Elements of risk and experimentation are present throughout the three-year graduate program at Carnegie Mellon School of Art. The unpredictability of the final result is what makes the process challenging and exciting. What you see here in the gallery is more propositional than conclusive.

The work is presented for critique. This happens internally with faculty, peers and invited guests, and externally with artists’ tours, which are open to the public.

You are cordially invited to come on one of the tours, hear the artists talk about their ideas and intentions, and offer your own interpretation of the works through open discussion.

The students work collaboratively to plan a final group show in the Miller Gallery. They must consider how their disparate practices can work together in a joint presentation.

While faculty advise, and the Miller Gallery staff assist, there is no one person working towards a predetermined curatorial vision.

Initial concepts for the final exhibit are presented and discussed, and from that point on ideas can develop, change, shift and shuffle. The architecture of the space, and the effects of works in proximity to each other, create the need for continual refinement of ideas, and negotiation of territory.

The result is a combination of individual ambition, and group dynamics. This organic process means that the content and composition of the final exhibition may not be apparent until the eleventh hour.

- John Carson
Regina and Marlin Miller Professor
Head of the School of Art, Carnegie Mellon