



## **“Never Judge A Book By Its Contour”**

*Handmade paper and ceramic, bas relief, 2011-2012, 21 ½” x 29 ½”*

**“Household Economics,” “Dress Making,”  
and “Non-professional Course”**

*Serigraphs, 2011-2012, 13” x 10”*

## **Alli DelleDonne, 1988-**

Alli DelleDonne is a 2012 VSU graduate with a BFA in Art and Art Education. She won the Outstanding Student of the Year Award and was an honor graduate and a member of several honor societies. She won first place in the Juried 2012 Valdosta State Student Competition for the three silk screen prints on paper that are now a part of our permanent collection. DelleDonne creates works on paper and in ceramic form. As of 2013 she was living in Fernandina Beach Florida and working at the Amelia Island Pottery Studio.

When DelleDonne was searching for a theme and images for a print making project she came to the archives: “I knew I wanted to do something with VSU when it was a women-only college. I have always been interested in vintage photographs, and I really like the history of VSU.”<sup>1</sup> Of her experience working with archival images she said: “It was interesting seeing how much things have changed over the years. I loved seeing the old books and course catalogs .... At that point, it was just a matter of figuring out which images would work best for me and my project.”<sup>2</sup>

According to DelleDonne, “The layering of text and imagery allows the viewer to discover each layer on its own while also appreciating the print as a whole. I innately strive to make something beautiful, but I hope the viewer can also take away a sense of being home from my works.”

When these pieces won the Student Art Competition in 2012, the VSU Archives and Special Collections purchased the pieces to add to their art collection. After all, how many archives have been part of creating art? After the purchase, DelleDonne donated the magnificent sculpture of a cameo in an elaborate ceramic frame. It is an amazing and unique piece that compliments the smaller prints. The old traditional cameo elements combined with the clockwork picture of the woman’s mind create an anachronistic piece, highlighted by the heavy, but deliberately cracked ceramic clay frame.

According to DelleDonne,

*Art is a place to call home: knick-knacks, crafts, found objects, handmade items, and treasured heirlooms. All the comforting things of home accompanied with a deep underlying past and meaning. I am fascinated by past and present socially constructed stigmas and preconceived notions regarding what is considered domestic. I am also interested in what society considers a “housewife”. Crafts, vintage advertisements, handmade objects, and imperfection play a crucial role in the planning and making of my works.*

*In this screen print series I incorporated imagery from South Georgia State Normal College Bulletins ranging from 1913 to 1917. By physically removing the faces of the female figures it allows them to be anonymous to the viewer. The layering of text and imagery allows the viewer to discover each layer on its own while also appreciating the print as a whole. I innately strive to make something beautiful, but I hope the viewer can also take away a sense of being home from my works. (email from Allie DelleDonne, 5-7-2012)*