

FEARFUL SYMMETRIES:  
PAINTING MONSTROUS BODIES

by

Joshua Hunter Davis

A Statement in Support of Thesis Exhibiton Submitted to the Faculty of

The Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Fine Arts

Florida Atlantic University

Boca Raton, Florida

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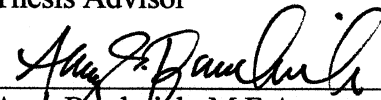
Joshua Hunter Davis

This thesis was prepared under the direction of the candidate's thesis advisor, Walter Hnatysh, Department of Visual Arts and Art History, and has been approved by the members of his supervisory committee. It was submitted to the faculty of the College of Arts and Letters and was accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Fine Arts.

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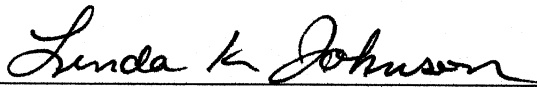
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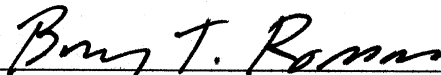
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## ABSTRACT

Author: Joshua Hunter Davis

Title: Fearful Symmetries: Painting Monstrous Bodies

Institution: Florida Atlantic University

Thesis Advisor: Walter Hnatysh

Degree: Master of Fine Arts

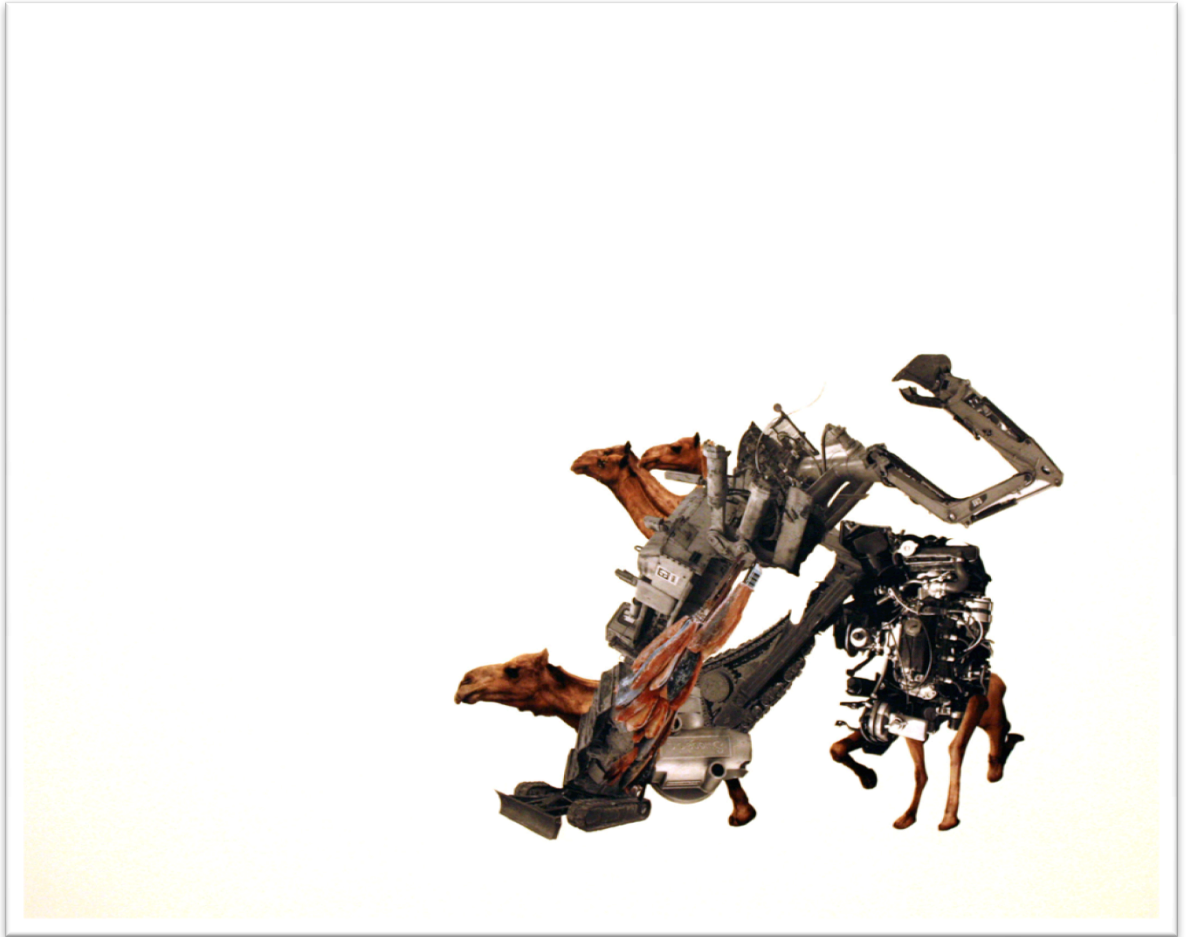
Year: 2011

My exhibition consists of monstrous cyborg forms comprised of a variety of imagery of both biological and machine elements. The smaller works are constructed through the means of paper collage. The larger painting is built from discrete cut out shapes of plywood and canvas. I had the unique experience of growing up around both water treatment operations and the flora and fauna of South Florida. Those experiences were filtered through a fascination for the science fiction genre, and imparted with a dose of fearful imagination. This has resulted in personal anxieties concerning the future of the human experience. My work explores and utilizes expressive properties of paint. I utilize applications that range from the attractive and sensuous to the messy and grotesque. All of this adds up to a visual expression of the potential nightmarish outcomes created as a result of our manipulation of the environment.



*Cyborg Collage I*, 2010, paper collage on acid free foam core, 30" x 40"





*Cyborg Collage II*, 2010, paper collage on acid free foam core, 30" x 40"



*Cyborg Painting I*, 2010, oil paint on canvas, 6.5' x 4'



*Monstrosity I*, 2011, oil, acrylic, and mixed media on canvas and plywood, 18'x18'