



Avery Rush

2023 Spring

Capstone - Metalsmithing

Department of Art and Art History

Artist Statement:

In my artistic practice, I explore the delicate balance between beauty and grotesqueness. My fascination with the unusual, mysterious, and spooky has been a constant throughout my life. By embracing objects, materials, and imagery that are often associated with negative connotations, I have been able to evoke a sense of empowerment through body adornment.

My artwork not only allows me to express myself creatively but also enables me to gain a deeper understanding of my relationship with the world around me. By confronting and accepting the parts of myself that I have previously deemed unworthy or shameful, I am able to heal the inner wounds that have been inflicted upon me. My creations serve as a representation of acceptance and self-love.

Through my art, I have learned the importance of sitting with uncomfortable emotions and experiences, allowing myself to fully feel and understand them. This practice has taught me to be comfortable with all aspects of myself, both positive and negative. As I continue to produce new works, I am empowered to be my most authentic self and to share my unique perspective with the world.

Title	Original Format
Figure 1: Maratus Volans (Peacock Spider)	Sterling silver, enamel
Figure 2: Maratus Volans (Peacock Spider)	Sterling silver, enamel
Figure 3: Araniella Cucurbitina (Cucumber Spider)	Sterling silver, patina, Malachite
Figure 4: Araniella Cucurbitina (Cucumber Spider)	Sterling silver, patina, Malachite
Figure 5: Irura Bidenticulata, Wounded	Sterling silver, Amethyst
Figure 6: Irura Bidenticulata, Wounded	Sterling silver, Amethyst
Figure 7: Embracing Obscurity	Copper, Black Onyx stone, thread, patina
Figure 8: Embracing Obscurity	Copper, Black Onyx stone, thread, patina
Figure 9: Triple Moon Chatelaine	Cast bronze, brass wire, copper wire, patina
Figure 10: Harness of Strength and Spirit	Copper, Labradorite, Rose Quartz



Figure 1: Maratus Volans (Peacock Spider)



Figure 2: Maratus Volans (Peacock Spider)



Figure 3: Araniella Cucurbitina (Cucumber Spider)



Figure 4: Araniella Cucurbitina (Cucumber Spider)



Figure 5: *Irura Bidenticulata*, Wounded



Figure 6: *Irura Bidenticulata*, Wounded



Figure 7: Embracing Obscurity



Figure 8: Embracing Obscurity



Figure 9: Triple Moon Chatelaine



Figure 10: Harness of Strength and Spirit