October 9 – 31
ULTRA MEGA
Printmaking by Haig Demarjian
Artist Talk – October 16, 12:30 pm
Reception: October 16, 2-4 pm
Gallery Talks: October 2, 23 and 30 – 12:30-1:30 pm
Winfisky Gallery, Ellison Campus Center

Haig Demarjian, professor of art + design at Salem State, works in media ranging from fine art to commercial illustration to motion picture film. This ULTRA MEGA print series is the first time that he has allowed the many disparate aspects of his work to collide.

A main goal of this body of work was to make prints that would be “too big for your phone”. This artwork doesn’t read effectively in reproduction, can’t be seen all at once and can’t comfortably be swiped-and-scrolled through in the routine way that we now digest images. For example, “Are We Not Drawn Onward / The Grand Emanation of the Golden Braid” is a 15-foot long scroll that utilizes more than 30 relief blocks designed as interconnected elements of a sprawling quasi-narrative design. It gathers imagery referencing the artist’s lifelong obsessions and is loaded with metaphors and symbols that unlock a baffling world wavering between grave seriousness and utter absurdity. Also on view will be blacklight-reactive screen prints and giant woodcut comic book pages that, upon closer inspection, have their own surprises to reveal.