

Take action once you have a revelation



The University of Mississippi Department of Art is hosting an exhibit entitled "Tone Deaf" in Gallery 130. The exhibit displays works of art designed by Alison Ouellette-Kirby and Noah Martin Kirby.

Epiphany usually comes only once a year, yet we can have a complete and total revelation at almost any time. It hits us most often when



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we are not expecting it as we get lost in our daily routine or unchallenged expectations. The revelation comes to us as an enjoyable shock, opening our eyes to a new way to view the experiences of our lives.

Many of us have read the books "Tipping Point" and "Blink" by Michael Gladwell. In those books, it's evident that having those small moments of revelation makes connections that influence all of our lives. The challenge of these revelations is putting them into action once recognized. How do you take an understanding of why a trend is occurring or a social norm prevalent and encapsulate it to share the revelation? Art makes this possible. Artists often see trends, connectivity and links sharing them with the rest of us through their work hoping they are holding open the door so we can all step through onto the other side of the revelation.

The University of Mississippi Department of Art is hosting an exhibit of this nature in Gallery 130. Entitled "Tone Deaf," the exhibit is a collaborative effort

between two artists; Alison Ouellette-Kirby and Noah Martin Kirby. This husband and wife team, or I guess if we are encouraging everyone to look outside the standard they could be a wife and husband team, has created a work that started from a simple observation.

Their view that perhaps because we come from different regions, we say the same things but somehow seem to speak a different language. Often we find ourselves arguing the same side of an issue without initially knowing it. The large and small sculptures make sound tactile — a different way to think about communication. Communication can be touched. The sculptures hold more revelations than the quality of the work and its physical nature. To tell you keeps you from experiencing the epiphany. Yet this exhibit is unlike a book as it is a rare experience where, as a group, we can have the experience.

On your most befuddled day when you are stuck on a problem or thought — or feel you may be in a rut — grab the person that works in the cubical next to you, a neighbor or a family member and take time to experience this exhibit. It is free and, to me, that alone is a revelation. People are giving away good ideas for free.

The exhibit is located in Gallery 130 in Meek Hall and is open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Join the artists on Thursday, Jan. 28, from 4-6 p.m. at a reception for them to share their thoughts on the exhibit. The exhibit closes Jan. 28, so don't miss this chance.



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