

# Penumbra

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL OF  
CRITICAL AND CREATIVE INQUIRY

Issue 2, Spring 2015

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*Penumbra* is the official, refereed, scholarly journal of Union Institute & University's Ph.D. Program in Interdisciplinary Studies. The journal is published at regular intervals and dedicated to challenging traditional academic and creative disciplinary boundaries in the context of social change.

*Penumbra's* purpose is to promote theoretically informed engagements with concrete issues and problems. The journal publishes socially engaged, innovative, creative and critical scholarship with a focus on ethical and political issues in the humanities, public policy, and leadership. *Penumbra* is a peer-edited and peer-reviewed journal committed to spanning the divide between scholarly and creative production, and to fostering work from graduate students, junior scholars and emerging artists, in addition to more established critical and creative voices.

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## Nomadic Borderlands

We all have a body; this is obvious. Our lives are structured by our body: When we are hungry, we eat. When we are cold, we cover up. When we are tired, we sleep. Yet how do we actually understand our relationship with our body? Is our body more than these physical indicators? Does our body extend past this physical form? What role does our body play in the understanding of our identity? Do we have only one body or do we create multiple bodies for ourselves? Where does our body end and our environment begin?

In postmodern thought the phrase “nomadic borderlands” refers to the undefined space between what we know as our reality and the “outside” (that which we do not know yet brushes with and influences our experiences). They are nomadic because the boundaries of this space is always moving and changing as the fuzzy edges of our own existence brushes with the fuzzy edges of this undefined space.

*Nomadic Borderlands* explores the relationships between our bodies and our exterior world, focusing of the shifting edges of where our body (interior) ends and the outside (exterior) world begins.

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Jenna Hupp Andrews is an active studio artist and lecturer in the Department of Communications and Visual Art at University of Michigan-Flint, where she has taught both studio and theory courses for more than twelve years. She earned her BFA and MFA from Central Michigan University and is currently completing her PhD in Interdisciplinary Studies at the Union Institute & University.

*The Divine* (2007). Steel Fencing, Handmade Flax-Abaca Paper. Approx. Life-size.



*A Dream of the Ideal* (2008). Hand-felted Icelandic Sheep Wool. Approx. 28x16x9 inches.



*Fullness* (2008). Hand-felted Icelandic Sheep Wool, Trim. Approx. Life-size.

