



HUNTINGTON ARTS COUNCIL

## Iconography

Juror Alexandra "Sasha" Giordano  
FEBRUARY 11 – MARCH 16



## Artist Biographies and Statements

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## HUNTINGTON ARTS COUNCIL

### Exhibition Description:

Juried by: Alexandra "Sasha" Giordano

February 11th – March 16th, 2025

Iconography, Juried by Alexandra "Sasha" Giordano, explores how traditional symbols and imagery can be re-imagined through contemporary practices. Defined as Iconography, the use of visual imagery, symbols, and figures to convey complex ideas relating but not limited to culture, history, and religion, will be central to this exhibit's theme. Through this lens, artists were encouraged to reinterpret traditional iconography in innovative ways. All interpretations of the concept were welcome.

### About the Juror:

Alexandra "Sasha" Giordano is an experienced Art Historian and dedicated educator. Prior to being appointed as Director, Sasha served as the Communications Director, Assistant Director, and Assistant Director of Exhibitions and Collections at the Hofstra Museum. Sasha holds a Master of Arts in Art History from CUNY Queens College.

### Participating Artists:

Denise Jones Alder, Lyrin Bailey, Christine Baum, Ron Becker, Soterio Bezio, Darlene Blaurock, Stacy Bogdonoff, John Cino, Anthony Klinger-Cooley, Karen Davis, Christine Donnelly, Jim Finlayson, Arlene Gernon, William Grabowski, Sueey Gutierrez, William Von Gonten, Robert Hendrick, Melissa Johnides, Marc Josloff, Julianna Kirk, Clover Konop, Jacqueline Lang, Karyn Mannix, Kristen Memoli, Gail Neuman, Luda Pahl, Howie Pohl, James E Rice, Susan Kozodoy Silkowitz, Devlin Starr, Christina Stow, Mary Jane Tenerelli.



## Lyrin Bailey



*Isle of Aeaëa*  
Mixed Media, 17" x 11"  
NFS

### **Artist Statement:**

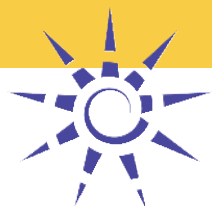
Bailey is a LI artist whose work dives deep into the realms of folklore and myth. Her work, dark and whimsical, illuminates the mundane and sacred, inviting viewers into spaces filled with enchantment and symbolism. Every piece created aims to weave a story—one that feels both bewitching and raw.

Challenging the audience to look beyond what is readily apparent and question what lies beyond. Bailey's passion is to bring forth the primordial, and old world gods that rule beyond the veil. Transcribing visions and symbolism to craft works that resonate with those who seek a deeper connection to the unknown.

She invites you, traveler, to delve into the wonders of these hidden realms, revealing insights you hadn't anticipated. Enter worlds of shadows with caution—for once you have glimpsed it, you may never see the world the same again.

### **Bio:**

My work explores the unknown with dark themes and allegorical storytelling. I am deeply inspired by myth and legends and the connection to us individually and collectively.



## Christine Baum



*Golden Thread* 6/25/23, 2:58pm  
Drypoint Monoprint, 8" x 12"  
\$202

### **Artist Statement:**

"Golden Thread" is a series of mass intention cards, reinterpreting the traditional concept of a spiritual bouquet through a contemporary lens. In this body of work, I step into the role of the clergy, offering my own silent ceremonies for the departed. Rather than reciting prayers or consecrating mass-produced forms, I dedicate something more personal—my time. Each card is hand-created, through a meticulous process of inking, wiping, printing, and painting. I mark the date and time of each mass intention, transforming it into a tangible moment in time. This is my offering—a modern-day indulgence, where the sacred meets the material. In each hand-drawn, carved, printed, and painted card, I offer a silent ceremony—an intimate, contemporary act of devotion that re-imagines the ritual of mass intention as something more personal, more human, and more real. My oil painting technique evolved from my experiences with printmaking and working with acrylics. Desiring to create a deeper, three-dimensional surface, I investigated and adopted the method of painting with glazes. Additionally, I have studied making my own paints, preparing painting surfaces, as well as techniques like fresco and egg tempera, to refine my approach. These investigations allow me to bridge the gap between our perception of space and time, incorporating a psychological dimension into that matrix of perception. Through my art, I hope to connect with something beyond the tangible, inviting both myself and the viewer to engage with the infinite potential of universal consciousness.

### **Bio:**

Christine Baum is a contemporary printmaker whose work explores themes of memory, loss, and ritual. Drawing inspiration from her Catholic upbringing and personal experiences with grief, she re-imagines traditional iconography through intricate, hand-crafted processes. Christine is driven by the desire to create beauty and connection, often merging the sacred with the material in her art to offer solace and reflection.



## Ron Becker



*Witness For Racial Justice*  
Mixed Media, 28" x 36"  
NFS

### **Artist Statement:**

Iconography and religious art inspired the creation of "Witness For Racial Justice", focusing on racial equity issues and writings from "The Cross and the Lynching Tree" by James Cone. Sister Thea Bowman broke down racial and cultural barriers through singing, gospel, preaching and storytelling. Augustus Tolton was the first black Roman Catholic priest in America. Zeinab Alif, kidnapped by slave traders, became Abbess of Clare nuns. Mother Mary Lange founded the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first African American religious order. Teresa Chikaba cared for the poor, sick and down hearted. Saint Martin de Porres entered the Dominican order and founded an orphanage, taking care of slaves brought from Africa. Saint Katherine Drexel founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, founding 145 missions, 50 schools for African Americans and 12 schools for Native Americans. Saint Peter Claver worked as a missionary in Cartagena, instructing and baptizing an estimated 300,000 slaves.

### **Bio:**

Ron enjoys using imagery and materials to create realistic interpretations of nature and the world around us. The unexpected colors and textures found in nature inspire Ron to capture the dynamics of light and dark; form and balance. Finding the divine in all elements of life inspires a variety of creative projects that result in art that tells stories, captures a moment in time or offers opportunity for the viewer to create their own.



## Soterio Bezio



*Passion*

Acrylic on Oil Stick Canvas, 36" x 24"

\$2,700

### **Artist Statement:**

In my art, the "Face - Observer" conveys emotions, mirrors shared memories, and captures our physical, emotional, and transcendent journeys.

### **Bio:**

Soterio Bezio is a painter and experiential artist who lives and works in Huntington Station, NY. His work examines emotion-driven human interactions and experiences that transcend time, space, and physical norms. Using abstraction and abstract figuration, he creates a visual language that aims to capture moments-in-emotion and illustrate them as figures-of-emotion.



## Darlene Blaurock



*Benedetta*

Mixed Media Collage, 12" x 16"

\$4,400

### **Artist Statement:**

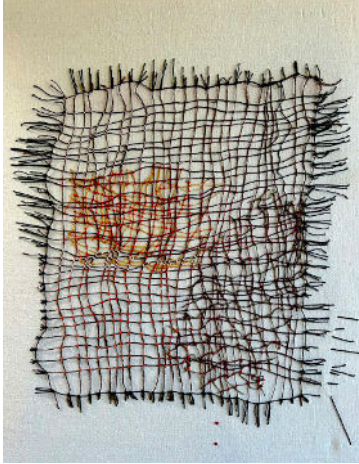
My artwork is Mixed Media and paint, neo-pastels and found objects. While I use a variety of materials and processes in each project my methodology is consistent. Each project often consists of multiple works, often in a range of different media, grouped around specific themes and meanings takes a personal view of social and cultural issues. The artwork is often referencing biblical themes, history and pop culture. My work explores the varying relationships between popular culture and fine art. Using collage, acrylic and watercolor, The famous quote by Picasso is why I create art. Pablo Picasso said: "Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life." It is the one time in the day that all of the problems that we deal with are non-existent. When you are in the zone and at one with your creativity, nothing else matters. It's like transcendental meditation. The synchronization that occurs when decisions are being made seem to done by spiritual force, not by me. I sometimes will create something and not know why and then the next day or a few minutes later, it turns into an extremely different idea. This process is very serendipitous. The artwork creates a symbiotic relationship between the viewer and artist. Each piece consists of multiple layers in a range of different media, grouped around specific themes and meanings. I uncover my personal views on social and cultural issues. As I work I often reference biblical themes, history and pop culture and their varying relationships with fine art. My process involves collage, acrylic & watercolor paint as well as neo-pastels and espresso coffee staining. As I interact with the surface my understanding of my emotions delves deeper. While I use a variety of materials and processes in each project my methodology is consistent. When I am creating there is a creative zone like transcendental meditation that occurs and this synchronization happens that seems like decisions are being made by a spiritual force. As I am adding layers the works seems to morph and transform into something completely new.

**Bio:**

Darluv 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. This artist also calls her style Intuitive Art as well as Mixed Media. She feels that decisions are being made by a spiritual force when she is painting. Each of her paintings evolved into the portraits that they are. They are not portraits that she sets out to create. When connecting with creating her artwork she states that the zone she is in feels like transcendental meditation. She loses all sense of time and is focused yet also powerful and unstoppable. She states "When you are at one with your creativity nothing else matters, it's like a force to be reckoned with." Art keeps her close to her emotional and creative side and she uncovers new truths about herself through the creation of her works. This process is very serendipitous and also fluid at the same time because it is constantly changing and pivoting in different directions. When you see all of her work together there is so much synchronization that you feel like they are all related and you are the guest viewer at this unique gathering. The artist is also known as @artalatte on Instagram and her website [www.artalatte.com](http://www.artalatte.com) because it is constantly changing and pivoting in different directions.



## Stacy Bogdonoff



*Two Hoods*  
Mixed Media, 31" x 25"  
\$2,000



*Lean Back*  
Mixed Media, 39" x 28"  
\$2,000

### **Artist Statement:**

The grid is one of the most fundamental, earliest, and universal icons in the world. It's the basis for planting fields, laying out cities, understanding data, and creating order out of chaos for countless tasks everywhere, everyday. I take the grid and break it, manipulate it, twist it, and explore it. Interestingly, it always remains recognizable.

### **Bio:**

Stacy Bogdonoff is a mixed media artist often working with textiles and fiber. Her work is an on-going balance between media, process, and concept. The media can include vintage linen, florist wire, recording tape, and silk embroidery thread. The process is verb oriented: she folds, scorches, pierces, rips, lashes, prints, and weaves her media. The concept that holds it all together is the search to understand "Home, Safety, and Shelter" and how those meanings change and morph as we age and move through life.



## John Cino



*Dragon*  
Acrylic, Sawdust, Plywood, 48" x 24" x 3"  
\$4,000

### **Artist Statement:**

Throughout a nearly 40 year career as a sculptor I have explored numerous themes some of which are: mathematics, mythology, biology, archeology, architecture and language. My current work makes a complete turn on a spiral as it incorporates techniques of making developed over 30 years ago and ideas visited regularly throughout my career.

### **Bio:**

John Cino is an artist, curator and art educator living in Patchogue NY where he helped found the Patchogue Arts Council. He has participated in numerous exhibitions in museums, galleries and sculpture parks throughout the metropolitan area and beyond as far as the banks of the Mississippi River. Notable solo exhibitions include the Islip-MacArthur Airport, and the galleries at Iona, Farmingdale colleges and Stony Brook University.



## Karen Davis



*Illegal Tender*  
Watercolor, 12" x 9"  
\$325



*The King of Hearts*  
Watercolor, 9" x 12"  
\$325

### **Artist Statement:**

My pieces are part of a new collection I would describe as whimsical seagull-centric realism. Why seagulls you may wonder? Besides the fact that I love them I've spent hours at the beach studying them and they are smart, creative and funny. I've painted them many times but never quite like this. For this series I've taken seagulls and inserted them into some rather iconic situations so seamlessly you may be surprised by the outcome.

### **Bio:**

I am a self-taught artist who grew up on the shores of Long Island. I am inspired by the natural beauty I encounter everywhere I go. I find painting and creating to be truly therapeutic and find myself most at peace when I'm at work.



## Christine Donnelly



*Seeds of Change*  
Mixed Media, 24" x 24"  
\$725

### **Artist Statement:**

While the Seed of Life is a symbol with a variety of spiritual and cultural meanings, I am most drawn to it's representation of connection and unity- that all life forms of the universe are interconnected. I find incredible beauty, peace and wonder in this sentiment. Although technology is able to connect us across vast distances in an instant, I lament the notion that so many struggle with feelings of isolation and loneliness and we are becoming increasingly detached from the beauty and importance of the living things around us.

These two mixed media paintings are part of a series in which I explore the shapes and patterns found in the Seed of Life while channeling a renewed sense of connectedness that I wish for the world.

### **Bio:**

Christine Donnelly is a mixed media artist and art educator from Greenlawn, NY. Her layered and playful abstracts are largely inspired by the natural world, travel experiences and sacred geometry. Christine's work has been featured in solo and juried exhibitions at venues including Museum of Contemporary Arts L.I., Firefly Artists Gallery, and the Art League of Long Island. She is currently a Resident Artist at the Art League of Long Island and a recipient of the 2025 Artist Fellowship through the Long Island Grants for the Arts and Huntington Arts Council.



## James E. Rice



*Adoration of the Beast*  
Gouache, 15" x 16"  
\$600

### **Artist Statement:**

I am interested in unexplained phenomena and strange sightings. This stirs my curiosity to understand more and my creative side. The theme of my work is "Exploring the Mysterious Side of the Landscape." As I work, landscape imagery takes form and gradually transforms the reality of a forest scene into an altered reality. This blending of reality with my experiences, imagination, and creativity shapes my artistic vision.

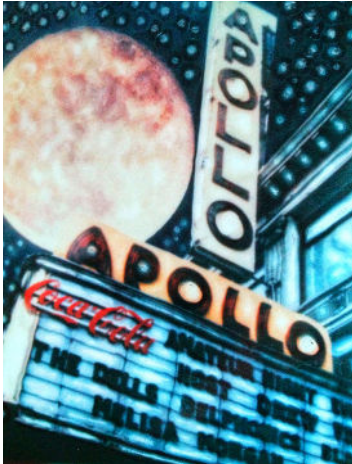
### **Bio:**

James E. Rice enjoys walking and hiking in state parks and government forests, which inspire his colored pencil drawings. The theme of his current work is "Exploring the Mysterious Side of the Landscape."

Originally from Virginia, James received his M.A. in art from James Madison University and his M.F.A. from West Virginia University.



## Jim Finlayson



*Apollo Coca Cola*  
Polaroid Photo Dye Manipulation, 11" x 14"  
\$125



*Hamilton*  
Polaroid Photo Dye Manipulation, 11" x 14"  
\$125

### **Artist Statement:**

I have always been interested in the boundaries between photography & painting. Shooting with iPhone & Polaroid cameras plus mix media I create images that are stark & graphic or reminiscent of oils and watercolors.

### **Bio:**

LI Photographer working with iPhone & Polaroid materials/mix media. Images in regional/national publications & exhibitions. Photos part of the Polaroid Collection & The Fitch Collection at Yale.



## Arlene Gernon



*Devour*  
Oil, 11" x 14"  
\$150

### **Artist Statement:**

My piece is a statement about the future of our planet. In all the time there has been life on earth it has been only mankind that has been polluting and exploiting our natural resources. Man is devouring the earth.

### **Bio:**

I am a retired nurse. I haven't had an art education but as a child I did watch my mother paint. I am inspired by the every day things around us and the light and shadows they cast.



## William Grabowski



*Ellis Island First Impressions Revisited*  
Mixed Media, 42" x 24" x 20"  
NFS



*Self Portrait at 45 RPM*  
Mixed Media, 22" x 30" x 22"  
NFS

### **Artist Statement:**

I so very much enjoy re-inventing images and spaces I have seen before. It is a wonderful and powerful tool to enrich my life.

### **Bio:**

Creating art builds my spirit and is very important to me. Finding new vehicles to express by continues my process.



## Sueey Gutierrez



*Renacer En Las Aguas De Moncagua*  
Acrylic and Gold Leaf on Masonite, 48" x 48"  
\$6,000



*Medusa*  
Mixed Media, 10.5" x 13.5"  
\$600

### **Artist Statement:**

Sueey Gutierrez's work re-imagines traditional iconography through a deeply personal lens, merging her Salvadoran-Maya heritage with contemporary narratives. Drawing from cultural, historical, and religious symbolism, her art explores themes of identity, resilience, and spirituality. By transforming sacred figures, ancestral symbols, and celestial or musical icons, she bridges the past and present, reflecting lived experiences and cultural evolution. Her work investigates how icons, both ancient and modern, shape our understanding of identity and collective memory. By integrating elements of nature, ancestral imagery, and her indigenous roots, Gutierrez invites viewers to see traditional symbols anew. Each piece resonates with cultural pride and emotional depth, offering a contemporary reawakening of enduring imagery while embracing the influence of celestial and musical motifs to connect with audiences across time and space.

### **Bio:**

Sueey Gutierrez is a New York-based artist of Salvadoran-Mayan heritage whose work celebrates the strength of women, the beauty of Salvadoran traditions, and the resilience of nature. Drawing inspiration from her Indigenous-Latine roots and personal experiences, her vibrant figurative compositions integrate Mayan and Roman Catholic iconography, re-imagining classical forms with bold colors and intricate details. Gutierrez invites audiences to connect with narratives of cultural pride, renewal, and self-discovery.



## Robert Hendrick



*Alpha Omega*  
Mixed Media, 24" x 30"  
\$900

### **Artist Statement:**

We were inspired by our travels to cathedrals in Vienna and Paris. The 16th century artist in their use of gold and imagery combined with todays mass produced worshiped items the most precious being an apple. How fitting an Apple phone ( image slightly bitten) bright and shiny juxtaposed against not a beautiful Christ but a crucified one. The blood and tears dripping from his flesh holding and photographing the viewer. Both icons forever captured together.

### **Bio:**

I create pieces with my Wife Nancy as we work together to create works that stir the soul. We are inspired by artists that make you feel happy, sad or angry.



## Melissa Johnides



*Quan Yin Mandala*  
Mixed Media, 20" x 20"  
\$300

### **Artist Statement:**

My piece "Quan Yin Mandala" is a mixed media piece made up of original digital photographs, traditional drawings of Quan Yin and mudras, accented with gold paint.

The show's theme encouraged a mixing of past and present, which prompted me to make a digital mandala inspired by a deity I have always been drawn to, Quan Yin. Quan Yin was first introduced to me by a medium decades ago and as a female, mother, artist and teacher I reflect on her as she is a Goddess of compassion, wisdom, mercy and beauty.

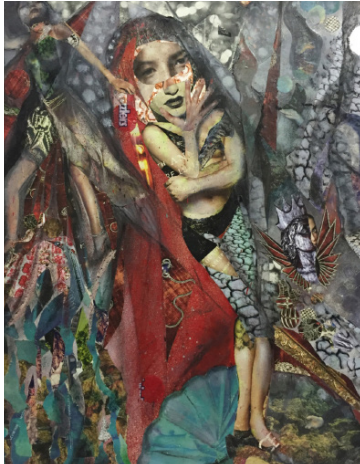
I manipulated images I took of flowers and traditional drawings by mirroring and overlaying them, choosing a soft color palette accented with touches of gold I felt well represented the essence and energy of Quan Yin I was looking to portray with this piece.

### **Bio:**

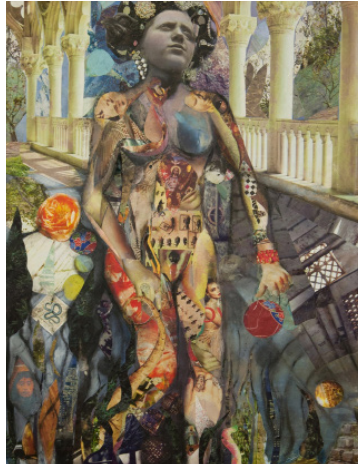
Melissa Johnides is an artist and an educator. She has been making art her entire life, and while photography is her primary medium, mixed media is where her expression really thrives. She enjoys using her photographs as a springboard to manipulate and create bigger visual or conceptual stories.



## Denise Jones Adler



*Venus Revisited*  
Mixed Media, 20" x 16"  
\$1,250



*Goddess*  
Mixed Media, 24" x 18"  
\$1,500

### **Artist Statement:**

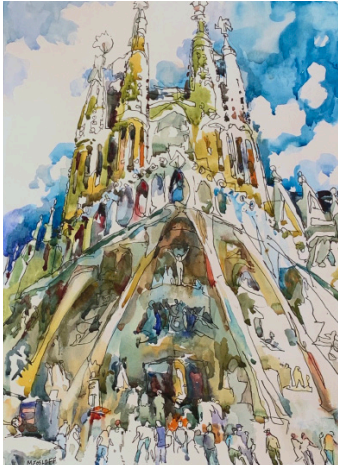
My work is an exploration of the interplay between the personal and the universal. Through innovative techniques and storytelling, I bring forgotten materials, myths, and themes to life in a way that is both intimate and expansive. My work exists in the space-between the physical and the ethereal, the self and the other, the tangible and the mythical. The real and the spiritual merge throughout the work, as found and discarded fragments of our shared world are placed alongside one another – giving form to the ethereal. This detritus of day-to-day connects us to reality, while the symbols from myth and religion transports us to the beyond. A sacred heart, an illuminated halo, and imagery from myth are hidden throughout the work, referencing the legendary and spiritual. The work strives to engage not just with the empirical world but also with larger conversations about identity, spirituality, and connection.

### **Bio:**

New York based artist, Denise Jones Adler sets out to create portraits and dreamscapes that express the mythic and legendary. In addition to being a founding member of Cultural Guerrillas group with artist Mary Jones, she is also a founding member of ArtSpeak Collective, a virtual gallery.



## Marc Josloff



*Sagrada Familia*  
Ink and Watercolor, 16" x 20"  
\$800

### **Artist Statement:**

Visual Artists, including painters and photographers, deal with "sightings." They can happen in the outside world of nature, architecture and human events or they can emerge from the inner world of the artist.

I am both a painter and a photographer. My experience upon visiting the Sagrada Familia Church (Sacred Family), the creation of Antoni Gaudi, was perhaps the most otherworldly sighting of my travel experience. Both the exterior and interior were splendiferous. Working from one of my photo references, I let my ink line tour the facade of the structure, with wonder. I followed up with watercolor shapes that I call "blobs" (not too academic-sounding). The blobs dance with the lines that form the foundation of the artwork. Nothing was done to be "exacting," but rather to express my "emotion of the moment."

### **Bio:**

I've had a full arts career as art educator, art director, graphic designer, art administrator, painter & photographer. Recognized in Artists Magazine as one of 11 artists to watch. I am married to art; it consumes me throughout each day and night. As are my fellow artists, I am fortunate to have art and creation in my life.



## Julianna Kirk



### *The Female Queen*

Fused, Painted, Gold Leafed, Powered Glass, 13" x 13"

\$450

### **Artist Statement:**

The iconic Queen Elizabeth, virgin queen, is my representation of the female ruler. As queen, she is revered and earned her place among men, even though, at times, hard won. The divine feminine provided social justice, spiritual connection to nature and the cycles of life. She knows. She connects. She confounds. She acts. She persists. Hatshepsut, Cleopatra, Catherine The Great, Rani Jhansi, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Empress Suiko all held absolute female power and maintained national order. Elizabeth's energy encompasses unilateral power of female ruler in this piece. Glass, paints, gold leaf, powdered templates, relief layers.

### **Bio:**

Julianna has been exhibiting her art for over 35 years and has had 6 solo exhibits and traveled to tri- state galleries for shows. She has taught art for over 45 years and traveled worldwide to learn art techniques during and after her career as an art educator. "As a practicing glass artist my vision and technical ability with glass fusion gives me the capability to have viewers explore with me what I find exciting and interesting. Recently the concept of the feminine mystique intrigued me and I searched icons throughout our world establishing archetypes where women raised supreme. Female power has given rise to extraordinary permanence in her worship. Historically her spirit was received with great fear and acted on with burnings, drownings and beheadings. All humans have a basic need to grow and so her voice persists!



## Anthony Klinger-Cooley



*Whispers on the Mountaintop*  
Mixed Media, 32" x 43"  
\$3,700



*Penitent John and the Three Pillar*  
Mixed Media, 38" x 49"  
\$4,500

### **Artist Statement:**

In my art, I aim to explore the relationship between the physical and spiritual world. "Whispers on the mountaintop" captures a moment and true experience shared in nature. One day, while hiking in the mountains I was joined at my camp by ravens. They perched near by, their presence a constant through the night. Ravens have long been seen as messengers in many cultures, often representing the bridge between the physical and spiritual worlds. I feel these ravens were a prompt for me to reflect on my life journey. "Penitent John and the Three Pillars" This piece was inspired by a dream that became art. This piece ponders the complexities of redemption and resilience.

### **Bio:**

I trained as a graphic designer, and began my career as a production artist, working for several years in the industry. However, I quickly realized that my true passion was in teaching and inspiring others to create. For the past 25 years, I have been working as an art teacher, sharing my knowledge and experience with students of all ages.



## Clover Konop



### *Fleeting Innocence*

Colored Pencil and Acrylic, 26" x 32"

NFS

### **Artist Statement:**

The piece made, *Fleeting Innocence*, is meant to capture the harsh reality faced as young girls, the changes that have to be adapted. Children are taught of princes, happy endings, a care-free world. Coming to the realization can be very sudden, as innocence is broken, and doubts are created.

### **Bio:**

I am a 16-year-old student artist who attends Northport High School as a junior. Since I was a kid, I have spent my time doodling, drawing and creating. I wish to teach it myself one day, as a college fine arts professor.



## Susan Kozodoy Silkowitz



### *Red Lipstick*

Inkjet Archival Print, 19" x 25"

\$400

### **Artist Statement:**

I love to photograph the fast-paced dynamics of NYC street life. What is exciting for me is how spontaneous the process is, and unpredictable people are. I never know what kind of reaction I may get. Very often, people are completely unaware of me. Lately, I have been photographing people in bus stops uptown, which often have screens with moving advertisements. I find the juxtaposition of the world of advertising with the people, makes for an interesting composition, and I love the colors and reflections.

### **Bio:**

I have been photographing people for over 50 years. I am inspired by people on the streets of New York --their body language, clothes, gestures and interactions.



## Jacqueline Lang



### *Listen*

Graphite and Gold Foil, 10" x 10"  
\$500

### **Artist Statement:**

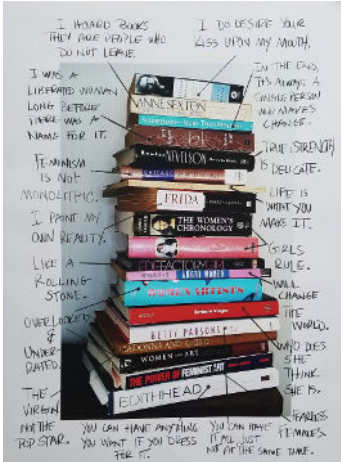
My work tends to feature portraiture of myself or people close in my life (spouse, friends, students). Often there is an emphasis on hair, hands, eyes, and added elements of other aspects of our living world (plants, rocks, water, animals, etc). In ranging from vibrant painting to graphite tones of grey with gold accents, I consider the innate divine in myself and the material world around me. I am interested in the value of every human, a sense of sacredness, and the power of the other species and material world we live with/in. I think of the divine from a humanist non-deific yet animist perspective. I think about my own power and the power of others, human and non-human, that I coexist with.

### **Bio:**

Jacqueline Lang is a full time Visual Arts teacher in the Bronx who draws from her own experience as an Artist to inform her education work. Their personal Artwork focuses on traditional material use in the exploration of Self, often focusing on portraiture and other figurative work as vehicles for concepts of the divine and identity.



## Karyn Mannix



### *Femme Fatale*

Grease Pencil on Photo, 24" x 18"

\$1,600

### **Artist Statement:**

Art as the written word is the direct form of what lies between reflection and expression. I use text in my art and create my works to be as thought-provoking and interactive as possible. My work is an examination of the different sides of my personality and the thinking that lies behind it. In this series, I am using books since they are familiar objects and will pull most viewers in for closer observation. Adding my thoughts in text is a way of questioning the attitudes, inner dialog, and unwritten rules which we have found ourselves with the current environment and our behavior within it.

### **Bio:**

Karyn Mannix, born in New York, has been active in most aspects of the art business. First as a fashion and costume designer, studying at Fashion Institute of Technology. By the age of 21, her clothing line had been seen in feature films, Vogue Magazine, the cover of WWD, Cyndi Lauper's HBO Tour, Michael Mann's "Crime Stories" TV Series, Patricia Field, and was displayed alongside Donna Karan at Bloomingdale's, NYC. Then came various freelance jobs as a fashion illustrator for WWD and French Connection; window installation for Bergdorf Goodman, Diane Von Furstenberg & Barneys, NYC; plus, set and prop design for numerous theater troupes. After moving to East Hampton (NY), she earned a second degree in Post Modern Art Theory and Criticism which led to stints as curator, critic, columnist, gallerist, educator, and eventually she opened her own art school. Previously the owner of four brick and mortar galleries, Karyn has simplified and settled into a career as a private art dealer, representing artists from around the globe. Through all of this, Karyn has never stopped creating her own art and has added playing the electric bass to her repertoire and is currently writing a novel that takes place in the art world.



## Kristen Memoli



### *Thou Shalt Not Want*

Plaster, Paper, Gold Cross Necklace, 8" x 5" x 4"

NFS

### **Artist Statement:**

My journey as an artist is deeply intertwined with my complex relationship with the Catholic Church. For 12 formative years, I attended Catholic school, an experience that left indelible marks on my development—marks that I continue to grapple with as an adult. The iconography of the Church is a symbol of struggle for me. It represents both the tradition and the weight of dogma that I found restrictive, especially as a young woman navigating her identity within the confines of strict religious teachings. As an adult, I have chosen to step away from the Church, but its influence remains a powerful force in my life and work. My art is an exploration of this paradox—a dialogue between detachment and defiance. I deconstruct the symbols and imagery that once defined my understanding of faith and reconstruct them in ways that challenge their original meanings. Through this process, I seek to reclaim agency over my own narrative, turning iconography from a tool of imposition into a canvas for self-expression. *Thou Shalt Not Want*, a face mask made of the artist's face, is quite literally plastered with some of her forbidden wants (such as, "I want to wear red lipstick"). As a symbol of being restrained in her self-expression, the mask's mouth is sewn shut using the artist's childhood gold necklace and cross.

### **Bio:**

Kristen Memoli resides in Huntington, New York. She works as a clinical psychologist, is a mother of two boys and a self-taught artist. Memoli's art is often inspired by contrast and contradictions. Many of her works explore concepts of light versus dark, life versus decay, and joy versus heartache. She most enjoys abstract, landscape, and urban exploration photography as well as creating multimedia pieces. In her multimedia pieces she often includes writing and typed text. As part of her professional work in the field of autism, Memoli focuses closely on language and how words impact people's thoughts and emotions. Incorporating words into her work helps her convey much more depth than just images or objects alone.



## Gail Neuman



*Tibetan Beaded Rope Necklace*  
Jewelry, 12" x 8" x 6"  
\$450

### **Artist Statement:**

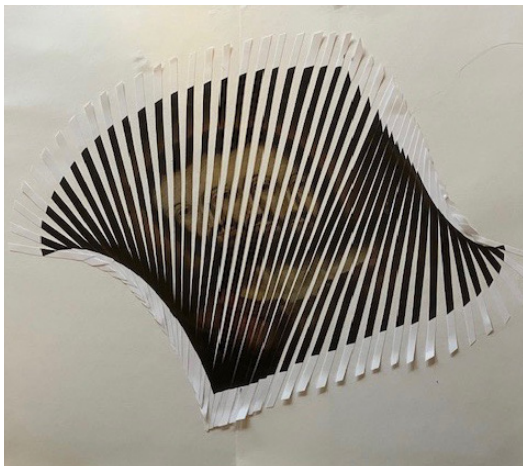
A Tibetan-inspired beaded rope necklace, adorned with charms, carries deep symbolic meaning that reflects Tibetan spiritual traditions, cultural artistry, and connections to the cosmos, nature, and personal transformation. Each element—from the rope to the individual charms—acts as a visual language of sacred iconography.

It is a sacred talisman steeped in meaning. It weaves together cultural, spiritual, and natural elements, offering the wearer protection, balance, and connection to higher realms. The combination of carefully chosen colors, handcrafted beaded forms, and symbolic charms creates a visual meditation—reminding the wearer of their inner strength, the impermanence of life, and the beauty of interconnected existence.

The beaded rope itself is an emblem of continuity, unity, and protection. Its circular structure symbolizes the infinite flow of energy and interconnectedness of all life—mirroring Tibetan beliefs about Samsara, the endless cycle of birth, death, and rebirth.



## Luda Pahl



*Three-Faced Trinity*  
Mixed Media, 17" x 13"  
\$250

### **Artist Statement:**

I work in collage. I have chosen El Greco for my piece "Suspension of (Dis)Belief" because he made his "leap of faith" from classical iconography to being the first impressionist, 400 years ahead of his time. The collage is not about the painting in the inner frame but about the nail that holds it--the nail that "constructs" the perspective, with its position on an angle. The whole collage, in this sense, is about the impossibility of the material object being nailed into space. It's about the impossibility to believe and disbelieve at the same time. Art gives us the chance to believe in the impossible, in the unbelievable. For another collage, I use the strange figure of Christ with three faces, based on an icon of an Anonymous Catalan artist of the 17th century.

### **Bio:**

Born in Russia and educated in the Republic of Georgia, Luda Pahl is an artist, dress designer, book illustrator, translator and art teacher living in New York. She received an M.A. degree in Art and Design from the Academy of Art in Tbilisi, Georgia, and attended the Parsons School of Design. She has been awarded a grant for her collages from the Queens Council on the Arts. Her work has been exhibited in numerous galleries in New York City, and in Monmouth Museum, and her illustrations of prose and poetry have appeared in chapbooks published by New Feral Press.



## Howie Pohl



*Manorville Man*  
Gelatin Silver Film Photography, 14" x 20"  
\$375



*Scene of the Crime*  
Gelatin Silver Film Photography, 14" x 20"  
\$375

### **Artist Statement:**

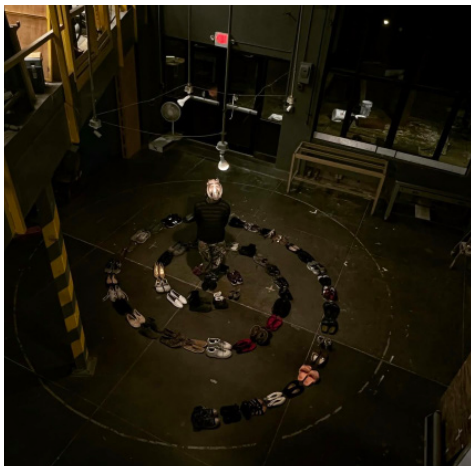
All of the scenes depicted in the submitted photos reflect back to another time, and document the effect of time on the subjects, for better or worse. The Bodhisattva has seen better times and suffers the effects of aging. Manorville Man, the scion of a wealthy family, now sits alone. A gunshot has violated the windshield of the old truck. Saint-Denis, at the entrance of the Notre Dame Cathedral, has lost his head. The Native American women have defied time by maintaining their proud demeanor.

### **Bio:**

A black-and-white film photographer, I seek out objects and scenes that often look backward and reflect the changes wrought by the passage of time. Most of my subjects are achieved almost randomly as I select locations, usually on Long Island, and attempt to find art. These efforts have been successful as my work, captured on film and printed in my home darkroom, has been displayed in more than sixty galleries from Vermont to California.



## Devlin Starr



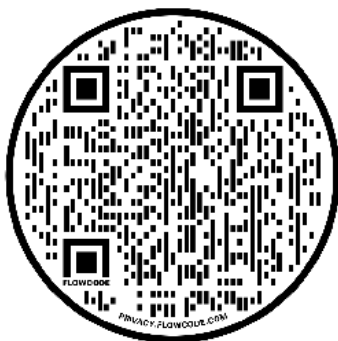
*Spiral of Being*  
Photograph, 22.75" x 22.75"  
\$600

### **Artist Statement:**

Spiral of Being is composed of shoes that were collected through donations. Shoes exist for the soul purpose of sustaining the abuse we put them through so they may provide us comfort. They support us through the endless spiral of life and experience without ever receiving recognition for their sacrifice."

### **Bio:**

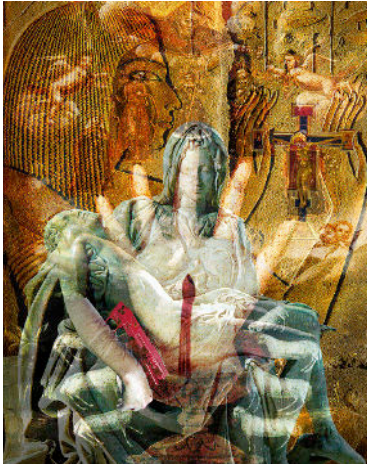
Devlin Starr is a multimedia artist based out of Long Island who's work is inspired by memory, grief, and processing trauma.



Donations made in memory of Devlin Starr will be earmarked for an Artist Award in Devlin's name. Details to be announced with the Staff Family at a later time. All donations are 100% tax deductible.



## Christina Stow



*Iconography*  
Photographic Collage, 16" x 20"  
\$300



*Alice in Wonderland*  
Photographic Collage, 16" x 20"  
\$300

### **Artist Statement:**

Art is not what you see, but what you make others see". – Edgar Degas.

In "Iconography", I have superimposed traditional Christian imagery with Egyptian iconography. On the arm of Jesus in Michaelangelo's "La Pietà", I have added my own cast and wristjack, after a severe wrist break and surgery. Since it was so painful, I added my suffering to the suffering of Christ. Naturally!

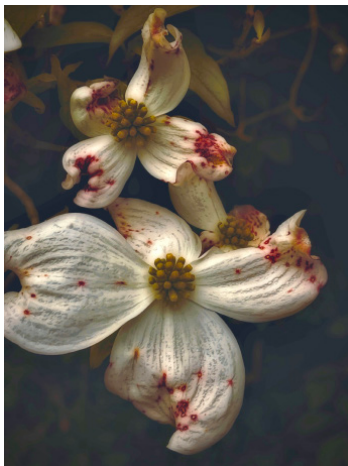
Alice in Wonderland: This is my favorite childhood classic. For a whimsical photo collage, I photographed the pond behind my house for the background. I then shot the opened, modern, picture book, "Alice in Wonderland", to which I added scanned figures from the 1865 original book, illustrated by Sir John Tenniel, and extra mini playing cards.

### **Bio:**

My photographic style is very eclectic. Mainly eschewing reality, the work ranges from the abstract to the surreal, collage to tabletop, and includes portraits and political statements. I celebrate my dark side, while I prefer my gravitas mixed with a spoonful of whimsy.



## Mary Jane Tenerelli



*Friday, 3PM*  
Photograph, 14" x 11"  
\$475

### **Artist Statement:**

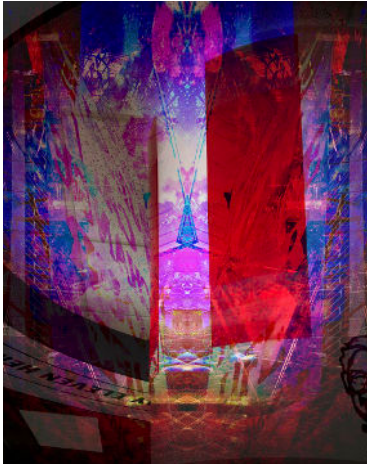
The submitted pieces are meant to represent two different types of spiritual beliefs, seen through the breathtaking beauty of nature, which moves us all no matter what we believe. Divinity comes in all different forms. Nature viewed up close moves us beyond the every day.

### **Bio:**

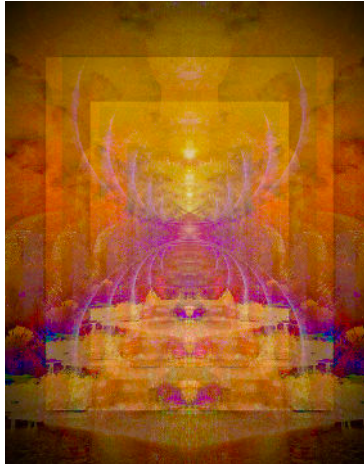
I am a digital photographer who began creating abstract landscapes and still life pictures in 2020, during the COVID lockdown. I am inspired by the beauty and intricacy of nature when viewed closely and by the possibilities represented by landscapes transformed.



## William Von Gonten



*Harland's Palace*  
Digital Collage, 20" x 15"  
\$400



*The Birth of Venus*  
Photographic Collage, 16" x 20"  
\$400

### **Artist Statement:**

My collages are made up of simple photos I took. They are then layered, rotated, flipped, tweaked and lamented over. I will then blend the final art with others, creating something entirely new. During the creation process I strive to make them glow from within; a new world being created from the old. I am intrigued by what they reveal.

### **Bio:**

I am 69 years old and live with my two cats. What inspires me to do my art one can not say. I believe it is the same force that inspires me to drink water and breathe.