

CHELSEA MARKUS ART PORTFOLIO 2022



ABOUT

My interest in dental medicine drastically affects my portfolio and the art that I produce. As I become more curious about dental medicine, it naturally reflects in my art projects. I fixate on teeth and all things related to them. The collaboration between science, the dental field, design, and fine art is core of my work and it is an ever continuing study for me. It is the common thread that unites my work while allowing me to explore alternative concepts through creative expression.

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Works that demonstrate sustained investigation of a specific visual idea

QUALITY

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CONCENTRATION

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noun

Works that demonstrate sustained investigation of a specific visual idea

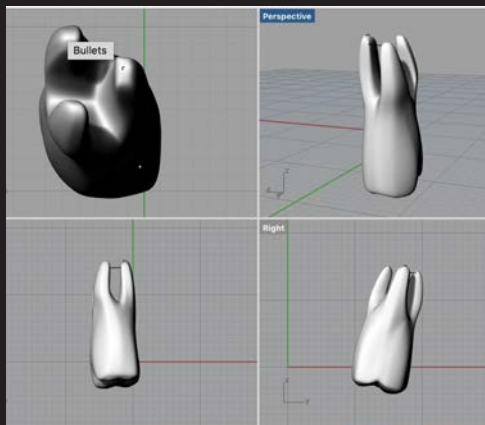
OCCLUSION COLLUSION

Plaster cast, 24" x 8" x 28"

These organic shapes allow each pair of molars to naturally balance on top of each other without reinforcement. That represents how cusps and grooves naturally come together. I made an encasement mold from a molar I designed and 3-D printed it with Rhino software.

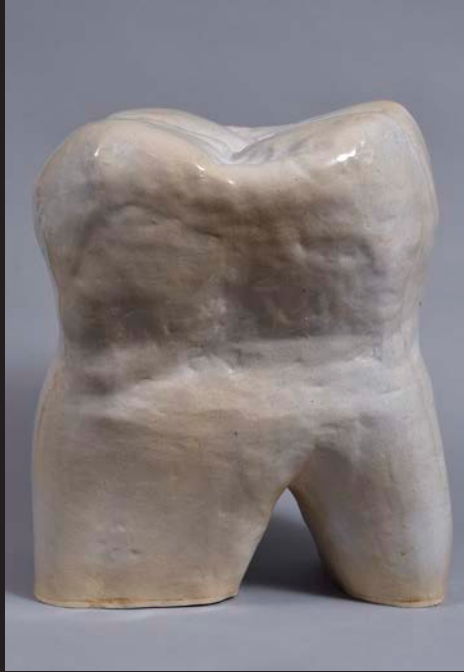


PROCESS



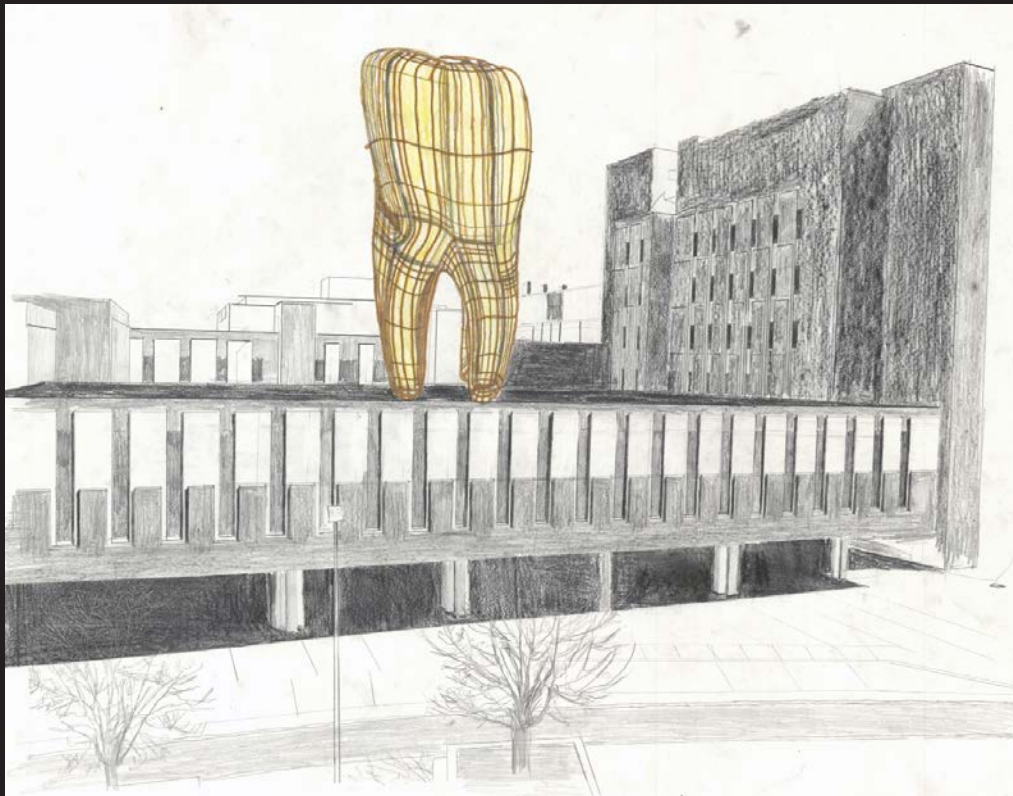
MOLAR STOOL

— Ceramic, 20" x 15" x 24"



PROCESS



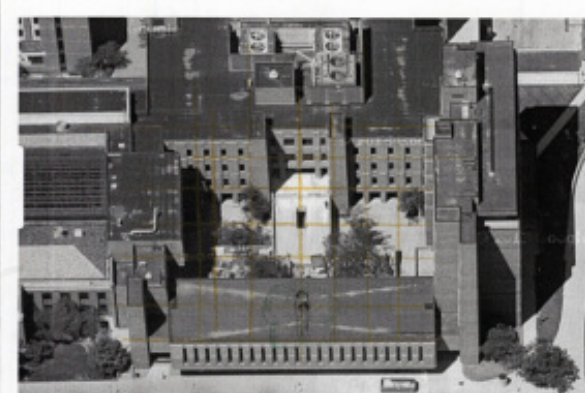
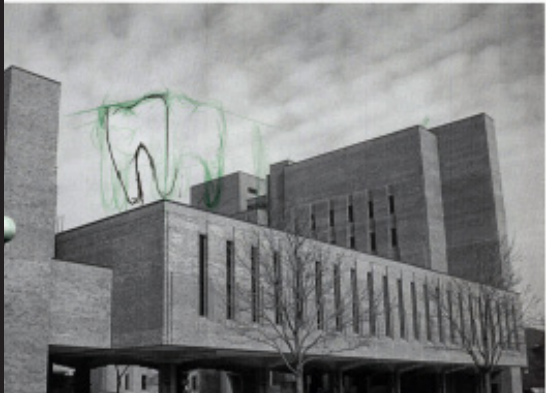
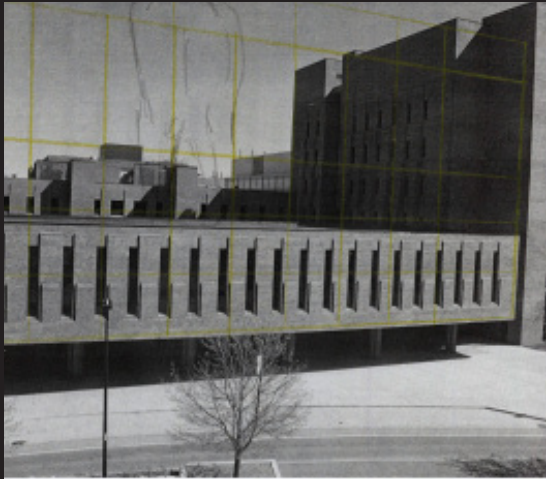


MONSTER TOOTH

Pencil on bristol, 24" x 26"

Inspired by Christo and Jeanne-Claude's works of art, I drew an intervention, a giant, large, yellow molar on top of the University of Michigan Dental School. This allowed viewers to connect the location with a playful, yet different appreciation of the surroundings.

PROCESS



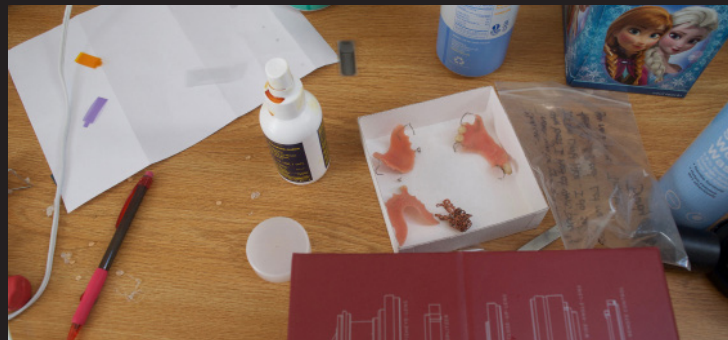
FIGURES IN THE SHADOWS

Prints, 36" x 48"

Denticles, used to create organic forms, reveal figurative shadows and allow viewers to create their own narratives.



PROCESS

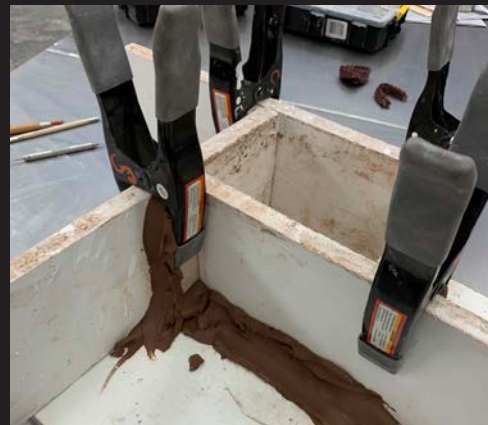




DENTURE JAR

Ceramic, 12" x 10" x 10"

PROCESS



HAVE MY BACKWASH

Ceramic, 2" x 3" x 5"

For "Have my Backwash" I used dental alginate to make a mold of my mouth to use for the brim of the cup and then made a plaster mold of the cup. No one really wanted to drink from my mouth so most people re-purposed them as toothbrush holders.



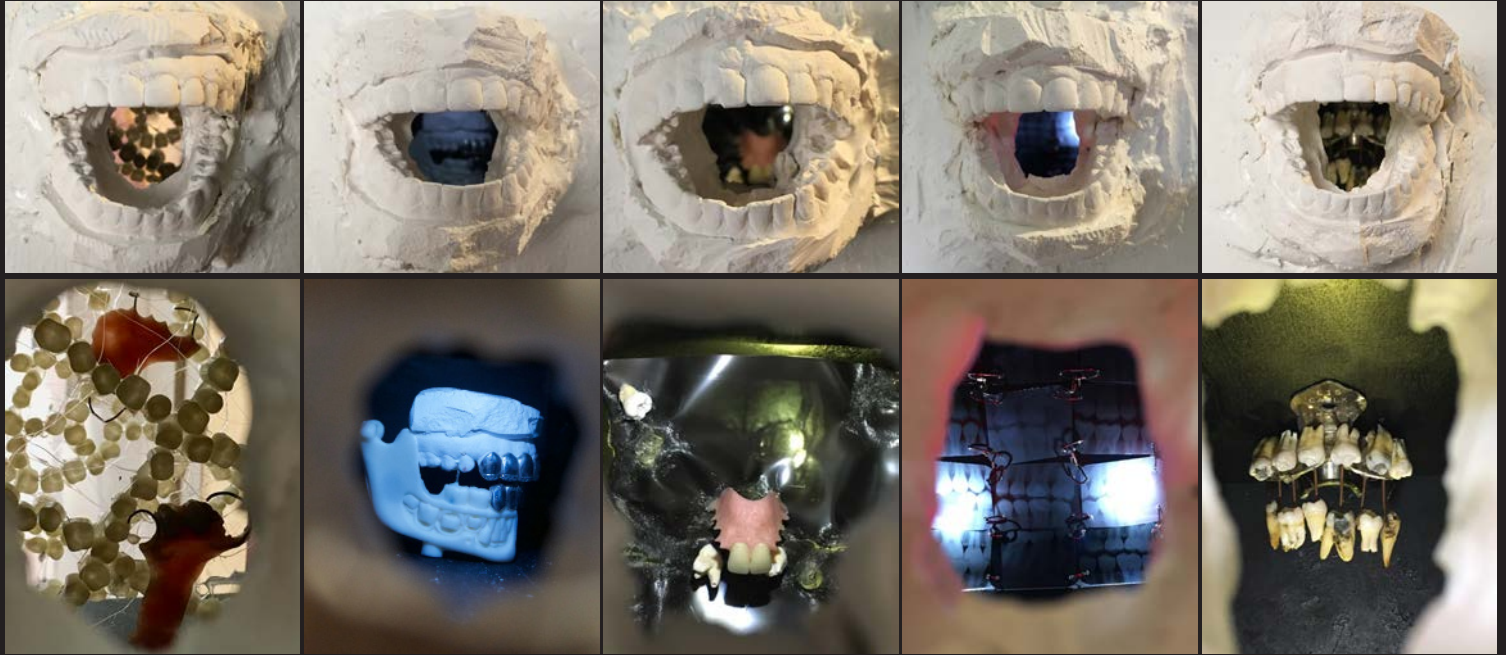
PROCESS



SAY AAH

Mixed Media, 96" x 15" x 72"

I am not sure why I feel the inherent need to make everything seem larger than life, but I think it must have to do with my desire to not just appease the audience, but to surprise or to overwhelm them. A peep hole view through the mouth mirrors a dentist's view. In this case, the peepholes display graphic dioramas animating dead molars inspired by a dentist's worst nightmare. These unique models evoke a conversation about spiritual and concrete specimens.



PROCESS



THE ELEMENT CALCIUM

Prints, 36" x 48"

This project challenged me to take small teeth and present them in an overwhelming way. I chose to combine my sculptural abilities with photography by shooting the teeth from an angle and printing them to make the sculptures appear larger than life. The final product is very organic and reminds me of stalactites growing naturally while the other print reminds me of flying over mountains. I find interesting parallels between stalactites, mountains and teeth. All are composed of natural minerals and each have unique grooves, ridges and shapes.



PROCESS



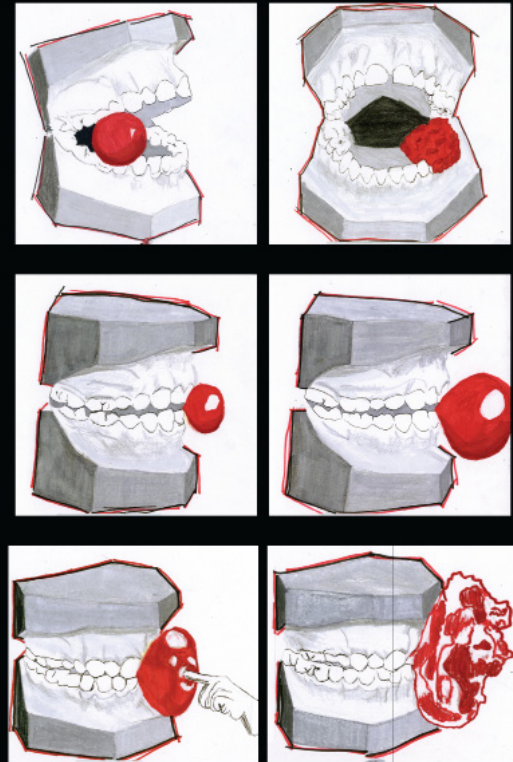
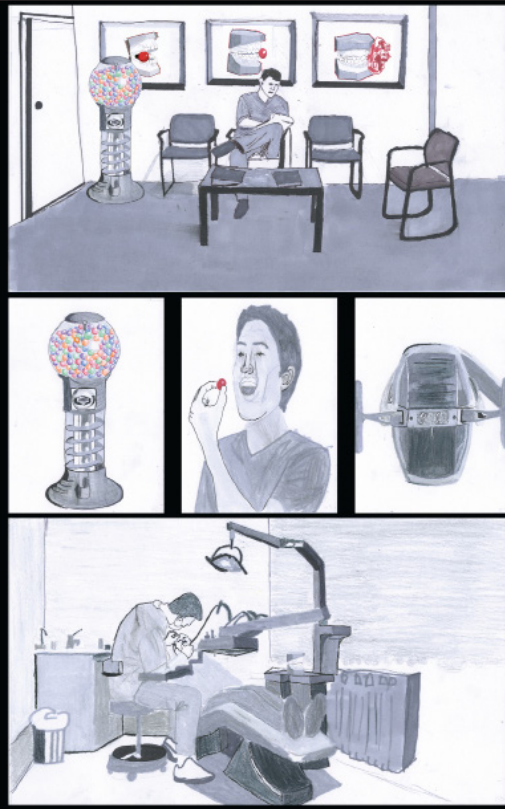
PEARLY WHITES

Ceramic



PROCESS



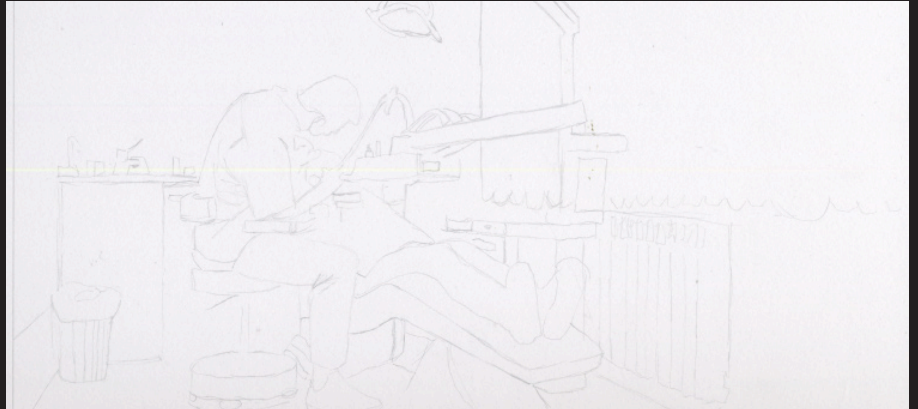


DR. BUBBLICIOUS

— Marker on paper, 24" x 18"

"Dr. Bubblicious," a graphic story, explores the satirical concept of visiting a dentist's office which has a gumball machine in the waiting room. Drawing the teeth allowed me to gain a deeper appreciation for the anatomy of the mouth.

PROCESS





GRILL TIME

— Acrylic, Silver, Gold

Although the association with grills is seen as a modern pop culture trend, it has been around for centuries. Actually, grills have been appearing, disappearing, and reappearing throughout human history in fits and spurts as civilizations have risen and fallen around the world.

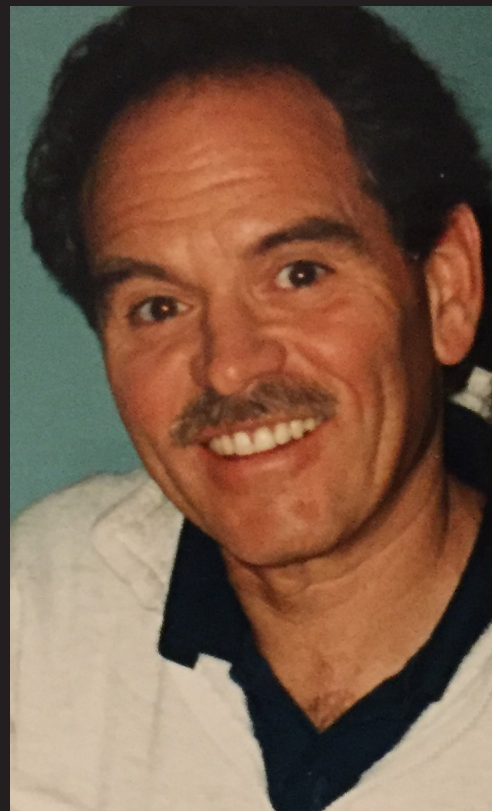
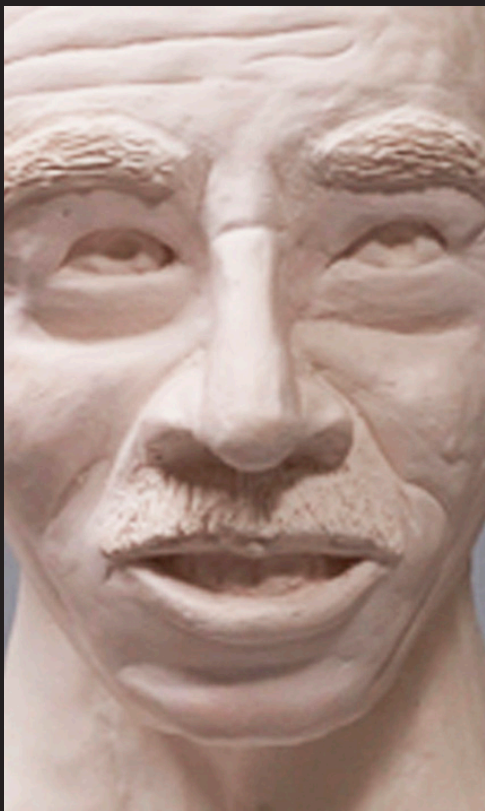
PROCESS



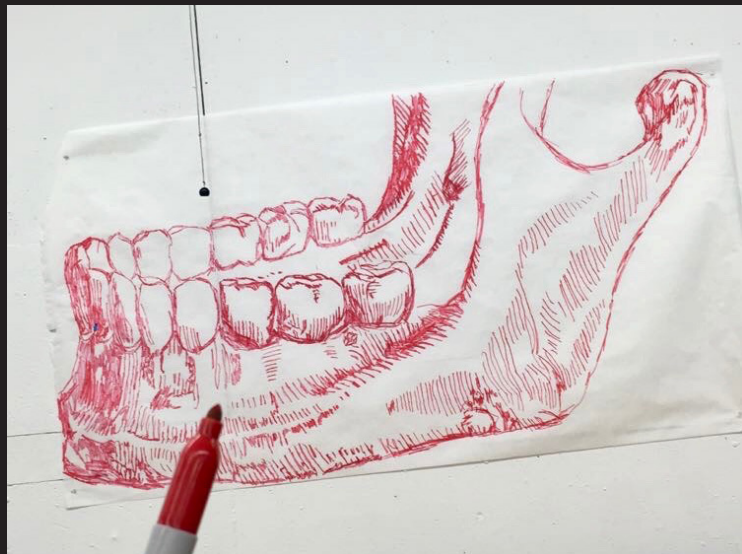
DOC

Ceramic, 24" x 18" x 34"

I made this bust in honor of my grandfather who passed away. He was a cheerful periodontist who inspired me to pursue dentistry. I used my grandfather's old dental tools to sculpt the facial features and other small details with precision.



PROCESS



MORBID TROPHIES

Mixed Media, 26" x 1" x 8"

Fascination with wearing trophies of killings or preserving relics has interested people for centuries. In this case, I used teeth to embellish salvage material in the style of Aztec garments.



PROCESS





TERATOMA

— Ceramic, 26" x 12" x 12"

PROCESS



QUALITY

/ˈkwälədē/

noun

Works that exhibit the synthesis of 3-D form, technique, and content



THE CHIPPER

APHRODITUS



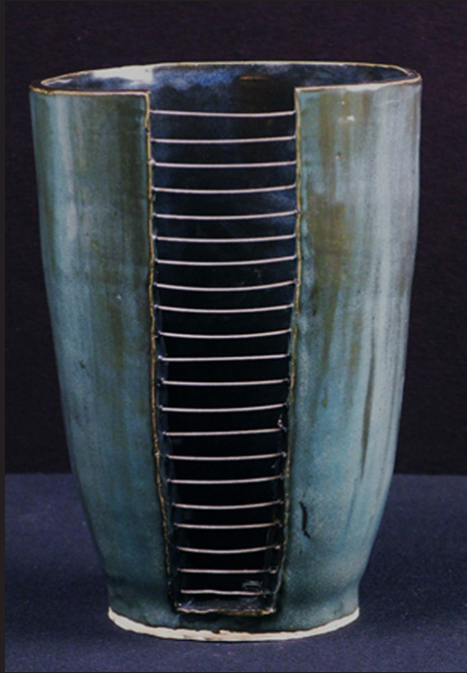


TOXIC APPLE TOTE



101 DALMATIANS

ETERNITY BANDS



INDUSTRIAL





ONYX

B&W

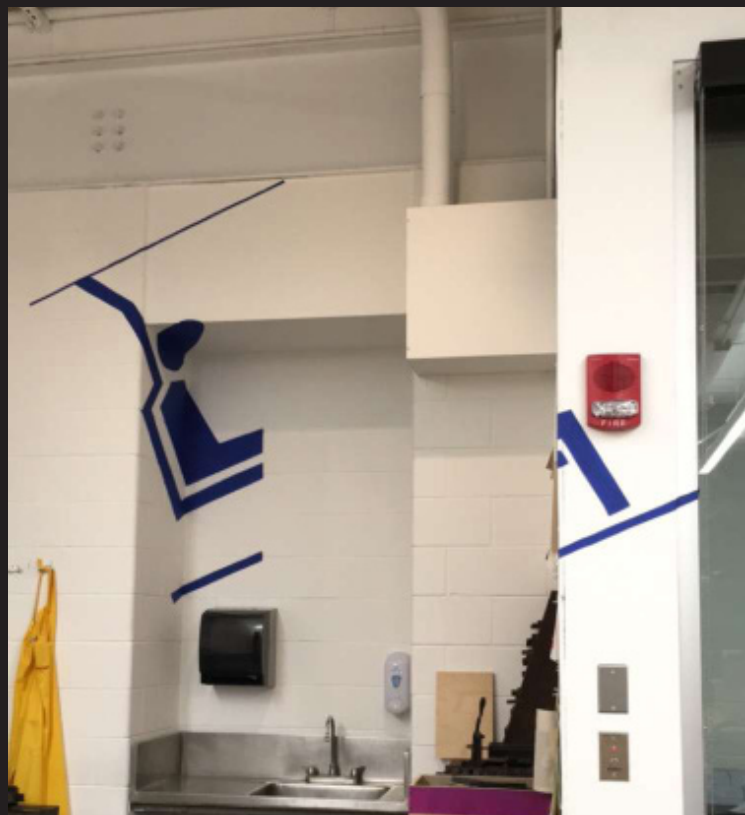


BUDDHAKAN





BULL MARKET



AJAX EXPRESS