

Evelyn Davis-Walker

(she/her/hers)

Associate Professor of Graphic Design

Valdosta State University

Department of Art & Design

WEB www.evelyndaviswalker.com

INSTAGRAM @profdaviswalker

BIO

Evelyn Davis-Walker holds a B.A. in Visual Communication and Computer Art from Otterbein University and an M.F.A. in Advertising Design from Marywood. Evelyn is a graphic designer; a maker; an educator; and a socially engaged art activist. She has taught graphic design at the university-level for over 15 years and has run her design business with her husband for the last 20 years.

In 2010, Evelyn was awarded 25 for 25 AOL International Art Grant where 25 winners (9,000 applicants) were funded \$25,000. Evelyn designed individual memory games for 200 Alzheimer's patients. In 2015, Evelyn received the Otterbein University Young Alumni Recipient for Community Engagement as a result of her game design's activism.

Evelyn has a strong affinity for all things paper – from mixed media collage, to creating typographical prints on her letterpress machine. She has received numerous awards and has exhibited in solo, group and juried exhibitions.

ARTIST STATEMENT

I am a practicing graphic designer; professor of graphic design; fine artist and maker. My relationship with advertising as a form of visual communication has evolved into a complicated gray-area as a designer and fine artist. This “identity crisis” of sorts has allowed me to reside in two traditionally separate worlds– a world within the commercial arts, and the other within the fine arts. I enjoy blurring the lines between both arenas. I strive to prove commercially designed works such as advertisements and other promotional materials can have an additional dimension and function as a form of fine art collage.

In past exhibitions, I have shown pieces where I used the language of advertising visuals (text and imagery) to manipulate social messages. This year's exhibition, I chose to focus on comparing the various forms of collage I use in my work, instead of producing specific social meanings. The pieces displayed are intended to explore meaning through material and show visual contrasts between three types of collage (1. traditional paper collage, 2. encaustic wax collage where I use encaustic wax as a form of bindery, 3. digital collages created using computer software). Each are rooted within a common thread of collage as a form of artmaking, however the way viewers receive and respond to the material differs between media.