



**Contemporary Art Working Group  
May 31, 2017**

**Ann Albritton, Chair - Ringling College of Art + Design**  
Introduction of the program for the Contemporary Working Group:

**Rhiannon Jones (UK) and Traci Kelly (Germany)**

Kelly + Jones is a collaborative work of the artists Traci Kelly and Rhiannon Jones, 2015 to the present, 2017. Considering how do we re-do practice by resisting the expectations of language, it forms part of a subversive investigation into writing as a visceral encounter and as an excavation of self and site – a mode of human extension into the world. The work is developed and made for the site, an old school staircase with chalkboard. It approaches writing and location as a site of subject invention, a place from where human relations develop cradled by institutionalized architectural and cultural values. Currently the artists have been exploring abandoned Chalk Pits in the UK, working with site and video as part of their on-going research practice.

For more information please visit <https://theartistryofconversation.com/work/kelly-and-jones/>  
Jones is associated with Nottingham Trent University; Kelly is an independent artist.

**Sheryl Haler and Mark Ormond (US) – Ringling College of Art + Design**

This project is a challenge to construct a 3-dimensional costume made of unexpected, common materials to interpret a historical costume – from a semester course on Costume Design. Costumes / fashion telegraph “where” and “when” – the period, genre, season, time of day, and dramatic context are the focus for this presentation. A key element to contemporary art and design can be the use of unexpected materials. Costume design is never generic because people are not generic; they are defined by the culture in which they live. A Costume Designer must consider the complex elements of a culture that have manifested themselves in the style / influence of its fashion, i.e., the Japanese kimono to Japanese character / toy culture to Harajuku street fashion.

[www.sherylhaler.com](http://www.sherylhaler.com)

**Maria Kirk Mikkelsen (Denmark) – Design School Kolding**

The project "Palet," presented by Maria Kirk Mikkelsen, shows how student work with colors can be strengthened in a design process. The project addresses both didactic and color theory considerations. This is an example of an artistic development project at Kolding Design School and the presentation will include an introduction to the school's work procedures. The first part of the project concerns the development of the methods. The foundation for this is the existing colour theory and interviews with practising designers. Various theories about harmonious colour combinations have been tested and formulated as methods for the students. The second part concerns implementing the methods in colour classes and individual projects in design education.