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Gainesville, Florida Mar 2, 2022 (<u>Issuewire.com</u>) - Casey Connaway has an interesting history, but he's currently doing very well as a studio artist. Casey graduated from Flagler College with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in studio art with an emphasis on ceramics and painting. Since then, he's become one of the most sought-after ceramists in his region, and his work has been displayed in three galleries on the east coast this year alone. Here's how he got to where he is today.

<u>Casey</u> started his artistic career in high school by taking courses and developing his skills. He also took part in several extracurricular activities, where he got hands-on experience with various media and mediums. It wasn't until college, however, that Casey really took things seriously. He began as an art history major and spent most of his time involved in extra-curricular activities such as drawing classes, critique sessions, painting classes, ceramics classes, and more.

As an artist, <u>Casey</u> relies on his surroundings for inspiration. He tends to be influenced by artists like Picasso, Pollock, and Manet who incorporated elements of their surroundings into their work. Working in new environments is really cool because you're able to incorporate aspects of that area into your art. For example, if I was creating a painting inspired by Paris, I would incorporate an element of Paris (the Eiffel Tower) into my painting. -Casey Connaway

From my earliest memories, I remember having an appreciation for all things creative. My parents had me enrolled in art classes from an early age. Casey was exposed to many different types of media at a young age, and his fascination with color began to bloom. As he got older, he started to incorporate color into his work by painting murals on interior walls. From there, Casey Connaway's interest in

ceramics developed and quickly took over as his primary medium.

Casey's advice for anyone considering going into art is to just go for it. It's a totally different life than what most people live, but I think that being creative and figuring out ways to make money from it is very rewarding. Casey also shared some tips on finding galleries that would be interested in showing your work: look at websites, go to conferences and festivals, call dealers, apply online. He emphasizes though that doing what you love is more important than any of these things. Most importantly, he says you shouldn't compare yourself with other artists or try to compete with them; focus on your own strengths as an artist and hone in on those so that you can truly be happy with your art.

I have been able to meet some wonderful people and expand my network while obtaining an education in ceramics and painting. Most of my work is done in ceramics because I love to make functional art that is practical, but also sculptural and beautiful. My goal is to teach someday, but right now I am trying to build up my portfolio and experience in creating visual art by selling pieces to galleries. I also plan on moving away from Florida and heading north towards colder weather so that I can exhibit more. The Weather Up North: In our cold winter months, Casey Connaway will definitely be making his way up North as a successful studio artist.

It's hard to talk about art in general without addressing digital art. Whether you're ready or not, digital art is here to stay and will likely only continue to evolve as technology advances. But there are still some things that stand out as important when talking about digital art. If you're thinking of pursuing work in digital art, it's critical that you understand these points and spend time experimenting with your own ideas. Here are three things any aspiring artist needs to know

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