

## Forge Form Fabricate

Every fall, the Southern Illinois Metalsmiths Society (SIMS) hosts a **national juried exhibition, at the University Museum**, of student metalwork in conjunction with our annual metalworking conference. By showcasing the work of talented student metalsmiths, we aim to increase dialog between institutions and promote metalsmithing and blacksmithing to the community at large. SIMS is a student-run metalsmithing organization affiliated with the Metalsmithing/Blacksmithing department at the Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

### Eligibility

Current BFA and MFA metalsmiths/blacksmiths are eligible to apply. Questions can be directed to: [sims.siu@gmail.com](mailto:sims.siu@gmail.com)

### The 2018 Juror



**Tobias Birgersson** works as a free Artist with Arts and craft, Design and Art. He has been teaching at University level since 2007 for Konstfack, Ädellab and as an Associate Professor and Senior Lecturer for The University of Gothenburg HDK since 2016. He also is a founding member of [LOD Gallery and Atelier](#). More of his innovative work can be found [here](#).

## Reflection

To work as an official Juror for the 2018 Forge-Form-Fabricate National (US) Exhibition gave me a deeper insight into the upcoming US Metal Art / Craft Field. It is important for me to see and work with similar institutions to my own -HDK-Steneby MetalART and Gallery LOD, to be able to compare and regain the “Outsider Eye” to truly see your own practice.

As the sole Juror I had to pick 25 pieces from all student applications and everything had to be judged by their Photos online without name, age, school or gender. Some of the work was truly great as well as alien to my European palate. The fact that three of my 25 picks would then receive first, second and third place and prize money is also very different to how a similar event would be dealt with in Sweden. Enclosed is only some of the exhibited work, to add everything to this application would be difficult. I am proud to have been chosen for this position and wish all the participants all the best in the future.

### Prize Money

The three best in show will receive awards:

First place: \$150

Second place: \$100

Third Place: \$50

### Application

Applicants may submit up to **two pieces** in total, with a maximum of two images per piece (for a total of four images). Images should be emailed along with this completed form( download entry form [here](#)) to [sims.siu@gmail.com](mailto:sims.siu@gmail.com). Total message size should be less than 25MB, so multiple emails for each submission are permitted. Submitted work must not be for sale.

### Entry Deadline

September 3rd, 2018 11:59 pm MST

### Application Fee

The **\$20.00** application fee must be paid via PayPal to [sims.siu@gmail.com](mailto:sims.siu@gmail.com) at the time of submission in order for work to be considered.

### Questions

Contact Kevin Dotson at [dotsonkevin@gmail.com](mailto:dotsonkevin@gmail.com)



September 26, 2018

# **Public demonstration, lecture and auction highlight SIU's 2018 metalsmithing conference**

by Hannah Erickson

CARBONDALE, Ill. — Home of the only blacksmithing university program in the nation, Southern Illinois University Carbondale students are gearing up to share their unique work with the local community.

The [Southern Illinois Metalsmiths Society](#), a registered student organization, will host their annual conference Sept. 28 – 29, featuring special guest artist Rachel David. The conference includes a live demonstration of metalsmithing practice and a variety of other unique events.

## **Conference showcases a national juried exhibition**

The conference begins with a student metalwork competition, complete with prize money and recognition.

The national juried exhibition is an annual event providing students with an opportunity to dialog between institutions and promote metalsmithing and blacksmithing to the community. This year's juror is Tobias Birgersson, associate professor and senior lecturer for The University of Gothenburg HDK.

The three best pieces from the Form, Forge and Fabricate exhibition will receive awards and will be on display at the University Museum Sept. 24 – Oct. 27. An opening reception will take place Sept. 28 from 4 – 7 p.m.

## **Guest artist to give unique look into how metalsmithing works**



Visiting artist David will present an artist lecture at the University Museum following the opening exhibit reception. David, a designer, blacksmith, fabricator and installer at [Red Metal](#), uses her blacksmithing techniques to express emotions and intentions in iron and steel.

She will also conduct a public demonstration Sept. 29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Pulliam Industrial Wing. This event will provide visitors with an inside look into the work of a blacksmith/metalsmith, while also giving art students a greater understanding of the field.

### **Dinner and auction feature a variety of crafts**

A fine craft auction 5 – 9 p.m. on Sept. 29 will highlight over 100 works in metals, jewelry, prints, ceramics, glass, printmaking, painting, photography and wood. The event will pair with a dinner at [17th St. BBQ](#), located on 32 N. 17th St. in Murphysboro.

Funds raised from this event will go towards keeping student fees low and bringing in visiting artists year round.