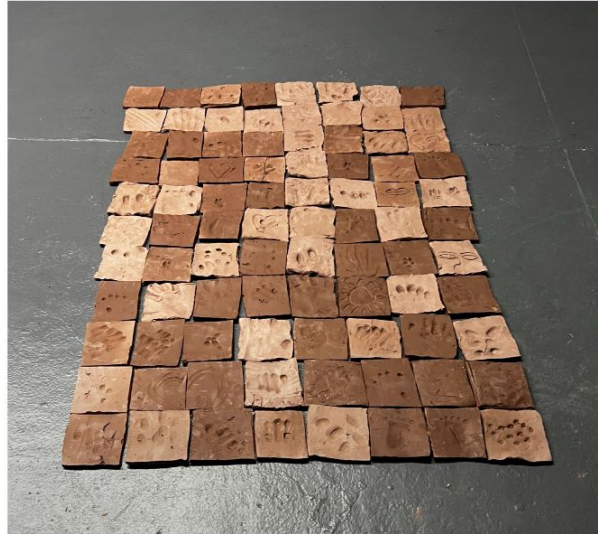
Figure drawing with Rami Baglio

French Art and Design Schools with Farah Khelil

Drama coaching and audition preparation with Clarence Tokley

Architectural drawing with Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong

PORTFOLIO PROCESS #6



Imprinting on my life, 2022, 40 x 55 inches

"I wanted to make a project that involved the use of clay, a material ubiquitous in contemporary and historic Mexican culture and architecture. I am interested in the power of material as culture. I wanted the project to involve my family and community, to include the physical touch of the people around me. While I was influenced by Carl Andre's floor sculptures in my decision to lay out the tiles in a grid on the floor, the process of creation of Kimsooja's clay balls was closer to my heart and intention. For this piece, I asked the participants to cut each tile, and imprint their fingerprint on the tile because all of them have impacted my life in one way or another."

Art training: high school art class, summer pre-college architecture class at Cornell University

University goals: Cornell Architecture first choice school, other top US undergraduate architecture programs

Communication mode: Zoom

Hours of advising/instruction: 12

Ethan is a New York City based high schooler who applied this fall to top architecture programs in the US. He was accepted ED at Cornell, his first choice, and we are so thrilled for him. He was referred to us in early September by a private college coach in the New York area, and had only a few exploratory school art projects, and some very nice work from his time at a summer program at Cornell. It was essential that he make some impressive and sophisticated projects during our time together. He was very passionate about his Mexican roots and heritage, and much of the work he decided to make for his portfolio was centered around themes related to Mexican culture and materials and incorporated architectural concepts into his ambitious projects..

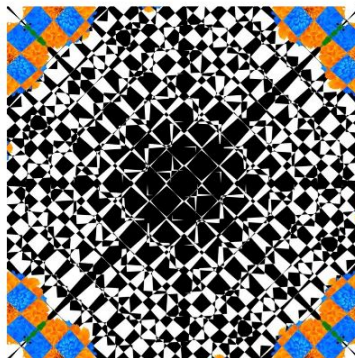
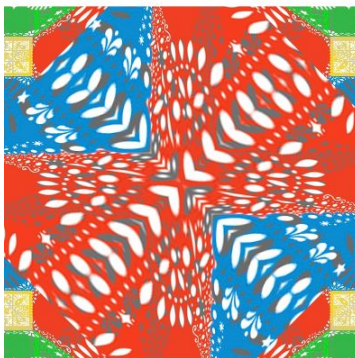
He was very open and curious, and also self-motivated and a very hard worker - all qualities that helped him make some very strong personal projects in time to apply Early Decision.

Below each image you will see the text caption that accompanied each project. The contextualisation of the projects is essential to how the admissions committees experience and evaluate the awareness and criticality of each student.



Rebar Project, 2022, 30 x 42 x 30 inches

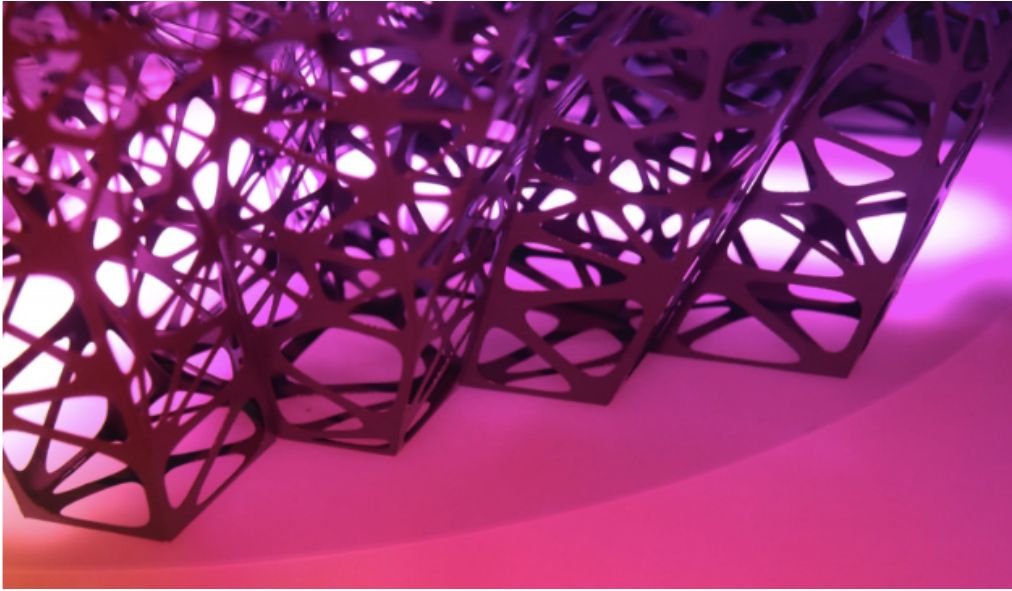
"This project was very much inspired by Abraham Cruzvillegas and his exploration of "autoconstrucción". Rebar is constantly seen protruding from the top of or from the sides of buildings in Mexico, to give people the option to add a room or rooms to their already existing house. I was interested in the communal yet structural aspect of using rebar to push my two dimensional drawings (next slide) into a sculptural piece. I chose to add color by wrapping the rebar structure with yarn, evoking the warp threads of traditional Mexican weaving."



My Own Papel Picado, 2022, 8.5 x 11 inches

"I continue to explore elements of my Mexican culture in this project that developed from thinking about papel picado and pattern. Often very brightly colored and including iconic Mexican imagery, this paper is traditionally used to call back the dead on Días de los Muertos. It is a decoration used to celebrate the

dead. In my version, I first made a collage using the papers, and then made a digital collage of multiple papeles picados."



Have you ever wondered about what kind of wonderful disciplines, materials and techniques you can specialize in at an Art or Liberal Arts school? We have compiled a short list of some wonderful examples:

[Glassblowing at Alfred University](#)

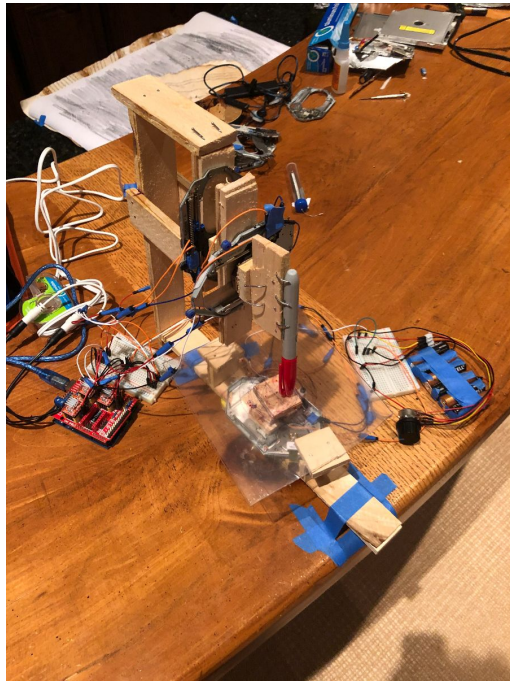
[Merging of textiles with science at Cornell University Human Centered Design College of Human Ecology](#)

[Art and Engineering or Science or Math at Carnegie Mellon](#)

[Ceramics at the Kansas City Art Institute](#)

[Architecture and Interdisciplinary Studies at University College of London Bartlett](#)

[Computational and Mechanical Design at the Ecole Supérieure d'Art et Design Tours, Anger, Le Mans](#)



Drawing machine made by a Mexico City based student, 2020



Scene from a Hong Kong based student's animation

Take care,
Maggie and Allison

Follow us on Instagram!