



HUNTINGTON ARTS COUNCIL

Brighter lives through art.

ARTISTS CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ANU ANNAM, ROYA JENNER, DR. NICHELLE RIVERS, ROBERT STENZEL, MAYA KAWACHI, GINA MARS, PATTY ELJAIK, MAYA KAWACHI, JAE JQ BRESLOW, ANDREW HORNBERGER, CHRISTOPHE LIMA

SEA OF VISIBILITY: THE VOYAGE
CURATED BY ANU ANNAM

AUGUST 6, 2021
SEPTEMBER 4, 2021

The Last Days of
Blackbeard

Works and Artist Statements



Anu Annam
"Decolonizer"
Marker, 12" x 9"
NFS



Anu Annam
"Radical Optimist"
Marker, 12" x 9"
NFS

BIO(he/she/they): Through subjective intellectual interpretation and unconventional techniques, Anu Annam captures individual mental states, auras, and nuances of personalities in her portraiture, focusing on self-portraiture during times of introspection. She has become nationally and internationally renowned for her ability to capture the emotional essence of her subjects using her impressionistic to semi-abstract style.

Anu Annam, is an award-winning, internationally acclaimed exhibiting artist, art educator, arts administrator, and curator, working in the field for 25 years. They are faculty at numerous institutions and have won multiple teaching grants from the New York State Council on the Arts for their work with at-risk and special needs populations. Annam is the Founder and Executive Director of the arts-based organization, designed to fight stigma against mental illness, SEA of Visibility (SEA = Support Expression through the Arts), and the queer organization, BOPPI (Bisexual, Open, Pansexual, People of the Islands). These organizations provide robust arts programming, including events, exhibitions, and education for marginalized people. Her

Huntington-based Education and Mentorship program, Anu Annam Arts Education has served many members of the Long Island arts community since 2005, inclusive of students with special needs and typically developing, pre-K, K-12, college, and lifelong learners. Her organization is currently contributing free and web-based programming to help the community connect and create during the pandemic.

They are now developing the SEA of Visibility Integrated Arts Education program which will be offering full virtual courses for a variety of fun and creative disciplines starting this Winter/Spring.

Annam has curated exhibitions at the prestigious Queens Museum of Art, the Islip Art Museum, the Cinema Arts Centre, Farmingdale State College, was in-house curator for Campari <Art House> has curated the kick-off exhibition for the 2021 Museum of Contemporary Arts of LI exhibition line-up and the current "SEA of Visibility: Voyage Exhibition" at the Huntington Arts Council. Their programs, exhibitions, and fundraisers have been featured in Newsday, Fios 1, Canvas Magazine, The Hindu, The Week Magazine, and many others.

Anu Annam earned their BA from Tufts University and Boston Museum School in English Literature and Fine Arts. Select solo exhibitions include Le Salon d' Art, New York, NY; Shrishti Art Gallery, Jubilee Hills, India, The New York Open Center, New York, NY, Baruch Performing Arts Center with Chitravina Ravikiran, New York, NY; and a mini-Solo Exhibit at the Islip Art Museum in NY. Annam is on the Advisory Committee of the Patchogue Arts Council/MOCA of LI where they recommend artist and venue matches for their programs amongst other advisory duties.

Annam greatly seeks to aid in the cultural integration of the disabled community, advocating for the inclusivity of physically challenged and neurodiverse people of any race/culture/religion, level of education, class, history of trauma/abuse, gender, and sexual orientation in their daily work. They believe that with kindness, strong social, community, and arts programs, and elimination of discrimination, individuals can be nurtured to thrive as Annam has, through multiple marginalized experiences to lead a meaningful life.

ARTIST STATEMENT: Since childhood, I have been enthralled with comics focused on social justice. The Indian comic "Birbal the Just" was my favorite because he was the champion of fairness. Gaining knowledge through popular culture and illustrated books that a child could read, I realized early, the power of multiple forms of art—storytelling and visual art and especially, the cumulative combination of both. This led me to my current practice and mission: interdisciplinary art. Whether creating comics or bringing together artists with various styles and art forms to inspire each other and create something altogether new, I grow community connections and a greater understanding of the power of art.

In my painting practice, I explore psychology through watercolor, acrylic paint, and collage weaving realistic depictions and abstractions of figures and faces to create an overall image of honest emotion. Eschewing expected facial features, chests and limbs, realistic colors, and conventional positioning, my paintings describe who my subject is, over depicting their appearance. Through these painting techniques and responding to the chemistry of my pigments as much as my subjects, I create psychological studies rooted in my own battle with

mental illness. Psychology, pop culture, science, science-fiction, and fantasy inform my work, guiding my strokes, balancing my mind while I balance my compositions.

These two practices culminate in teaching. Teaching is the discipline of paying it forward--in my case, through art--changing the world, through one person or group of persons at a time, creating a deep, soulful, profound reward.

ARTWORK STATEMENTS: Decolonizer

"Decolonizer" is my illustration from the second day of the Teaching Artist Project Summer Institute. We have been digging deep about the stolen land we live on and other effects of colonization and how we incorporate that into our teaching artistries. As I am currently most comfortable speaking from my own lived experience, I offered the identity I was given* by bullies at my k-12 schools. Gandhi. The activist leader of a bloodless revolution of a country with over a billion people, India, that overthrew the top military superpower of its time—England, through peaceful protests. Even the great American activist leader and thinker, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., referred to Gandhi's philosophy of civil disobedience in the Civil Rights Movement in the US. THAT is the power of collective racism—where an 8th grader in a cushy school can put down a person of Indian descent with what should be a compliment.

When the best of your tribe (even with their own imperfections) can be used as a painful racial slur, it makes the battle seem more hopeless. I defied the ignorance and hatred by embracing the moniker and try to understand the nature of pacifism and peaceful resolutions as much as possible. What I experienced sits deep within me and creating this art helped me unravel my own feelings. Thank you teachers Katie Rainey, Jay Howard, and Adriana Guzman for facilitating this professional development workshop and project, where I get to focus on what and who teaches me.

Radical Optimist

From my "naive" essay on World Peace in Ms. Miller's 12th grade English class to this very day practicing Artivism in my own classroom for once again—World Peace, I'm finally believing being hopeful wasn't silly. We are all comprised of many things, but our "irrational hope" is essential for fighting for fairness in society and for us to go on as individuals. To humiliate optimism is to take away the drive that makes us believe that things can turn out favorably. Of course, we know to stay realistic, but not so much that we are rendered immobile. In my professional development workshop with Teaching Artist Project, I did Katie Rainey's great visual art assignment of a self-portrait combined with words after a full day of speaking with hopeful, highly capable teaching artists. I worked on it a bit afterward too. It's called "Radical Optimism", to honor how difficult it can be to keep our chins up and try, with all that can go on.

These two pieces were heavily influenced by my experience in creating this organization, SEA of Visibility, and this show, "SEA of Visibility: The Voyage". This is especially seen through the colors, words, and the one single, meandering line which each piece was drawing in.



Tiffany Asadourian

Scorned Sea

Acrylic, 35.5" x 35.5" x 1.5" 3 feet

\$650

BIO: I grew up in a small town in Northern California, Arcata in Humboldt County, surrounded by massive redwood trees and lined by the rocky beaches of the Pacific Northwest.

I graduated from Humboldt State University/Hunter College in NYC (an exchange program between the two) with degrees in Art Education and Fine Arts. I was only supposed to be in NYC for 1 semester but love had other plans. I met my now husband the very first week I was in the city and 18 years later I am happily still here!

As life went on, my painting took a backseat to raising our three boys. I tried to squeeze in time to paint but there never seemed to be enough. My father was a very talented artist and his he always said "don't waste your talent". He was my biggest fan and I love him dearly....and then tragedy hit. My healthy 67 year old father collapsed in the bathroom one night and was life-flighted to San Francisco and passed away all in a matter of days. It turned out he had stage 4 Leukemia (which went undiagnosed since he had no symptoms). He died alone with no family present as it was the beginning of the pandemic and hospitals were not allowing any visitors. This was April 2019...the darkest time in my life. Life really does go by quickly and it's your one life to live. So even though life is crazy at times with family, work, and the daily curveballs we all face....I am getting back into painting regularly, creating art that makes me happy and would have made my beautiful father proud.

ARTIST STATEMENT: My artwork typically has a nature theme consisting of birds, flowers, trees...so I guess you can take the girl out the Pacific Northwest but you can't take the Pacific Northwest out of the girl.

I am drawn to natural scapes and water scenes as well as focusing on details (whether it is a self-portrait or the individual fathers of a bird).

WORK STATEMENT: The sudden passing of my father has left a hole in my life. A piece of my heart was burned along with his ashes. I am angry at the world. I am sad for my mother. I feel lost at sea in a sailboat without a compass. I want to scream for him to come back, to guide me.

So much left for him...for us. My colors are dark, my sky is cloudy, my heart is broken. But I know what I must do to honor him, to make him proud. I must never forget, LIVE your one life.

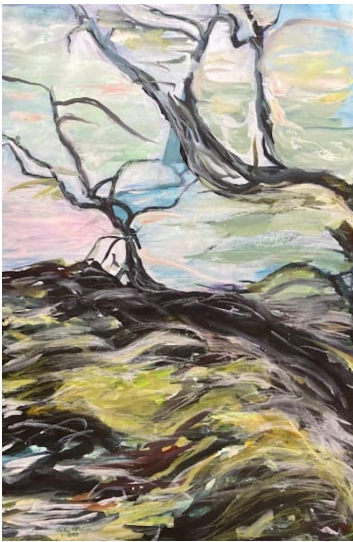


Leila Atkinson

Hope

Mixed Media, 24"x30" (3 feet)

\$700



Leila Atkinson

Rise

Mixed Media, 28"x18.25" (2 feet)

\$450

Biography: Leila Atkinson is an artist who spent her childhood years traveling the Middle East with her family, and then in Paris, France, where she spent her late teens and early twenties getting her French Baccalaureate and a degree in Graphic Design. Since then she moved to New York, where she continued to study and create art while graduating from Adelphi University with an Art Education and Masters of Arts degrees. She has recently retired from a long career as an art teacher and is now working as a full time artist and painter. Leila has been exhibiting her work consistently for many years, both with solo and in group shows. Leila's work has also been shown internationally, and her group of collectors is expanding along with her work.

Artists Statement: Nature is my primary source of inspiration, and its impact on my art is quite powerful. Ultimately, though, the content of my work unfolds from the process itself, and the meaning of a painting is intertwined and often reveals itself to me through the trials and triumphs of techniques and discovery. I start my work from observation, absorbing the visual essence of my subject and what it is about it that moved me, aiming for authenticity within my interpretation. I am drawn by contrast and movement, and by the element of mystery.

Artwork Statement: The year of the pandemic coincided with my retirement, and, I embraced the opportunity to devote more time to creating...The maritime paintings came when I was longing for freedom and escape, from the long physical confinement, and also from any regimented way of creating, looking for change and happier times...from that came the sea paintings...After a while creating different types of works, I came back to my love of trees, albeit with different media, and these trees are some of my newest explorations.



Robyn Bellospirito

"Gold Infinity"

Oil on Canvas, 30" x 24" 2 feet

\$750



Robyn Bellospirito

"Untitled Pastel, May 5th, 2020"

Pastel on Paper, 12" x 9" unframed (slightly larger framed)

\$350

BIO: Robyn Bellospirito has been exhibiting her art for over thirty years in galleries and museums in the New York metropolitan area, around the country, and abroad. Robyn is listed in Who's Who in American Art and Who's Who of American Women and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Art History from LIU Post. She has worked in some of New York's finest museums, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The Frick Collection. For three years (1993-96) Robyn Bellospirito published The Exhibitioner Art Magazine and she curated solo and group art exhibitions at local galleries during that time. In 1995, the artist won a Federal Court case involving the censorship of her art. The judge ruled in favor of the protection of free speech and the case set a precedent in the Eastern District of New York.

Robyn Bellospirito's art has been exhibited at: Guild Hall in East Hampton, NY; The Islip Art Museum in Islip, NY; The Long Island Museum in Stony Brook, NY; Artspace Patchogue in Patchogue, NY; The Huntington Arts Council in Huntington, NY; The Art League of Long Island in Dix Hills, NY; The Lana Santorelli Gallery in Southampton, NY; The Society of Illustrators in New York City; The Watchung Arts Center in Watchung, NJ; The Hillwood Art Museum in Brookville, NY; The Ghost Fleet Gallery in Kitty Hawk, NC; The Foster Freeman Gallery in San Antonio, TX; The U.N. Fourth World Conference in Beijing, China and Moscow, Russia; The Ticknor Gallery at Harvard University in Cambridge, MA; among many others. Her work is in the corporate collection of 1-800-FLOWERS at their headquarters located in Carle Place, NY, and in many

private collections around the country and in Europe. Aside from her art, Robyn is a freelance writer, a tanpura player, dance art performer, tarot card reader, and shamanic practitioner. She resides in Huntington, NY.

ARTIST STATEMENT: There are periods in my life when my art has saved me, or at least helped me to express what could not be expressed in words, providing me with a lifejacket during turbulent times. This has been particularly true during times that I consider "Dark Nights of the Soul", such as recovering from agoraphobia and panic disorder years ago, recovery from childhood trauma, and dealing with ongoing chronic health issues that are often debilitating. Painting has been a powerful form of self-expression for me. When I can't find expression in any other way, art is my way to speak.

WORK STATEMENT – The works I am submitting for this exhibition were created during "Dark Nights of the Soul." "Lady Blue" was a result of sadness caused by pandemic isolation and the loss of loved ones. "Gold Infinity" is about transformation in the midst of loss - three birds at the bottom of the canvas in different stages of being are watched over by something greater - a wise one who has given of one eye in exchange for wisdom. "She is Golden" is a queen, a survivor who is emerging into a new dawn after having been through a dark night. She faces the day with her crown damaged, but her eyes/vision bright and clear. Both "Untitled Pastel - May 5th, 2020" and "Untitled Pastel - April 2nd, 2020" were done at the beginning of the pandemic, when the faces I drew expressed my shock and dumbfoundedness at the enormity of one of our history's greatest tragic events.



Angelo Blanda

Death of a Salesman 2

Acrylic, 14" x 11"

\$600



Angelo Blanda

Death of a Salesman 5

Acrylic, 14" x 11"

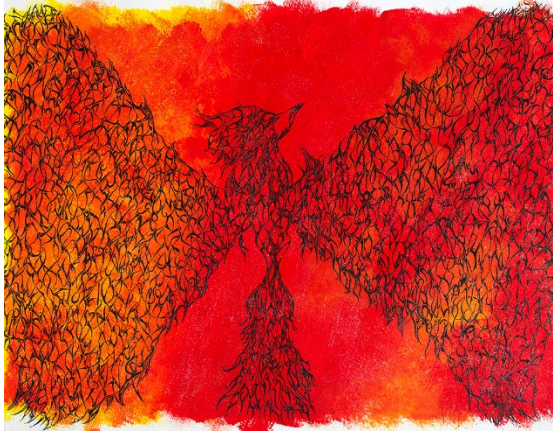
\$600

Artist Statement: The spectre of death haunts the American consumer at all times. Barely able to catch their breath, they work towards perceived security their whole lives. Planned obsolescence perpetuates the cycle of constant need. The Consumer is kept hungry.

The failure of generations, laid to waste, chasing a dream that never quite materialized, never quite good enough, never having arrived.

Ultimately, we sell ourselves, our time, our life. When that has been spent, having sold everything, we then sell our own death. An act of contrition, the final offering, the final bow, the final sale. Insurance claims us all.

As we transcend our earthly body, we transition to commodity, the invisible hand calls us back, finally becoming one with the marketplace.

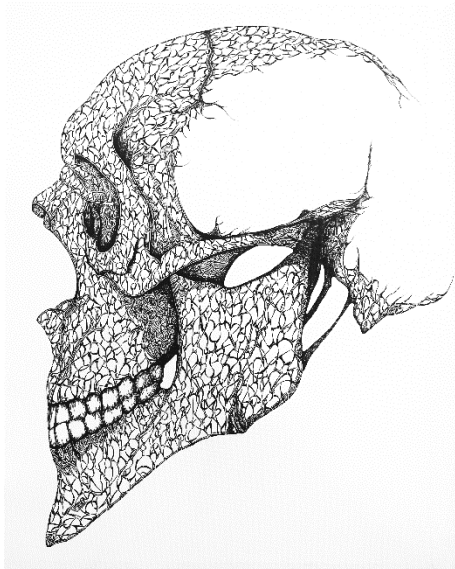


Jae 'JQ' Breslow

Phoenix

Ink over acrylic on paper, 16"x20" w/ frame

\$700



Jae 'JQ' Breslow

Shattered (Human Skull v2)

Ink on canvas, 20"x16" w/ frame

\$700

BIO: During my childhood years I began to realize that my observations of my surrounding environment were often overwhelming. On the most physical/tactile and visual level, where most would see the whole of something, I would see a combined assortment of details, shapes and shades, often much more complex than I could ever convey to another person. As the years passed, I began two major journeys: an atypical process of self-discovery and the onset of mental illness. I was fortunate enough to have a supportive family who emphasized the importance of art as a healthy means of coping. The expression of how my mental illness impacted my life in a safe, bolstered, productive way not only created a therapeutic outlet, but also a window looking inward.

Much of the difficulties faced throughout my youth up to the present day along with what I expect will continue, is expressed in my art beyond the subjects in-and-of-themselves. Each piece's outcome is coherent and identifiable, and yet the way in which they came together could never have been planned. After many years of feedback from family and friends who have seen my visual art style develop over the years, I was encouraged to show my work in a

more public setting. One of my favorite reactions from those who look at my work is that each person sees and perceives something unique in the shapes within the whole – the same way I do and have done all my life; my experience in perception has now become a shared one.

My work has been featured at the Cinema Arts Centre gallery in 2015 and LIC Arts Open at The Factory in 2018.

ARTIST STATEMENT: My both delicately intricate and expansive 2D Micro-sculpture ink drawings are all created freehand. They showcase shapes and forms constructed around negative space. The defining element of the way in which each finished drawing comes together is that each individual shape dictates the next one as it happens; a "living", self-driving sculpture on a two-dimensional plane and one which no two will ever, nor could ever be drawn the same.

WORK STATEMENT: Over each phase of life and its challenges there is imagery many might associate with growth and change. Themes such as metamorphosis and rebirth as well as the core elements of what parts of a person are inherently affected are presented here. I've overcome many obstacles and learned quite a lot about myself and how far I've come despite them. These pieces are a few examples of my depictions in that vein, akin to the way my life has grown, evolved and continues to do so.



John Cino

Tetragram

Wood (sapelle and oak), 10" x 37" x2.5"

\$600



Patty Eljaiek

Garden Party

Beads, wood, paper, glass, leather, 16" chain

\$175



Patty Eljaiek

Wave in Wire

Aluminum ribbon wire and chain, 16" chain

\$150



Sueey Gutierrez

"In Search of Faith"

Acrylic and Pastel on Cold Press Illustration Board, 22" x 32"
with frame 3 feet

\$650



Regina Halliday

Grief

Acrylic, 20" x 16"

\$600

Bio-Regina Halliday is a Long Island visual artist who enjoys painting images of nature. Regina executes her works employing bright, bold colors, expressive brushstrokes in an impressionistic style. She studied under award winning artist, Louise Scutirro and has completed numerous watercolor and acrylic painting courses. Halliday currently exhibits with the Wet Paints Studio Group and The North Shore Art Guild. Halliday's painting, "Rain Song" won her 2nd place in the 2013 Wet Paints Member's Show. "Mosaic" earned her the "People's Choice Award" at the 2019 North Shore Art Guild.

Artist Statement- As a visual artist my goal is to capture the essence and beauty that exists before me. I begin by enhancing elements and use colorful, expressive brushstrokes to form a composition. I work in primarily acrylic paints. Abstractions and features are performed with palette knives and brushes in vigorous layers of vibrant colors. My greatest gift is my curiosity, as it motivates me to learn new mediums, and seek new places in order to welcome the viewer.

Work Statement- Grief comes in waves. I was drowning being tossed by this heavy weight of endless adjustments, countless decisions brought before me. I was the empty canvas, anxious to make the first move: to start over again. I am lost in a world of sadness and emotions that pull me in and out like ocean tides. With a huge piece of my heart missing, I learn to live again. I go along fine until the next wave hits. Kindness and patience are my only tools as I will work my way up to the surface until I can breathe again.



Andrew Hornberger

Sugar Cane (For Richard Cramer)

Oil on Canvas, 24"x48"

\$3,200

Artist Biography: Andrew Hornberger is originally from Doylestown, Pa., and currently resides in Long Beach, NY where he continues his studio art practice. He is a successful middle school art teacher in Park Slope, Brooklyn with over 22 years of experience.

Andrew is the former president of the LBNY-ARTS Council. He has participated in numerous shows in New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia. He is a former adjunct professor at both Briarcliffe College and the Art Institute of Pittsburgh online. His educational background includes a BSED from Clarion University of Pennsylvania, a BFA from Tyler School of Art, summer studies with the Glasgow School of Art, and an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Artist Statement: In my work, I embrace the pure emotional essence of the world. I lean heavily into the past by farming antique imagery for seeds of misdirection and intrigue. The results are haunting and whimsical as well as comforting and ominous. I excite static subjects with charged atmospheres, rippling with the energy of an emotional center. I deep dive into familiar forms as if they were suddenly made unfamiliar, offering a glimpse of how one might have seen the world before judgment.

Work Statement: The mood of my most recent work has taken a darker turn since the pandemic. The recent Covid-19 loss of my mentor and friend has brought a dystopian feel to my work.

To honor my departed friend, I created a posthumous collaborative landscape that combines my aesthetic with his style and jauntiness. Included in the series are works depicting empty mini golf courses, a stadium with dreamlike figures looming over a stadium, and enormous intimidating spaces. All works call attention to spaces that were once so vibrant with life but now, due to the pandemic are rendered abandoned, surreal spaces.



Roya Jenner

KOI

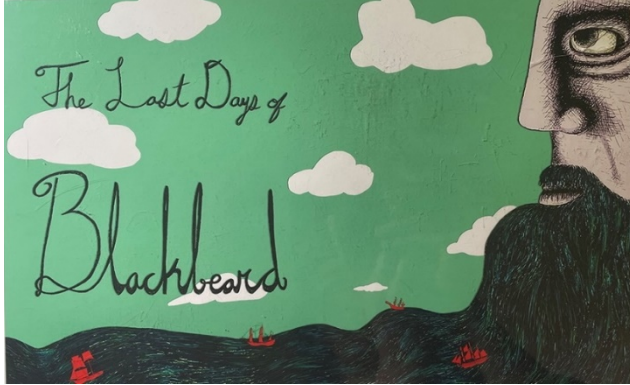
Mixed Media, Two Piece Set, each
20" x16", 40" x36" total

\$950 Two piece set price

BIO: Roya Jenner is an artist from Bayport, New York with a design career spanning over 20 years. Jenner believes single image impact using texture, symbols and icons delivers the most powerful messages of struggle, perseverance and strength. Jenner honed her digital skills at top New York publishing companies and internet marketing agencies. She is passionate about topics such as mental health, racial equality, and LGBTQ+ rights.

ARTIST STATEMENT: In my art, I visualize moments and fill them with peace, love and understanding. Mediums such as bold acrylics, printed words and thick modeling paste allow me to clearly communicate what I'm feeling passionate about. I feel that being an artist means also being open, raw and vulnerable. I create impactful therapeutic art to help others better understand and gain more clarity on topics such as mental health, LGBTQ+, racial equality and other movements. I want my work to serve as a conduit for self-love, forgiveness and as visual therapy.

WORK STATEMENT: My pieces entered in "The Voyage" show reveal my need to seek refuge in nature, especially in water. During the time I painted the two piece set, KOI, I felt the need for calmness. I was extremely stressed and had endured serious family troubles. At that time I was also unknowingly suffering from undiagnosed anxiety & major depression. WAVE is post-diagnosis and reveals a new vibrant sense of self. I finally felt heard, understood and helped. The wave represents inner strength and boldness I didn't know I had within and have never ever felt before.



Maya Kawachi

The Last Days of Blackbeard

Mixed Media, 11.25" x 14.25"

NFS



Maya Kawachi

Twilight on Your Skin

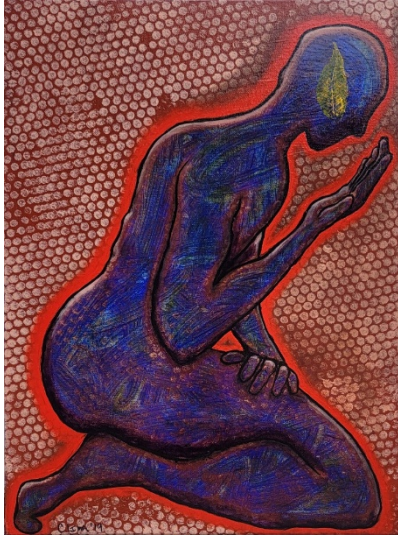
Leather Mask with Wire and Acrylic Paint, 5.75"x7"

\$400

Bio: Maya is a freelance illustrator currently residing in Westchester, New York. They work in traditional mediums such as pen and ink, acrylic paint, and cut paper designs. Kawachi graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design in 2015 with a Bachelors in illustration. They have shown their work at One Art Space in New York City in shows organized by Start Shows. They have also exhibited in South Salem, Long Island, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Savannah, Georgia.

Artist statement: Maya Kawachi received a Bachelor of Fine Art in Illustration from Savannah College of Art and Design in 2015. They work in traditional and non traditional media with materials which can include shaving cream, salt, and leather. Inspired by music, nature, and dance Maya's multimedia art is created using ink and watercolor, as well as pencil, pen, acrylics, gouache, etc. Kawachi sees art as its own living thing that grows alongside the creatures who participate in and nourish it. Kawachi has been traversing the challenging terrain, creating paper cut out art. Their artwork has been shown at Positive Space Art Show, the Halloween in January Art Show, South Salem Art Show, Otherworldly Art Exhibit, The New 20's Art Show, Born This Way Mosaic 2020, and Art is the Cure Art Exhibit amongst others. Their other interests include dance, hiking, zombie movies, and cats. See more of Kawachi's art at their Instagram, Kawachi_illustrations.

Work Statement: The pieces presented here were created either as reminders of places I've been or journeys of exploration I've taken in art and of myself. Concrete Jungle Dreamin is for my early childhood living in New York City, Sunset in Savannah is for the years I spent in Savannah, Georgia, Twilight on Your Skin and Ocean Eyes were both experiments with mask making, and The Human Within was created when I was starting to explore my gender identity and being gender fluid. The Last Days of Blackbeard was an editorial illustration where we delved into what illustration can be more.



Christophe Lima

"Frank"

Mixed Media, 24"x18"

\$350

BIO: Christophe Lima was born in Queens, New York in 1983 to the poet Frank Lima and social worker Roberta. Following her parents divorce she began to draw as a means of expressing what were complicated emotions for a child. She was diagnosed with Clinical Depression at 14. Within a year of the diagnosis Christophe began to study art, with the urging of her mother, through The Art School at Jerry's Artorama in Bellrose, NY. She found art to be a soothing quest for self and validation. At 16 she decided to pursue it more seriously. Christophe enrolled at The Fashion Institute of Technology where she earned her BFA with Honors in 2006. Communicating emotions through art is still the driving characteristic of her artwork.

To date, Christophe has been included in numerous group shows in the New York and Long Island Area, including through the Museum of Contemporary Art Long Island and A.I.R. Gallery in Brooklyn. She has completed a year long Residency at The Art League of Long Island (2019-2020). She is now the Visual Arts Studio Supervisor through Support Expression through the Arts (SEA) of Visibility, a grassroots effort that advocates for introspection, compassion and visibility through the creation and sharing of visual and performing arts. Christophe has also created Long Island's first open critique group through her affiliation with The Patchogue Arts Council.

Christophe is currently teaching, living, and creating her own visual language in Central Long Island.

STATEMENT: I explore the unconscious psyche using Carl Jung's shadow theory. I investigate identity, humanity, femininity, and my inner surroundings. My work is always honest, authentic and emotionally driven. I understand that to live fully, to be full, we must gaze intensely inwards.

WORK STATEMENT: "Frank" is an homage to my late fathers spirit. Grief is an ongoing voyage that I have been on. It has been incredibly therapeutic to have created this work, using my own set of visual metaphors, that describes my fathers spirit on his own voyage through nature and the universe.



Gina Mars
Agate Vessel
Clay, stone, 6" x 11"
\$160



Gina Mars
Linear box form
Clay, 14" x 9" x 5"
\$250



Gina Mars
Pagoda Vessel
Clay, 6" x 14"
\$325

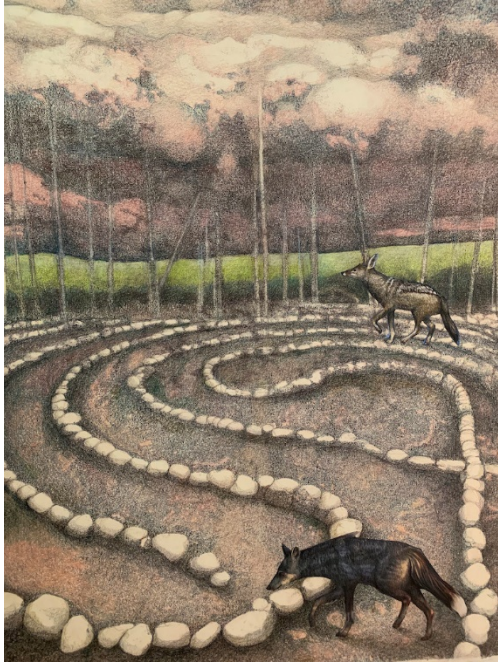
Gina Mars is a Huntington New York artist for 30 years. Originally Gina Studied History and became a Social Studies teacher. As time went on it became obvious that art was something that she tried to suppress. Ultimately she became an art teacher as well as a social studies teacher and specialized in students with special needs. As a child Gina had difficulties learning certain subjects like math and science, she always felt that people learn in different ways and wanted to make a difference teaching her students. No matter what it takes or how long, she

would do what it takes to create a successful learning environment for her students. Currently Gina teaches students from 5 to 95, students who have been with her for decades, to new students excited to learn something new to special needs students. The most incredible scene is watching people create in my studio daily and know that they all have a story of their own and may or may not have a disability but somehow work in total harmony. If only the rest of the world was like that.

Gina has shown her work all over the world from her home town, to the far corners of the world. Clay will always be a part of her life.

My work is a combination of wheel work , sculpture and hand built forms. Most everything is created with clay, sometimes I add found objects like stone and fiber to my work bringing a more personal touch to a piece. The addition of horse hair or a memento from someone or somewhere. I enjoy the challenge of mixing different clay bodies such as porcelain, colored clay and stoneware. Glazing is very important to my work. Color is vital to my work. Originally I started out as a raku artist. An ancient asian form of firing pottery to 2000 degrees and then removing the pieces from a hot kiln. Then they are put into a pit in the ground and set on fire. At this point the fire is raging from newspaper stoking the piece and then covered with a can. The smoke interacts with the piece and creates stunning colors and crackles. After I became well known for this technique, I started to create glazes that were unique in color and fired in a gas kiln. Currently I am combining all my techniques into my wheel work and sculptures. Working with clay never gets boring , there is always something to learn.

Current work: The pieces in this show represent some sort of vessel. They are different shapes, some wheel thrown and some built with slabs of clay. They are designed to hold something of importance. Possibly jewels, favorite foods, love notes, or your feelings. As life goes on, we all have something that has happened to us over the last year with the pandemic and other personal things that have happened . Sometimes I create a box to house feelings. The space in my vessels is powerful and the outside is a thing of beauty.



Margaret Minardi

Lost

colored pencil, 30" x 22" without frame

\$900

Biography: I am an international award winning artist who has been published in magazines such as Artist Magazine. I have shown my work in more than 100 solo, group and juried exhibitions in the past few years.

I have been making art for 45 years. I have explored many mediums and created many a series.

Currently my pieces are photorealistic.

I do not have a traditional studio. I work on tables or on the ground wherever I am, sometimes lugging 5 foot canvases around during my day. I am an obsessive artist, rarely looking up into the real world. My series have focused on subjects such as infertility, adoption, identical twins, my upbringing in Trinidad and bi-polar disease. Most of the time I work in a stream of consciousness, not knowing what a series is about until I am most of the way through it.

Many times I do not know what a work is about until it is complete. I work in a stream of consciousness. This is the case in my work Lost. Lost is a colored pencil piece that is layered over several digital monotypes. This technique creates a highly textural surface that looks somewhat like a lithograph. I discovered this technique many years ago when I printed onto a laminated surface and then pressed the wet image off onto hot press Stonehenge paper. During the pandemic I have felt lost. I missed seeing people and felt jailed in my home. I wandered aimlessly and even had a problem making art for the first time in my life. Lost is a good visual example of my feelings. The pandemic was for me a depressing listless voyage.



Loretta Oberheim

The Ambulance

Mixed Medium, 21.5" x 21.5" framed

\$350

BIO: Long Island, NY artist, Loretta Oberheim, has utilized art to express her emotions throughout her life. Her passion began at a young age, and she followed her love to the Fashion Institute of Technology, where she graduated with a B.F.A. in Textile/Surface design in 2006. She began working in the high-end floorcovering sector of the interior design industry. Some of Loretta's designs graced the pages of such prominent publications as Vogue, Architectural Digest, Interior Design, and LUXE. In August of 2013, a life altering event occurred, which left Loretta with permanent brain damage, along with other permanent neurological challenges. That split-second moment took art out of her life. Finally, in December 2018, her ability to create returned, but in a new form she had never explored before.

Loretta's pieces have been on exhibit in galleries in NYC and Long Island. She's also been featured on TLC's hit show "Unpolished" for her creative "Heart" sculptures. She's created custom commissions for private residences and businesses across the United States. However, the one thing keeps her going is working as a Traumatic Brain Injury Advocate to help people understand some disabilities are unable to be seen.

To learn more about Loretta and the work she creates, please visit www.lorettaoberheimart.com.

ARTIST STATEMENT: As someone who lives with a Traumatic Brain Injury, words are sometimes extremely difficult to find. Yet I can express my exact thoughts and emotions in what I chose to create. This is probably why I do not stick to one specific medium, as my brain is constantly spinning, along with my emotions.

Art is not just something beautiful for me to make. It has become a healing form of communication between me and the viewer.

My "disability" has become my muse, which has allowed for this ever-evolving style of contemporary abstract expressionism I never knew I could embrace.



Mark Propper
"Abandon"
Acrylic on Canvas, 40"x30"
\$800



Dr. Nichelle Rivers
My Love Series II
Acrylic, 36" x 36"
\$850



Dr. Nichelle Rivers
My Love Series V
Acrylic, 24" x 25"
\$700



Devlin Starr

Beacon of Hope

Oil on Canvas, 36" x 36"

NFS

The figure depicted on the left is representative of myself from the past, ready to give up, not able to see what is ahead of me and my future. The figure depicted on the right is representative of me in the future visiting my past self, reaching out, guiding me toward the light.

The colors on the left side of the painting are much darker which is representative of the place that I was in; while the colors on the right side represent the "Beacon of Hope". The light that is ahead of me. The light that is ahead of all of us.- Devlin Starr



Robert Stenzel

The Hydra

Mixed Media, 34"x12"

\$1800



Robert Stenzel

Mansion of the Mind

Assemblage, 19" x 24" x 14"

\$3000

Robert Stenzel

The Witch's House

Stop Motion Animation

NFS

Biography: To be a "Jack of many trades and a master of none.", is not necessarily a drawback as an artist. Robert Stenzel is a mixed media artist and fiber artist currently residing in Lake Ronkonkoma New York. With both an academic background in Fine Arts, and a lifetime of experience learning and working across various trades, he has curated a varied skill set to utilize in his creative process. Inspired by nighty dreamscapes and personal love and loss, Robert pushes experimental techniques and explores new uses for found materials and traditional crafts.

Robert started his art training in New York but ran off to California to join the circus. While pursuing a degree in Studio Arts from Humboldt State he kept himself busy making costumes for local theaters and festivals. Returning to Long Island, much of his work is still created with a

sewing machine, creating the scenes he sees in his sleep with fabric and thread. He also enjoys painting and is exploring new avenues of expression through stop motion animation.

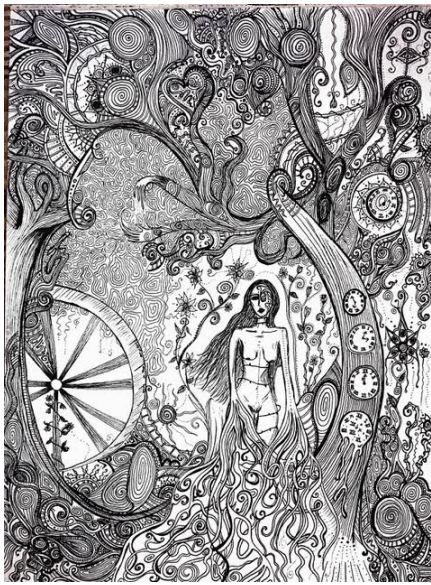
Artist Statement: Where do you go when you sleep? Who do you visit? What do they tell you? Dream interpretation is an inexact science, and when we awake after a lucid experience we seek answers to the questions raised in our slumber.

My work emerges from these dreamscapes and involves deep exploration of my trauma, grief, and loss. I use traditional fiber art techniques intended for home and hobby, and push the limits of those mediums to create fine art. Stirring these images out of my subconscious is my shadow work, transmuting those darker feelings to evoke positive emotions in the viewer.

Works Statement: Much of my work revolves around the subconscious exploration that we do in our dream space. We often use this time "asleep" to process the goings on of our day to day, and how they are affecting us on a deeper spiritual level. This body of work journeys into that world, addressing our shadow sides, ascension between life and death, and the dwelling spaces we build for ourselves in our minds.



Chloe Wheeler
Protection
Paint Marker, 12" x 9"
\$40



Chloe Wheeler
Reflection
Pen and Paper, 12" x 9"
\$150



Chloe Wheeler
Wicked Wheel of Time
Pen and Paper, 12"x9"
\$150

Bio: Chloe Wheeler is an artist, writer, and musician from Huntington, New York. She is currently studying and residing in San Marcos, Texas. She began drawing at a very young age, taking free art classes at Huntington Public Library and doodling instead of doing her homework. Since then, she has dedicated her life to creating art, experimenting with various mediums and art forms, including film, playwriting and theater, music, and photography.

Artist Statement: My work is created in a very organic, subconscious manner. I have an insatiable urge, a need to create, using any materials I can get my hands on. The work I create is seldom planned out or tinkered with prior to beginning the final piece. It is a direct expression of whatever is occurring below the surface; my primary means of understanding and conversing with myself and my thoughts. The start of each piece begins with blank paper and a complex emotion, and I let myself surrender to the art. It is both chaotic and simple, and representative of the duality of all things.

Work Statement: The works submitted are all recent pieces that have been inspired by a transitional period in my life. The black and white pieces are drawings that are both whimsical and intense, and provide insight into my headspace at the times of their creation. The swirls, nude figures, and surreal landscapes merge reality with fantasy. The pieces involving more color and experimentation with other mediums, including pastel and paint, represent an increase in hope and tangibility. The lovers symbolize hope, closeness, and longing. The primary emotions in all of the work submitted is longing, liberation, and coping with absurdity.