

ANNA HAYES

Avant Garde

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I collect maps of every place I go—I hang them to see where I have been. It is this interest in maps and my military training in navigation that inspires me to explore a region where I have never been, but will probably deploy: the Middle East. My work intends to map out the conflicts that are going on as well as engage others in the discussion. It acts as an intersection point of the art and army culture that surrounds me, and helps me chart the turbulent world I am about to enter. I am interested in connecting the dots between terrorism and the boundaries we have created as humans. I believe that my visual language helps navigate these issues in a new way.

“Avant Garde” literally translates as “in front of the lines” and was a French military term for the advanced guard or front-lines. It now refers to innovative and experimental art. “Avant Garde,” therefore, bridges the art and military world in a creative and innovative way.

My work is primarily digital prints created on Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop, where I layer and manipulate images that operate differently when printed. I work with layers on the computer and also layer the images once printed on a semi-transparent paper. These issues are layers of history and conflict, which makes it important that the actual images are layered and related physically.

Although my art is often created on a computer, I believe the human hand is important and must be part of my work, which is why hand written text is featured on two of the images. Engagement and interaction is something I have been interested in exploring.

The show also features a sculptural terrain model of Fort Sill, OK—where I will live after graduation—and Providence College—where I live currently. A terrain model is a functional, three-dimensional map that military personnel create while planning and briefing operations. One creates a terrain model out of found objects around them and uses it to explain the operation at hand. The model is then destroyed before leaving the area (to ensure that enemy personnel does not see the plan). The terrain model has often been my assigned task and is where my life as an artist and a Cadet has merged in a tactical environment.

PLEASE ENGAGE



Please Engage, (Detail), 18 in x 72 in



TERRAIN MODEL
MARCH 2016

Installation view of *Avant Garde*, 2016

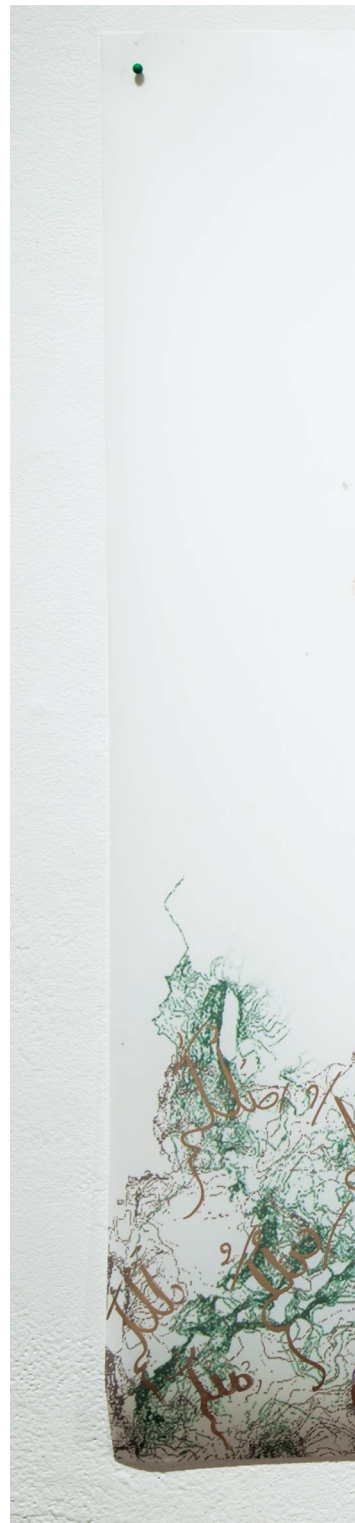


Terrain Model, 2016, Mixed media sculpture, 4 ft x 8 ft

I Am Like You, 2015, Digital inject print on vellum, marker, 36 in x 48 in

Please Engage, 2016, Digital inkjet print on vellum, marker, 18 in x 72 in

I Am Like You, 2015, Digital inject print on vellum, marker, 36 in x 48 in







Installation view of *Avant Garde*, 2016

"I Would Build A Great Wall", 2015, Digital inject print on vellum, marker, 36 in x 48 in

Terrain Model, 2016, Mixed media sculpture, 4 ft x 8 ft

I Am Like You, 2015, Digital inject print on vellum, marker, 36 in x 48 in

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Terrain Model, 2016, Mixed media sculpture, 4 ft x 8 ft

