HUNTINGTON ARTS COUNCIL
Brighter lives through art.

Paradoxical Paradigms
February 5 - March 13, 2021
Juried Exhibition
Juror, Kristin Cuomo

Works and Artists Statements
Shain Bard

Falling and Rising

Oil on Canvas, 48” x 36”

$1950.00
Bio: Darlene is a Mixed Media Artist/visual artist and educator living in Wantagh, New York. She studied Graphic Design at the School of Visual Arts in NYC. As an artist she has been focusing on getting her artwork into galleries and exhibitions and has been invited to show her work in a multitude of juried and some non-juried exhibits all over the United States. She currently teaches High School Visual Arts in Kings Park, NY.

She started creating her Mixed Media Paintings in 2018. Darluv’s artistic style is a combination of the real and the imagined. A collage of iconography, silhouettes and symbolism combined with acrylic paint, found objects, watercolor paint and neo-pastels. By building layers of materials from opaque to translucent to transparent she creates depth and texture in her mixed media works of art.

They coalesce into portraits that have a new abstract identity. She references biblical themes, pop culture and history. It is the artist’s personal view of social and cultural issues. Through subjective interpretation and unconventional techniques, she captures their individual personalities. Each piece has a variety of processes and materials and eclectic techniques with different themes while the methodology is consistent.

Artist's Statement: The painting that was selected is named WOMEGA. It is Mixed Media Painting with a variety of collaged iconography, acrylic paint, watercolor paint, and neo-pastels. The Omega female has the ability to understand people's emotions and viewpoints. She is the trustworthy one. The one who people go to for advice. I always like to hear the viewers thoughts on this painting. I have heard such interesting interpretations about women's rights, the last judgement, and references to 9-11. Some ideas are real, some are contradictory. All are valid and valued critiques. The dichotomy of the concept with the interpretations is what makes this painting interesting. Is God a Woman? Is this possible? What is your interpretation?
Zintis Buzermanis

*Greenery*

Digital Pigment Print, 24” x 30”

$400.00

Bio: Zintis Buzermanis studied art, design and photography at the Pratt Institute and has served as visual consultant and art director to several global brands throughout his design career. He is a lifelong resident of Long Island and is drawn to the visual scenarios that are present in our daily experience.

Artist Statement: “Greenery” is part of a series that observes the evolving contemporary landscape of Long Island – the interaction of the man-made world with the natural one, examining the visual dialogue that occurs in their often uneasy coexistence. Development practice on much of Long Island has been to completely remove the natural landscape and then to introduce decorative plantings into the newly fabricated environment to suit our aesthetic sensibilities.
Irene Clark

Quantum Entanglement #35

Oil on Prepared Canvas, 12” x 27”

$800.00
Doris Diamond

*Inside Out*
Photograph, 18” x 14”
$145.00

Doris Diamond

*Waiting Till Next Year*
Photograph, 18” x 14”
$135.00

Bio: Through the years, the beauty of our planet called to Doris and photography became the agent for her to both experience and share what she saw. After retiring from teaching elementary school for 33 years, she began voraciously studying photography through many venues including the Osher Lifetime Learning Institute (OLLI) at Stony Brook University, many photography workshops, and online classes and webinars.

In 2016, Schiffer Publications published her collection of 40 photographic art cards. Based on the natural world, each image contains two or three photographs to form something completely new and unique. She called it Gaia’s Vision Oracle Cards and worked with an author to create a book about the cards. Several of her photographs have been chosen to appear in the magazine “Living the Photo Artistic Life.”
Her work has been exhibited at the BAFFA Gallery in Sayville, Art on Terry, Islip Art Museum, The National Association of Women Artists Gallery in NYC, the Salmagundi Gallery in Manhattan, The Art Guild in Roslyn, Bayard Cutting Arboretum, Huntington Arts Council Gallery, The Smithtown Library, the Patchogue-Medford Library, and the Bayport-Blue Point Library. Doris also debuted a one-person show entitled “In Our Hands: Everyday Sacred” in Stony Brook focusing on her environmental multicultural portraits.

Artist statement:

Inside Out - One step out on a balcony in the Barcelona Opera House and I was enraptured by the patterns of the glass windows, atrium, restaurant, cafe, and buildings nearby. The camera did its magic and the piece “Inside Out” was born.

Waiting Til Spring - End of summer at West Meadow Beach in Setuaket, the lifeguards were almost done for the season and the lifeguard stand had been put on its side for safety issues. With some regret, I realized that the wait would be a long one and captured this empty beach shot.
Bio: As a retired art teacher, more recently from South Huntington School District, I taught all grades from K-12 over the course 26 years. My artwork has been displayed in various locations on Long Island and New York City.

Artists Statement: The Beatles have “painted” the landscape of music in my generation. Paint brushes were chosen to symbolize that premise and illustrates my endeavors as an artist. Their images on the paint brush were illustrated with acrylic paint and fun fur.
My name is Samantha Dring and I am a tenth grader at Manhasset High School in the two year AP art program. In addition to art, I also love to swim, travel and spend time outdoors. I was diagnosed with scoliosis in January 2020 and my curve worsened quickly and required me to have spine surgery. I had 2 rods and 18 screws placed in my spine in June of 2020. Despite a very difficult summer, I am happy to say that I am fully recovered and I have learned many valuable life lessons about hard work, patience, and keeping a positive attitude as a result of my experience. I feel fortunate to be able to express myself and my feelings through my artwork. This piece is done in colored pencils on a 13.5 inch x 15 inch white canvas and symbolizes the transformation that occurred in my spine and spirit. After my surgery, I felt relieved and saw the beauty of life after my recovery. I am grateful to my doctors, family and friends who helped me through this process.
Bio: Terry Finch is a New York artist who, after decades of viewing modern and contemporary art at museums around the world, six years ago decided to dip her brush in the paint box and signed up for a course at the Art Student’s League in New York City.

She grew up in the Southwest where the shapes and colors of the canyons, mountains, mesas, and deserts of Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico are deeply etched in her right brain. Her mountains, desert skies, and canyons are depicted as colorful geometric shapes that speak to nature’s magnificence and its powerful impact on the Southwest.

Terry believes that every successful painting is a collaboration between the artist and the canvas. While the artist initiates the work, at some point the media and the canvas become actively involved in the evolution of a painting that is often quite different from what she initially envisioned.

Artist Statement: "Keep Out" is a response to the U.S. government's attempts to eradicate the buffalo from their natural habitats. From the 1880s to the 21st century, that "home on the range, where the buffalo roam" has been greatly reduced and compromised by industrialization. The smoke stacks are just one symbol of that industrialization. The small circle within a larger circle is a symbol of "hope" in the Lakota nation. The broken circles represent the broken promises, by the U.S. government, to preserve the buffalo's natural habitat.
Jan Guarino

*Divinity in the Rough*

Watercolor, 16” x 20”
Bio: Heather Heckel is an artist and educator living and teaching on Long Island. Her artwork is in several national permanent collections, and has been shown internationally. She is passionate about traveling during the summer, and to date has been awarded 12 artist residencies through the National Park Service, each in a different state. She is currently in her eighth year of teaching public school Art.

Heckel’s medium of choice is oil paint and colored pencils, with a fondness for representative art including portraits, still lifes, and landscapes. She strives to capture a likeness while
demonstrating her emotional connection with her subjects. She is a member of the Society of Illustrators, The Art Guild of Port Washington, and the National Art Education Association.

Artist Statement: These two colored pencil drawings were created during my visiting artist residency at Great Smoky Mountains National Park during the Summer of 2020. This residency was unique because it occurred during a pandemic. I was fortunate to be able to drive to Great Smoky Mountains National Park to collect photo reference, and then draw and paint from my studio in New York. The drawings each feature an animal, an insect, a manmade structure, and a plant found in the park. The circular background and varied orientations represent the cohesive and continued interactions between these elements.
Bio: I am Molly Hon and I am a junior at Manhasset High school. I love making art both in and out of school. For the past year, I have taught art to young children. My other hobbies besides art include baking and running. “Beneath the Star Lit Sky” is a scratch board piece representing the Beauty of the night along with the monsters that lurk in the shadows. I drew my inspiration for this piece from my love of the view of New York City at night, but also from my fear of the night.
Adam Kane Macchia

Spring in the Office Park #2

Inkjet Print, 25” x 27”

$300.00
Kate Kelly
_Eavesdropping on a Delicate Conversation_
Digital Painting, 21” x 21”
$335.00

Julianna Kirk
_Crone's Apprentice_
Fused Glass, 12” x 12”
$500.00
Leslie LaGuardia

*Paradox > Genius or Insanity*

Photoshop, 17.25” x 21.75”

$450.00
Statement: In painting Rembrandt’s Bathsheba: The Hellscape Abloom, I purged a demon in a single sitting with the materials I had on hand: some old tubes of acrylic and oil paint, some torn pages of a 1950’s Rembrandt art book my toddler had destroyed, spiritual enhancements of mood and music—and a subconscious laden with timely insecurities: body, motherhood, femininity, sex.

In the Biblical story of Bathsheba, King David spies a bathing beauty on a rooftop and desires her, summoning her with a demand letter informing her he’s just sent her husband off to war so they can be together. In Rembrandt’s Baroque masterpiece, Bathsheba at Her Bath (1654), it’s widely agreed that Bathsheba is lovingly depicted as despondent, deeply disturbed, saddened, and/or resigned by Kind David’s letter.

When I first saw Rembrandt’s masterpiece hanging in the Louvre many years ago, and again in our vintage art book, I was not familiar with it, nor the biblical story it was based on. In blissful ignorance, I read this alluring, sensual woman as contemplative. Torn. Conflicted. Excited, but terrified. Perhaps even horrified. But also... Alight with possibility.

Abloom, in a hellscapes. Conflicts in emotion make sense to me. Paradox’s make sense to me. Even when faced with such a profound paradigm shift as Bathsheba’s: you can hold two feelings in your heart at once.
Mary McGrane

*Waterfall - Gently Flowing - Suspended in Time*

Photograph on Canvas, 12” x 16”

$150.00

Bio: Mary McGrane – published author, poet, photography enthusiast and artist, began serious photography in 2015 after appearing on National Geographic’s “Rescue Ink Unleashed” in the Episode “Street Rules” for her role in animal rescue – dedicating her photographs to animal life to honor abused animals. Then evolved to nature scenes, and now explorations in light, and life in the current times. Mary creates and resides in the Huntington area.

Artists Statement: Waterfall – Gently Flowing – Suspended in Time; This piece is from 15 years at this waterfall, trying to understand and celebrate the nature of water – its moods, light and dark, seasons, droughts with stillness, spring thaw fury, frozen icicles hiking there in 25 degree weather, the miracle of sunlight filtering through the trees. In this photograph from July 2017, the water drew me in, the camera focused on the crystalline quality of the water, seeking to merge with its beauty and pristine nature, after sitting at the waterfall for 5 or 6 hours.
Bio: Meagan J. Meehan is a published author, poet, cartoonist, and produced playwright. A freelance journalist, she pens columns for HVY, Blasting News, Kidskintha Blog, Entertainment Vine and more. She is also a stop-motion animator and an award-winning abstract artist. Meagan holds a Bachelors in English Literature from New York Institute of Technology (NYIT), a Masters in Communication from Marist College, and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Curriculum, Instruction and the Science of Learning at University at Buffalo (SUNY). She is an animal advocate and a fledgling toy, game, and shoe designer. A curator and art teacher as well as an artist, Meagan serves on the board of directors of Westbury Arts. She is the founder of the “Conscious Perceptualism” art style.

Artists Statement: Dance of the Treasure Chest is a multi-dimensional piece is a celebration of joy, life, and the complexities and absurdities of existence. An ode to coincidence, adventure, and circumstance, this piece playfully symbolizes the never-ending saga that is life.

I am an abstract artist whose work is bright and colorful. My work aims to combat the darkness and negativity in the world by showcasing cheerfulness, playfulness, creativity and imagination. If someone looks at my art and smiles then it has fulfilled its purpose. My work is three-dimensional, formed of many found objects, and celebrates the beauty of recycling. Moreover, I am the founder of the "Conscious Perceptualism" artistic practice which prompts viewers to look at my art from 360-degree angles. There is no left, right, up or down--every individual can choose the direction from which they find my work most pleasing to look upon.
Bio: High school junior, 16 years old, Passionate dancer and artist

Statement: I remember tilting my small head upwards to see his face smiling down at me as he held my toddler sized hand, and truly believing I would never meet a man more special than my father. Today, I no longer have to strain my neck to meet his eyes, but the latter maintains all of its veracity. Trailing behind him in the hospital halls, wide-eyed and curious, I was amazed with the life he had made for himself. The halls may be more familiar, and I may appear quite different in the glass frames which rest atop his desk, but my amazement has yet to fade. Watching him pour his heart and soul into his work, not only as a neurologist, but as person who genuinely wants nothing more than to help this world has molded me into the person I am today. I want nothing more than to one day become a person as inherently good as him. In my life time, I have been both touched and inspired by many things. However, I have never quite admired anything the way I have always admired my father’s abounding compassion and his measureless mind.
John Michaels

No Bones About It

Digital Photography, 20” x 24”

$225.00
Bio: Eric Murphy is a Long Island resident and has a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history and criticism from Stony Brook University. Having studied the history of art of Europe, he has expanded into creating art as well. Eric often finds inspiration for his work while falling asleep and recording the dreams he has using a variety of mediums, writhing entanglements and monsters project an extension of his sub consciousness. Eric Has shown work across Long Island and currently installs art for various galleries and museums.

Artist Statement: In this series I explore the surface of my paper with a pencil and without an expectation of which forms or shapes will unfurl from my hand. Depending on my mood I may have more tangles and tumors, or more smooth and sweeping sinew. Each drawing depicts a self-contained, impossible to exist, and yet recognizable as biologic, “tumor” extracted from my mind. Each drawing is named after a medical term or complication that starts with the letter “T” in this “Tangled” series.
Bio: In 1985, I built a darkroom in which to develop black-and-white film and, hopefully, create works of fine art. Digital photography ascended in popularity in the mid-1990s but I still found analog photography to be motivating and continue the process to this day.

Since encouraged to show my work in 2015, I have had 28 photos displayed in galleries from Vermont to Arizona. I was part of a three-artist exhibit comparing different ways of taking and processing photos at the Huntington Arts Council in 2017. One of my proudest moments arrived recently when two of my pieces were selected for the Long Island Biennial 2020 at the Heckscher Museum of Art. My work and more information on my craft can be found at https://howiepohl.wixsite.com/pohlphotos.

Artist Statement: Big Tree Little House was photographed on Route 48 in Southold, New York. I was struck by the dramatic proportions of the tree dwarfing a small house that had seen better days. As with all my photographs, the scene was captured on black and white film and printed in my home darkroom of 35 years. I am saddened when I pass by the scene nowadays as the house has been expanded and updated and moved along the main route and the tree is gone.
Bio: Completed his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from FIT, State University of New York. Post-graduation, he started his artistic career while continuing studies in digital media at SVA, New York. He has developed an expertise in conventional and digital drafting. His works have been shown in Gladys Marcus Gallery, Chelsea, NY. NAC Gallery, Gramercy Park South, NY. National Art Guild, The Society of illustrators Gallery, NY. The Art Guild Port Washington, Gold cost art center etc.. He won award from the National Arts Club Gramercy Park south NYC and won an award from directory of illustration competition.

He works full time from his studio in Glen Oaks. The creative diversity of his art life and professional experience has given him a versatile and perhaps unconventional perspective on the world of fine art. His areas of creations are in Fine Art painting, Illustration, Digital Images and Graphics,

ARTIST STATEMENT: The painting depicts the journey in pursuing one's destiny.

A beacon of light radiates from a visible, yet distant light house making the path to the shore appear calm and serene. The destiny appears clearly within reach yet unexpected challenges thwart the momentum to move forward - responsibilities, obligations bound by love, feelings of insecurity, fear of non-acceptance or even success.

Sometimes we are not consciously aware of obstructions leaving us caught in a mirage and motionless in a sea of possibilities. Our vision can be clouded as we grapple with doubts by what society deems acceptable. Searching for a perspective is complicated; abandoning baggage makes change uncomfortable. Willingness to change your dispositions and understand them makes it hard.

A bird cage made out of rope can’t hold a ship. A cage made out of rope can't stop a kingfisher from catching his meal. The kingfisher knows he must fulfill his purpose by catching fish, but
isolation can paralyze—even when one knows what he must do, a mental block presents a challenge.

Similarly, the creative mind aims to explore the unknowns, to test the waters, to create; but fears based on insecurity and possible rejection bind the soul and stifle creative flow often obscuring one’s personal truth. The truth is always challenged by the instinct. The paradox of the journey is not what lies ahead or what existed in the past, rather it is about what is current in our own state of mind.

Truth is only true when it is disguised as a paradox.
Bio: As a life-long resident of Farmingdale, New York, I started dabbling in art as a teenager. I received my AAS degree from Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City and went on to receive my BA degree from CW Post in Brookville, NY.

I had stopped painting for quite some time, but upon returning home from a business trip to Jaipur, India in 2008, where I attended the wedding of the son of one of our business associates, I was inspired to start painting again, and tried to capture, in my artwork, the awesome explosion of color which I was exposed to at this unforgettable affair. The beauty and splendor of it all was amazing. The garb of the bride and groom, their entourage and guests were just incredible, and the ambience was so majestic. It was a turning point in my life as an artist.

Over the years, my individual art style has evolved into a style which is uniquely my own. I try to keep an uplifting theme ongoing in my artwork. When someone looks at my artwork and can say, "This painting makes me feel good", I'm happy.

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My continuous artistic journey will always be painting with inspiration and imagination.
Artist Statement: In Memory, 1976, I’ve illustrated the time when my brother and I, perched on top of my father’s old yellow station wagon, watched a Japanese monster movie at the local drive-in theatre. Memories are malleable things and as I painted this piece I wondered how inaccurate the image in my mind became over the years. Five year olds can firmly believe that a titanic battle between giant monsters is happening before their very eyes. To a child, even a cheap, terrible movie with men fighting in silly rubber suits can be viscerally real. I suspect that if I could go back to 1976 and revisit that scene that still seems so concrete in my mind, it would be something altogether different.
Meryl Shapiro

*Still Life with Crone, Incense and Ancient Roman Glass*

Print and paint on paper, 13” x 9.75”

$500.00
James Slezak

Matrix Revival

Digital photo composition, 16” x 23”

$400.00

Bio: I began digital photography seriously in 2010. I have no formal training in art or photography.

My images have been in shows at East End Arts, Art League of Long Island, Suffolk County Historical Museum, Remsenburg Academy, Guild Hall, Long Island Photo Gallery, Maryland Federation of Art, Southampton Town Hall, The White Room Gallery, Alex Ferrone Gallery, Hamptons Art Hub, Peconic Ballet Theatre, Gallery North, The Art Guild, Water Mill Museum, Southampton Cultural Center and Heckscher Museum of Art

I have had solo shows at Jason’s Vineyard, Riverhead Library, Mattituck-Laurel Library, Hampton Bays Library, Rogers Memorial Library in Southampton Westhampton Library. I was one of three artists in a show at Dodds & Eder in Sag Harbor.


I am a member of East End Photographers Group and 30 Squared. I am a member of the Board of Directors for Southampton Artists Association.

Artist Statement: When I looked at the photo of the ocean at Ponquogue Beach I decided it might have more “pop” if I added one of the structures I had recently created in PhotoShop. I had earlier filled in the cells of the matrix with colors based on going round a color wheel. A matrix such as this is not going to appear at the beach on its own but I had great fun creating this juxtaposition of unrelated objects. I like the contrast between the flowing curves of the ocean and the rectilinear lines of the matrix. I very much enjoy this space between representational and abstract.
Nicholas Striga

*Tables are Turned*

Digital C-Print, 18” x 24”

$350.00

Statement: This illustration shows how things in life can turn around. What we consider normal one day can very quickly change. The world can turn upside down rapidly.

Bio: I am an Art Director with over 27 years of experience in advertising and freelance work. A BFA graduate of the School of Visual Arts, I was a VP Creative Director at one of the top NY Ad agencies. During my career I have received numerous awards, including a Clio, Cannes Film Festival, NY Film Festival, Art Directors Show, Addy, Print Award and a One Show award.

I also freelance as a graphic designer and illustrator and have been creating illustrations which have been exhibited in New York galleries both in Soho and Midtown. Using a mixed media, my art visually reinterprets scenes from everyday life from a totally fresh and unique perspective. Each picture inspires a sense of play and childlike wonder often forgotten in today’s world. It is art which reminds us that life’s most precious moments are in the details.
Toxic/Nature Studios

Bandwidth

Archival Digital Pigment
Print on Hahnemühle
Bamboo Paper, 30” x 38”

$850.00

Taylor Wang

Renovatio

Graphite, colored pencil, 13” x 14”

NFS

Bio: Taylor is a junior that goes to Manhasset High School. She enjoys drawing and spends a lot of time on creating new artworks. She hopes to pursue a career in the art and design field.
“Contrasto Negativo”, or Negative Contrast, depicts white RNA-like structures, on a black background. Perhaps, more conventionally, this could have been executed using black structures on a white background. Regardless, the concept of Yin and Yang, or concept of dualism, and how they may give rise to each other as they interrelate to one another........is solely left to the viewer.
Isabel Yeo

*Bottled Up*

Watercolor, 13” x 12”

NFS

Isabel Yeo

*Trapped*

Pencil, 18” x 12”

NFS