Reciprocal Ekphrasis: Images and Poems, Poems and Images

Faculty Coordinators:

Robin Greene, Professor of English & Writing; Director, Writing Center **Vilas Tonape**, Associate Professor of Art; Chair, Department of Art

The word *ekphrasis* comes to us from ancient Greek and ordinarily refers to a literary response to a work of art. The artists and poets participating in this exhibition have taken liberties with this definition to create both literary and visual responses. Throughout the fall 2019 semester, student poets generated poems to which student artists responded—creatively and anonymously—and, in turn, poets responded to paintings.

Five student poets and eight student artists are represented in the exhibition, and their reciprocal responses are shown in the following pages. Professors Tonape and Greene organized the project and conferred to select the works displayed here. The exhibition is the first interdisciplinary project between the Art and Writing programs, and offered Methodist University students a unique opportunity for artistic collaboration.