Judie Bamber
Graduate Fine Art
Funding dates March 8-30

My department (GFA) has begun a faculty exchange with ENSAPC (Ecole Nationale Superieure d'Art Paris-Cergy) in Paris. Annetta Kapon was the first to do the exchange in the fall of 2015 and I did the second exchange in Spring 2016. I was a Professor-in-Residence at Paris-Cergy for two weeks and stayed a third week because I was able to dovetail with spring break. While there I gave a lecture about my work and my department, as well as doing studio visits with the graduate students.

I was lucky enough to receive a faculty development grant to cover my airfare to and from Paris. Cergy put me up at Cite des Arts in the Marais so I didn’t need to pay for a place to stay.

When not at Clergy I used my time in Paris to read several of the works of the bisexual existential author Violette Leduc, including her little known autobiographical volume of lesbian erotic love *Terèrèse and Isabelle*. I visited Cafe Flore, where Violette Leduc had her first meeting with Simone de Beauvoir, who discovered her. I spent time in as many museums as I could and I was inspired in particular by the Max Ernst collages. The Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature, a natural history museum that invites contemporary artists to make work within the collection, was another exceptional find, as were the Diego Giacometti lamps at the Musée Picasso.

I’m in the process of developing a new body of work that continues my interests in queering representations of the female figure by recuperating them through an erotic re-presentation. My research in Paris will allow me to incorporate this interest into a new project based on *Terèrèse and Isabelle*. I plan to make a series of collages that incorporate photographic images and drawing to illustrate passages from the book. I would also like to make a proposal to The Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature when the project is farther along.

I will share my finds and experiences with my colleagues in Grad Fine Art so that they will be more prepared if they do the faculty exchange. When my collages are finished I will present them to the larger Otis community. I hope to have them published in a reprint of the book.
Diego Giacometti lamps at the Musée Picasso
artist’s interventions at The Musée de la Chasse et de la Nature