



JESSICA THORNTON  
*(In)secure Identity (Dis)abled Body*

**Exhibition Dates: March 13-April 6, 2023**

**Reception: Thursday, March 16, 5:00-6:30pm**

Bingham Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of mixed media works by Jessica Thornton, Professor in the MU School of Visual Studies.

How does race expose itself in our society or community?  
It exists in our sports, in our politics, in our schools, and entertainment.

This body of work engages with the pursuit of an authentic identity - the search for a true identity. It asks what is authentic and where is the truth and how do we know if it is, or it isn't? What are the ways that we try to manage these identities?

Drawing from a bi-racial perspective, these images look for alternatives in stereotype and history. They work to interpret and champion the naïve and simple while attempting to control the complexities and power of an environment or situation. It is in a search for meaning and understanding of people and places, distant and past that these constructed spaces exist. And it is in this constructed other time and place that the simple things- tolerance, compassion and empathy are both misunderstood and worthy pursuits.

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Jessica Thornton was born and raised in Connecticut. She earned a BFA degree from Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts and an MFA in Visual Arts from Washington University – St. Louis. She is an Assistant Professor of Painting and Drawing at the University of Missouri. Her work visually addresses the complexities and intricacies of race, class and gender

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MARCH 1, 2023**

Location:

George Caleb Bingham Gallery  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
Fine Arts Building, Room A125  
505 Hitt Street, Columbia, MO 65211

Gallery Hours:

Monday - Friday, 8am - 4:30pm

Contact info:

573.882.3555 (art office)

Gallery Director:

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GEORGE CALEB BINGHAM  
GALLERY

All events are free and  
open to the public.