WELCOME ADDITIONS

An introduction to new faculty members at Boston College

Sammy Chong, SJ
Assistant Professor of the Practice, Art, Art History and Film Studies
Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences

DEGREES: Tufts University/School of the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), Weston Jesuit School of Theology (STL, MDiv), Massachusetts College of Art (continuing education), Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Bachillerato)

WHAT HE PRACTICES: Drawing, painting, installation. Background in theology and philosophy; his studio practice builds on the notion of individual identity and transcendental meaning in contemporary society.

WHAT HE’S TEACHING: The Art of Portraiture; Making Art through a Spiritual Lens; Painting 1 Foundations; Drawing 1 Foundations.

A recent series of your paintings place the life of St. Ignatius Loyola in the 21st century. How does your Jesuit vocation inspire and influence your artwork? “Because of my Jesuit formation, which entails theological training and personal spiritual growth, I am deeply invested in issues related to humanity’s well-being. This necessarily leads to a consideration of human’s relationship with God, the neighbor, the environment, and the self. My artwork is instinctually driven by these concerns. Far from creating art for art’s sake, my work functions as a catalyst for social examination when it builds bridges where they have been severed or nonexistent.”