

studio Space

Cristin Zimmer by Van Chu

A flash of purple or blue stands out against the beige paint, wood panneling and ubiquitous clay in Cristin Zimmer's studio space at the University of Utah. Zimmer, who is working towards an MFA, has a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art and Environmental Studies from Pitzer College in California. After modelling up her rough rewn creatures she wheels them down the hall to the two large kilns for firing. Zimmer's ceramic sculpture will be part of the 35 x 35 exhibit opening on September 18 at Finch Lane Gallery (see [page 1](#)).



● Salt Lake's Mary Dickson



By day (and often night), Mary Dickson is the director of Creative Services at KUED-Channel 7 and host of **KUED's Contact**, an interview segment highlighting the arts and non-profit communities in Utah. A long-time champion of the arts, Mary tries to attend most of the great performances and exhibits she highlights on **Contact**. She was named Wasatch Woman of the Year in the Community last year for her far-reaching community involvement. Her play, *Exposed*, about the plight of downwinders, opened **Plan B Theatre's** 2007 season to wide acclaim. It was nominated as the Best New American Play Produced Outside New York by the American Theatre Critics Association. The Deseret Morning News named it best drama of 2007 and the Salt Lake City Weekly gave it an ARTY for the best original play of 2007. Chicago Tribune syndicated columnist Robert Koehler called it "a sacrament of grief and anger." Last November the play toured Utah with the original cast for a series of staged readings and discussions. A new production of *Exposed* runs September 10 through 26, 2009 at the Space Between Theatre in St. George.

○ If you could choose someone to paint or sculpt your portrait (living or dead) who would it be?

● Randall Lake. Not only because I'm a strong advocate of "buying local," but because I'm a huge fan of his work. I remember staying at the Hotel Jeanne d'Arc in the Marais District of Paris and telling the owner that the paintings on the wall reminded me of an artist I knew. When he showed me the works up close, they were the work of an artist I knew -- Randall Lake. How perfect to find them hanging in Paris.

○ What are you reading?

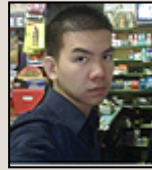
● *Middlesex*. I love Jeffrey Eugenides' writing. Smart, smart, smart. He's a masterful storyteller, a sharp wit and a beautiful writer. It's such a rich and readable book that I'll feel a void when I've finished it. I'm drawing it out, so I can savor it. And, it doesn't hurt that it's a fascinating subject. Call me voyeuristic, but I'm intensely curious about the life of a hermaphrodite. The book has changed the way I look at gender and sexuality. Now, when I feel writer's block, I open the book to any page for inspiration.

○ What is the most memorable exhibit you've seen recently?

● *Dave Hall's Moving Water* exhibit at **Phillips Gallery**. Not only do I love his work, but knowing Dave and his story, makes the exhibit truly inspiring. Dave taught at Rowland Hall for years before taking the plunge to devote himself fulltime to painting. His formal training consisted of one community education class (he was also lucky enough to have **Connie Borup** as a mentor), but he comes from a long line of New England artists, so painting is in his genes. His is an inspiring story, especially for someone like me who clings to the security and benefits of a full-time job and tries to write on the side. Dave took the leap. He followed his passion and the results are impressive. His ethereal landscapes have the most calming effect. His impressionist works inspired by the streams and tall grasses of the Montana countryside seem to rise from the mists of dawn and dusk in golden or gray hues.



Tom Alder recently left a 30-year mortgage banking career to become a partner in **Williams Fine Art** where he specializes in early Utah art. In December, he received his MA from the University of Utah in art history and wrote his thesis about Henri Moser. He serves various boards in the cultural community.



Van Chu is a Vietnamese artist who came to the United States in 2001. He is a current MFA candidate majoring in Photography/Digital Imaging at the University of Utah.

Ehren Clark received his BA in Modern and Contemporary Art History and Criticism at the University of Utah and an MA in the art of the Renaissance at the University of Reading, UK. He currently writes for the *The City Weekly*, as well as being published in other journals in Utah.



Shalee Cooper, who holds a BFA in photography from the University of Utah, has curated multiple international photography exhibitions. She is an associate instructor at the University of Utah, an art consultant at Alpine Art and the photo editor for 15 Bytes.



Laura Durham, a Utah native with a BA in Art History from BYU, has worked for the Utah Arts Council as the Visual Arts Coordinator for the past six years and, recently, she has taken on the Traveling Exhibition Program as well. She served as Vice President of the Salt Lake Gallery Association from 2003 - 2006 and now serves as Program Director for the Salt Lake Gallery Stroll.



Fabiola Labra is native of Ecuador and has lived in Utah since 2000. She dabbles in the arts, figure drawing, jewelry design, photography and poetry. She's currently working on her BA from the University of Utah.

Sue Martin holds an M.A. in Theatre and has worked in public relations. As an artist, she works in watercolor, oil, and acrylic to capture Utah landscapes or the beauty of everyday objects in still life. She writes *Hints 'n Tips*, a regular feature, for 15 Bytes.



Shawn Rossiter successfully dropped out of a Masters Program in Comparative Literature to become a painter. In 2001 he founded Artists of Utah and is the editor of 15 Bytes.

Geoff Wichert has degrees in critical writing and creative nonfiction. He teaches writing at Snow College, where he also taught Art History for six years. His profile of Kate Starling will appear in the Winter issue of *Wasatch Journal*.

