



HUNTINGTON ARTS COUNCIL

Evolution of Style: Wearable Art 3.0  
Juror, Emily Werner  
April 30 - June 2, 2024



Top left: *Great Grandma's Collar* by Julianna Kirk, *Heavy Metal* by Lindsay Connolly, *Abstract Brown Gold Black Silk Scarf* by Vivien Pollock, *Inside Out (Wisdom Vest)* by Bernadette Puleo, *Floral Handbag* by Patty Eljaiek, *Daydreamer in Lingerie Dress* by Georgia Ardito, *RSVP* by Elyzabeth Meade, and *Rainbow Cloud Necklace* by Kate Sydney

## Artist Biographies and Statements

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## **Guest Juror**

Emily Werner

Emily Werner (@feelgoodfiberarts) is the Curator and Collections Manager at the Huntington Historical Society. She has a Master's Degree in Fashion and Textile History and Conservation from the Fashion Institute of Technology. She is a weaver and knitter and enjoys replicating historic patterns as well as experimenting with other historic fiber crafts. Her favorite place to be is at the intersection of textiles and history.

"I love all of the passion and thought that people put into their entries for The Evolution of Style: Wearable Art 3.0! It was fun and inspiring to see all of the different mediums and interpretations of the prompt. For the show, I looked for pieces that demonstrated mastery of a technique and offered a unique or creative point of view. As a fashion and textile historian and fiber artist myself, I especially appreciated artists that made references to elements of fashion history and reinterpreted them in a modern context."

- Emily Werner, regarding her juror experience



## Stephanie Angelo



Burberry Madonna  
Acrylic on Canvas, 28" x 22"  
\$300

### **Artist Biography:**

Stephanie Angelo is a visual artist born on Long Island, New York, and raised in Connecticut. History and contemporary events are two main themes that infiltrate her work. Traditional motifs are used in conjunction with the bright flat colors and the bold lines of the pop artists, combining older styles and forms of art with one that is distinctly modern.

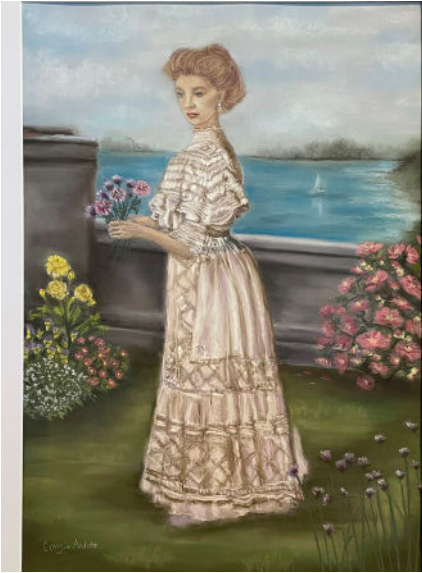
She graduated from Villanova University with a degree in Art History in 2002 and has also studied the arts at the University of Siena, Italy, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts. Currently, she lives and works both as an artist and art restorer in New York.

### **Artist Statement:**

The Style Icons were done in a style that blends elements of illuminated manuscripts with pop art. Drawing on both past and modern artistic genres helps to juxtapose ancient teachings with contemporary values. Modern society tends to place labels and designers in higher esteem than actual teachings of love and ways to better humanity. The pieces ask us to question what it is that we value in this world.



## Georgia Ardito



Daydreamer in Lingerie Dress  
Pastel on Paper, 29.25" x 23.25"  
NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

Inspiration for this work derived from a lingerie dress (circ. 1904) that is part of the collection of artifacts from the Huntington Historical Society. The woman featured in this painting is wearing a lingerie dress that would typically be worn in a casual or outdoor setting in the spring or summer. The material used is lightweight, often made of layers of cotton, linen or silk and is often decorated with patterns or lace. Here, she is taking time collecting flowers, daydreaming and enjoying her surroundings in a garden facing the Long Island sound.

### **Artist Statement:**

Georgia Ardito is a Huntington NY based figurative, portrait, landscape and nature themed artist who works with pastel and oil. Her work is inspired by the beauty of nature, its colors and the way that light hits her subjects.



## Valerie Bealle



### Tide Pool #1

Fine Silver, Gold Plating, Kyanite, Ocean Jasper and Hand Dyed Silk, 20"

\$1,500

### **Artist Biography:**

I am a Northport artist that has been involved in making wearable art for most of my adult life. I began as a crochet artist incorporating hand spinning, weaving and hand dyeing in my work. I moved on from fiber art to jewelry about fifteen years ago and find my inspiration in the beaches and woodlands of the north shore of Long Island.

### **Artist Statement:**

As a life long Long Islander, I grew up with beaches and woods being an important part of my life. As a result, flowers, leaves and seashells have crept into my work. I am especially influenced by the Long Island Sound and its bays and harbors. In these pieces I have attempted to convey my impression of tide pools in jewelry. I work in silver metal clay (powdered silver mixed with water and a binder) to produce one of a kind, highly textured impressionistic pieces. They are rough and refined, delicate and bold, abstract and representational. My hope is the jewelry and the person wearing the piece will enter into a dialogue that transforms them both.



## Mireille Belajonas



Evergreen

Paper, Natural Elements, and Yarn, 14" x 22"

NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

Mireille was born in Belgium and graduated as a goldsmith. Currently living on Long Island she is inspired by the beauty of nature and it's continues cycle of life.

### **Artist Statement:**

Evergreens keep their green foliage all year round. Even in the coldest of winter when the rest of the world is dormant they bring color, shelter and hope and so symbolize eternal life and eternal love.



## Galina Carroll



Audrey Dress  
Knitted Dress, 45"  
\$690

### **Artist Biography:**

Knitwear designer and fiber artist, worked for many years as a sweater designer in garment industry, designing for knitting magazines, publishing companies as well as for her own line of knitwear. GalinaCarrollDesigns.

### **Artist Statement:**

The "Audrey" dress, inspired by the timeless elegance of actress Audrey Hepburn. It was designed and crafted for Vogue Knitting Mohair competition. Fashioned from chunky mohair yarn, it features a bold intarsia floral knitting pattern. Modeled by a friend's daughter, whose striking resemblance to Hepburn adds a touch of enchantment. This process was further highlighted through a creative makeup process showcased in the video created for the event. The hand knitted dress "Audrey" earned it a coveted place among the top ten selections in the prestigious VK competition.





## Lindsay Connolly



Heavy Metal  
Soda Tabs, Elastic, and Chain, 66" x 10" x 15"  
\$250

### **Artist Biography:**

Everything around me inspires me as an artist, I love taking the things around me and creating something new and different with it. I hope to take this and inspire others, specifically by majoring in art education in college so I can be an art teacher and help children learn and grow artistically.

### **Artist Statement:**

When seeing this call to artist opportunity I knew I wanted to make something out of recycled materials. When I thought of it I remembered all of the soda can tabs that I have been collecting for about a year now. When reading about Emily Werner the prospectus talks about her love for historical patterns and designs which I also have a love for. So I combined these ideas and created chainmail out of the tabs. When creating this piece I did have trouble due to the fact it was a completely different "medium" but in the end, I found a new love for creating art with recycled items.





## Oksana Danziger



Eco Printed Shawl  
Eco Printed Silk, 27" x 27"  
\$400

### **Artist Biography:**

Oksana lives on Long Island with her family. She teaches at the Art League of Long Island and conducts workshops in school through the Huntington Arts Council. She taught in the surface design department at The Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) as an adjunct professor in 2016. She exhibits her work at the Art League of Long Island and Long Island Craft Guild.

### **Artist Statement:**

"I believe that an artist is never too old to learn, and the wise artist always remains a student of art: maintaining an open mind requires a lifetime of learning. As a teacher, I continue to learn from my students and fellow artists. In keeping an open mind and continually learning, I find that nature is one of my greatest sources of artistic inspiration.

With its endless and varied sources of shape, line, form, color, and composition, I believe that we can trace the history of design to a prototype based on a natural element. With our planet's ecological needs in crisis, I am hopeful that art – through its aesthetic ties to the natural world - can raise awareness about and inspire action regarding increasingly dire environmental concerns. I firmly believe that we need all the help we can muster to address the planet's currently precarious ecology."



## Gianna DiMaggio, Eva Lema, Niela Jean



Historic Rewind  
Mixed Media, 4' x 5' x 3'  
NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

We are fashion and art students at Glen Cove Highschool. We all met this year in fashion class and created this design together. We live in Glen Cove New York. Gianna Is a Freshman, Eva is a sophomore, and Niela is a junior.

### **Artist Statement:**

Our design is based on the structure of an 1800s ball gown. However, with a modern twist. It is a two piece set with a corset inspired top, small waist band and big structured over skirt. In the front the skirt opens to show a mini skirt underneath. It gives off a very elegant feel while also having a sense of modern fashion. The top is adjustable with string being used to lace it up to give the illusion of a corset without having to actually make a top that is structured. We hope to impress you with our fully functioning ball gown that is perfect not only to show off how we recycled but also can be used to wear if you really wanted to. This outfit is made of 100% upcycled items, nothing was purchased or kept the same as it was meant to be worn or used. Starting with our top, the base of the top is an old dress that we cut apart, we then cut holes in the back and used a ribbon that our teacher provided us with to lace up the back. We then found doilies, cut all of them in half and hot glued them to the top. Next we knew we wanted newspapers. Using the base of a skirt we folded each piece of newspaper, from our custodians and a material warehouse for the over skirt. For the underskirt we also used an old skirt and used postcards from the art closet at our school. To connect the skirts we sewed them and glued old elastic to cover the mess.



## Patty Eljaiek



Floral Handbag  
Mixed Media, 10" x 13" x 2"  
\$225

### **Artist Biography:**

My motto of "work with what you have" is not just about encouraging sustainability and reducing waste but also about incorporating the memories and prior lives of the objects I use. It also comes from not always having the money to invest in my practice.

### **Artist Statement:**

"This piece was inspired by the theme of the exhibition and the challenge of creating something "wearable" with supplies I had on hand. 90% of the materials used were found, donated or thrifted. The handbag was constructed using leather and fabric samples and a cereal box. The hand embroidery was added as an applique. I really enjoyed the process of construction and embellishment."



## Michele Evola



Cornus Florida

Computer Illustration printed on silk, 43" x 43"

\$150

### **Artist Biography:**

Determined to earn a living as an artist, I moved from California to New York City. While attending grad school at Pratt Institute, I adjusted to living in NYC in a tiny railroad apartment on the Upper Eastside. My design studio was established weeks after graduation in a space about the size of a closet within an ad agency on Madison Avenue. Driven by meager funds, fierce naïveté, and the will to survive cold calls were made. Surprisingly clients began to call.

I am an MFA Pratt Institute graduate, majoring in Painting, Photography and Art History. The subject of my work is traditional: landscape, botanical, insects. The media: oil, watercolor, mixed and now I paint on my computer. Painting for me is a meditative adventure through observation and recreation of color, form and composition.

The majority of my career is based in New York City. I now live and earn my living in Art Education on Long Island.

### **Artist Statement:**

My fascination with art and design begins with my interest in art history. Walking through galleries, libraries or museums to dialog with my favorite artists, some living many dead, amuses me. Above all graphic design and art education earns my living and painting is my sidekick: watercolor, oil and now mostly the computer. Review my work and the pictorial language that defines me as a human being and respectfully allows me to contribute a few words to a life-long conversation.



## Kathleen Gerlach



“Little Black Dress”

Paper, 36" x 17"

\$500

### **Artist Biography:**

“Kathleen Gerlach, a Greenlawn resident, is a retired High School art and photography teacher of 32 years. Now, with time to explore her own artistic endeavors, she is enjoying her love of photography, fused glass, and exploring different mediums to create new works of art.

Kathie is a member of WSA, LICG, and BAFFA. She has displayed her work throughout Long Island libraries, galleries, and at the Salmagundi Club Gallery in Manhattan, New York.”

### **Artist Statement:**

Every woman has a little black dress, in her closet, that can be accessorized and used for any occasion. “Little Black Dress” is a dress I hand made to represent and celebrate the best loved outstanding women, at the leading edge of style, in fashion. Female fashion designers are the genesis of some of the most important staples and trends to elevate contemporary wardrobes, from the timeless pieces of Vera Wang to the en-vogue aesthetics of Jill Sander. My dress is made with black roll paper, then collaged as a paper mosaic on top, using 19 iconic women designers that have influenced the fashion world and the way women have dressed throughout the decades.



## Gabriella Grama



Polka Dot Bra  
3D Mosaic Sculpture, 27" x 6" x 5"  
\$500

### **Artist Biography:**

Mosaicist Gabriella Grama finds mosaic a versatile and flexible medium in which anything can be used: an old piece of China, broken glass, pebbles, shells, grains, bark, sand, etc. Mosaics are lasting and, like no other medium, extremely fresh and innovative as there are no restrictions to what can be used or repurposed in constructing them. The artist experiments with a variety of media and she often blurs the lines between mosaics and fused glass. Continuously learning new techniques, she experiments and pushes the boundaries of one medium into the other.

### **Artist Statement:**

"Polka Dot Bra" is a whimsical and playful exploration of femininity through the lens of an everyday garment. This 3D mosaic piece transforms the ordinary item into a celebration of women, utilizing vibrant colors, intricate patterns, and a touch of humor. The use of polka dots adds a sense of lightness and joy, inviting viewers to appreciate the delightful and spirited aspects of womanhood. Beyond its whimsy, the artwork delves into the significance of an intimate article of clothing, symbolizing the layers of identity, self-expression, and the inherent strength found in femininity.



## Molly Greenberg



### Wings That Catch Dreams

Mixed Media, 14" x 18" x 1.75"

\$200

### **Artist Biography:**

Molly studied theatre with a concentration in costume design at SUNY New Paltz. After graduating Molly gravitated towards fiber arts, using hand looms to create small works of art she sold under the name, Loom & Stars. Molly loves to spend time in nature, using natural material whenever possible. For this project she pulled from a large collection of hand spun and other natural fibers. She hopes her most recent work will help raise awareness for perinatal mental health and that sharing the tools that helped her may help someone else.

### **Artist Statement:**

"This piece represents the ways in which community can be the biggest aid in dream catching. Based on the Indigenous American art of dreamcatcher weaving, with a costume design major's twist plus a dash of an awful battle with OCD and the isolation that came with it, and there you have "Wings that catch dreams". It highlights the natural world in all its splendor. The frame of this piece was foraged at Target Rock, a place that has been with me through my hardest and also most beautiful days of growth.

Put on these wings and let the shackles of isolation stay behind as you fly naturally with a beautifully woven community helping you take flight.

This piece marries my old life and new. My life before children, the pandemic, and an OCD diagnosis. As these are a reborn vision of dreamcatcher wings I made a decade ago in a previous life. My life after children, a rebuilt community, and support, from my friends, my peers, my spouse, my family and my therapist.

If this sells the money will be donated to Postpartum Support International who offer free peer to peer virtual support groups for birthing people all over the world.

Dedication:

-A friend I learned this craft with, recently lost his sister to suicide. I dedicate these wings to anyone who has lost their battle with mental health and their families.

-And to all the children whose parents were never able to fight their mental health battles for themselves and for you. I see you. You deserved a healthy parent, you still do.

My wish for us: May we all stay woven and connected and reaching beyond ourselves always."





## Olena Jennings



Family Map  
Cloth, 19" x 33"  
\$300

### **Artist Biography:**

Olena Jennings uses poetry to inspire her art. She is the author of the chapbook *Memory Project* and the poetry collection *The Age of Secrets* (Lost Horse Press, 2022.) Her work has been shown at Bliss on Bliss Art Projects, with Long Island City Artists Inc., and at the New York City Poetry Festival.

### **Artist Statement:**

My work is inspired by memories, not only my own, but also the memories of my grandparents that were passed onto me. This dress has a photograph applied by photo transfer medium of my grandparents with two of their children, including my mother. The embroidery represents the map of Ukraine, which they always carried in their hearts. The lace represents my grandmother's life in the United States by mimicking the fabric of the scarf she always wore to the Ukrainian church in Milwaukee, WI, which was a meeting point for the Ukrainian community. I feel these ideas are best expressed through textiles, a medium that has always been important in Ukrainian artistic practice.



## Julianna Kirk



Great Grandma's Collar  
Clay and Rubber, 10" x 4"  
NFS



Doodle Scarf  
Hand Painted Silk, 8" x 40"  
\$200.

### **Artist Biography:**

Kirk is an artist and educator living on Long Island, NY. She has exhibited her work throughout her life, most abundantly the last 10 years. Her primary love is with glass although she is proficient in other medias. Her visual influences have been from her travels, personal relationships, and her reaction to environmental issues.

### **Artist Statement:**

My trompe l'oeil called Great Grandma's Collar is a symbol of loving support in a family. Female empowerment is handed down through generations with a keepsake from a matriarch who inspired and supported my grandma on her life's journey.

Doodle Scarf is a reaction to the impulsive pencil doodles drawn while on phone calls. I took one and created this hand painted scarf.



## Michael Krasowitz



Artwork by Michael Krasowitz  
Hand painted clothing  
Mens Pants  
2015

Hand Painted Pants  
Fabric paint on cotton, 30" x 32"  
NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

Michael started painting clothing as a project with the Northport Opera night events in 2012. He has been working with clothing as a medium for original artworks ever since

### **Artist Statement:**

Michael is a painter and printmaker living in Huntington. He is inspired by his wife, Wendi Weng Krasowitz, who explores dance in terms of cultural influences of the silk road.



## Elyzabeth Meade



RSVP (2024)  
Mixed Media, 51" x 21" x 15"  
\$4750

### **Artist Biography:**

"Using humble materials (recycled and found), I create art to awaken viewers to their connection to the natural community and the human environment. I'm playfully serious.

During the process of art-making, I revel in the access to the unconscious and what its wisdom may reveal. Sometimes a work responds, or contemplates, to a specific issue, other times its raison d'être comes to light in the art-making process. As a multi-media artist, each project seed-idea will call up specific media (physical materials, words, movement, sound) to flesh out an idea, and while working with materials, the form becomes identified."

### **Artist Statement:**

RSVP is a meditation of how plastics-plastic microfibers will comprise most all of nature (and humans) in a too-soon future. RSVP, a garish 1920s flapper dress— gone awry with melting forks and twisting twine representing our current gluttony of living, invites us to the future 'party' of life. Will we RSVP that we will be attending, bring our gifts of care, vigilance and more consciousness behaviors, such that the next generations can also attend and celebrate life in a healthy and beautiful environment?



## Natalia Monsale



Pavonine

Mixed Media 6' x 2' x 2'

NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

Hi! My name is Natalia Monsale, with a passion for all things art and design! I am a senior at Glen Cove High School, aiming to make a name for myself in the world, whether it be in fashion design or illustration, both of which I hold a very strong passion and gratefulness for. I've always loved to draw ever since I could hold a pencil, but my love for creating art has persisted ever since as it's a platform for expressing myself and my likes, alongside allowing me to meet many amazing people, both in real life and others around the world on social media. I've had my artwork showcased at selective galleries such as the Art Guild (2021, 2022, 2023) and Heckscher Museum's Long Island's Best exhibit (2023). I've also been doing commission work on and off since 2022. Fashion design is a newer interest I've gotten into, but I've quickly grown to love it and it has honestly changed my life a lot. I was selected as a global finalist in the 2022 Junk Kouture (a sustainable fashion competition) World Final in Abu Dhabi, one of sixty picked from six major cities across the globe, and was also given the opportunity to walk my fashion design down the 2022 Global Citizens red carpet in New York City. Through Junk Kouture, I was able to become more confident and expressive; being taken out of my shell to be on the catwalk, being put in a place I would never even imagine myself in, but coming to love it despite my initial nervousness. I was selected again for their 2023 World Final in Monaco.

### **Artist Statement:**

PAVONINE is made entirely out of recycled and donated materials. It is inspired by the flowing elements of Art Nouveau, paying homage to nature while commemorating traditional craftsmanship in the beginnings of British industrialization. The suit is inspired by 80's women's power suits, creating a message of coexistence between nature and modern times with the intertwining of the two styles. The suit is made out of shopping bags and garbage bags, lined on the inside with fabric scraps. The tail sprouting out is made out of water bottles, ironed flat and painted. The dress is made from a rice bag decorated with art nouveau motifs cut from shopping bags. The wires throughout the design are from hangers and various mixed metals.



## Gail Neuman



Object Found

Fine Silver with Found Object, 10" x 7" x 5"

NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

Gail Neuman is an Islip Terrace based multimedia artist who works primarily in the decorative arts. Inspiration comes from the theme of the exhibit, the materials around me or possibly the location of the exhibit.

### **Artist Statement:**

Wearable Art opens up so many possibilities for projects. Some pieces show you can make art and jewelry from found objects and fine silver. Others are straight beadwork of all left over beads from other projects to make a gorgeous statement piece. Another contains beads, silver, polymer clay and shrink plastic colored with inks, pencils, spray paint or even eyeshadow-all materials are fair game!



## Vivien Pollack



Abstract Brown Gold Black Silk Scarf  
Hand Painted Silk with dyes, 22" x 70"  
\$120.

### **Artist Biography:**

Vivien Pollack spent over 30 years in the industry as a Textile Designer, Silk Painter and Teacher of silk painting, creating original designs that were sold to manufacturers. She has since exhibited her award-winning silk art in galleries and shows on Long Island as well as Santa Fe, New Mexico and Maryland. Her award-winning silk paintings have been in the New York Times and in the book "The Best of Silk Painting" by Tuckman and Janas and their recent book "The Fine Art of Painting on Silk."

### **Artist Statement:**

After years of silk painting, I find I love to allow the dyes to bleed on the silk instead of having a boundary or a resist to stop the natural spreading of dyes across the silk. Interesting surprises happen and not so interesting. These silk scarves were done this way. As I guided the colors across the silk the dyes spread, and I had to quickly respond to the changes that takes place on the silk. I then sometimes applied overlaying colors of dyes on top of others.





## Bernadette Puleo



Inside Out (Wisdom Vest)  
Silk and Cotton, 22" x 21"  
\$650.00



Common Thread (A Visual Autobiography)  
Paper and String, 120" x 18"  
NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

As a life long graphic and textile designer, I have become inspired by Japanese Indigo, from growing the plant, extracting the pigment to creating art. I am hoping to share with public, my love for this plant and pigment through my fiber art.

### **Artist Statement:**

Inside Out (Wisdom Vest)

This hand dyed and painted indigo cotton and silk vest is a compilation of my sketches as I worked through a transitional period of my life. It is raw but real. I chose to use a vest as my canvas as its form is meant to protect the heart. I left it somewhat unfinished because we are always a work in progress as we journey through life. My hope is that many of these thoughts and feelings are universal and can be a help for those going through their own transitions in their lives.

Common Thread (A Visual Autobiography)

What are photographs for but to look and reflect on our lives. For many years I would look at photo albums with pictures of myself from infancy until the present. My career designing children's clothing and accessories enabled me to become proficient in Adobe Illustrator, rendering designs for presentation. So, I thought it would be fun to illustrate some of the clothing I wore in my lifetime. All connected by a red clothesline. The hangtags show me wearing the outfit with a story on the back. I encountered many surprises when reinterpreting the old photographs in order to illustrate them. A visual autobiography."



## Jennifer Salta



Cimaruta

Sterling silver, garnet, sunstone, labradorite, rock crystal and tourmaline

4"x5" on 18" strand of garnet

\$950

### **Artist Biography:**

Jennifer is a jeweler and artist who lives on the edge of Huntington Village with her family. Here she spends her days working in precious metal and her nights playing with paint and ink.

### **Artist Statement:**

My artwork across all mediums is woven together with threads of whimsy that sit somewhere between old memories, history and daydreams. This pieces combined my skills as a jeweler as well as my background in costume design and fashion history.



## Robert Stenzel



### Concert Jacket

Applique, reverse applique, thread painting, 18" x 24"  
NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

"Humans use REM sleep as a way to process their emotions, evoking vivid dream imagery. This stream of consciousness is what Robert Stenzel attempts to capture in his work, while using the artistic process as a form of emotional catharsis. Each piece is a door opened into the Jungian Mansion of the Mind, peeling away layers of the subconscious and creating a Rorschach test for the viewer.

Robert Stenzel is a multidisciplinary artist and curator who pulls from their experience in papercutting, small metals, and fiber arts. He has apprenticed under a master papercutter and received a BFA in Studio art from Cal Poly Humboldt. Stenzel currently works out of his home studio in Ronkonkoma, New York."

### **Artist Statement:**

There is nothing more quintessential to American counter culture than a personalized band or battle jacket. My current art practice grew out of the custom applique jackets I started making while tailoring men's festival and Burning Man wear. This is from my personal collection that reflect core, formative and creative connections and experiences in my life.



## Kate Sydney



Rainbow Cloud Necklace  
Jewelry, 3"  
\$978

### **Artist Biography:**

I am humbled by nature and I love to use her precious gifts in my designs. Natural beauty is fleeting and precious. In channeling that beauty into a piece of jewelry, I can harness the moment and make it last forever.

### **Artist Statement:**

"I jewelry that has meaning for my customers and becomes a part of their personal story - as a moment of celebration and remembrance.

I'm taking Mother Nature's wares, reaping her benefits, harvesting her gifts and creating vessels so that humans can reflect this intense and halting beauty. I'm creating a vehicle for the most gorgeous gems that earth has to offer.

This labradorite cloud is magnificent with its full rainbow spectrum. It deserved a rainbow adorning it. The added silver fringe adds visual balance and also sound as the wearer moves about, a delicate wind chime may play. A gentle reminder that the gems worn in this piece were forged under fire and pressure and thus were able to realize their incredible form. There is no joy without struggle. No rainbows without navigating a bit of a storm.

In my creations, I use only precious metals and natural gemstones. All Kate Sydney jewelry is hand-crafted in America."



## Aiden Thapa



Moody Board  
Mixed Media, 11" x 14"  
NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

Creativity fuels me for my inspiration and want to become a fashion designer. I am a male in high school, in 9th grade, and my passion for design and the arts drives me to build a foundation for myself and create pieces that relate to me. I do not care about winning or losing, I simply want to display creativity to inspire people like they did for me. I value being myself and tend to flaunt my unique style and I am very kind, caring and accepting of others.

### **Artist Statement:**

My design inspires breaking away from social parasites or societal norms, (dramatic I know) but it's supposed to represent individuality and creativity within oneself, not purposely trying to blend in into society. Allowing your true self to shine draws attention and possibly backlash from others who are sheep, and who purposely conceal their true selves, and this piece describes that other people's opinions are unneeded and not important if you yourself are true to you. I am displaying some of my own mentality into this work, and I used a lot of emotion to fuel my ideas for this piece.





## Jo Wadler



Garden Party Shawl  
Wool, 60" x 25"  
NFS

### **Artist Biography:**

Jo Wadler is a metalsmith, jewelry designer, enamellist, fiber artists and knitwear designer who fabricates work for the individual, the eclectic, person who actively engages the world and thrives on exploration. She strives to empower the individual with her keen eye for the unexpected and unique creations. Her jewelry and designs are made to compliment an authentic life. Jo handcrafts her pieces using traditional and modern processes in her Huntington, Centerport studio in New York

### **Artist Statement:**

I'm an artist whose passion for creating comes from the appreciation of nature and the creatures that live in it. I try to express and recreate their beauty through multiple mediums.