

Spring 2024, Colloquium

February 5, Noon

UH 418

The Creative Practice: Academics and Artists

Dr. Amy Tigner

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Dr. Amy Tigner will discuss how to cultivate the creative practice that informs our lives as academics and, for those of us who have “other selves,” our lives as artists. She reflects on how her own scholarly writing has aided her life as a fine-art painter. Academic and artistic pursuits have a great deal in common, as both require research and practice, and she considers ways to parlay one skill set to enable the other. Perhaps the most obvious, but also the most essential, elements of the academic and creative practices are time and time management; thus, this talk examines various techniques to open windows of time for creativity and how to be the most efficient in the use of time, especially considering the brain’s ultradian rhythms. Research is the backbone of good scholarship, but the same could be said of creative works, as we must understand the historical and current conversations in these fields to forge something new. Finally, Dr. Tigner demonstrates how structure and composition in scholarship parallels that of art; being able to construct a composition in one can help us understand how to develop composition in the other.