



HUNTINGTON ARTS COUNCIL

Essence of Form
February 17 - March 22, 2026



Artist Biographies and Statements



Council on
the Arts

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About the Juror Edward Acosta

The Huntington Arts Council invites artists to participate in Essence of Form, juried by Edward Acosta. Essence of Form explores how abstract shapes, colors, and lines can convey deep, often unspoken meanings. The exhibition invites viewers to move beyond the tangible and engage with the intangible, discovering how even the most minimal forms can evoke powerful emotions and thoughts. All visual media are welcome.

"My selection process centered on works that most clearly embodied the spirit of the prospectus - where form was not merely aesthetic, but structural and intentional. I moved through several rounds of review, allowing initial instinct to guide me, then slowing the process to assess material rigor, scale, and conceptual clarity in relation to a cohesive exhibition." Said Juror, Edward Acosta.

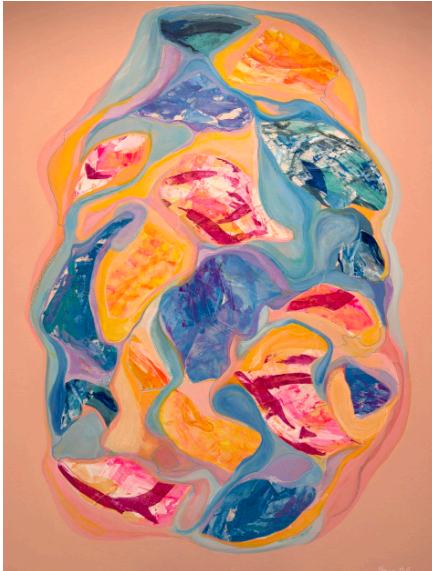
Edward Acosta (b. 1982, Puerto Rico) is a New York-based visual artist with family roots in the Dominican Republic. Acosta is celebrated for his distinctive artistic voice, which blends a perfectionist's touch in his intricate line work with a bold and masterful command of color. His unique style reflects his meticulous attention to detail and commitment to pushing the boundaries of visual expression.

From a young age, Acosta has been captivated by art's power to transcend language and culture, drawing on Pop Art, Street Art, Graffiti, Geometric Abstraction, and Abstract Expressionism in his work. He is known for bold, vibrant acrylic paintings that feature precise line work, layered organic forms, and themes of nature, movement, and emotional tension.

Acosta lives and works in Commack, NY, and has exhibited in major institutions including the Heckscher Museum, Long Island Museum, and Gallery North. His solo show *Contours & Currents* premiered at Gallery North. He also creates art installations in luxury real estate and speaks at art events.



Rosaria Bazan-Pepe



Matriarch
Mixed Media Collage Painting, 30" x 40"
\$2,000

Artist Statement:

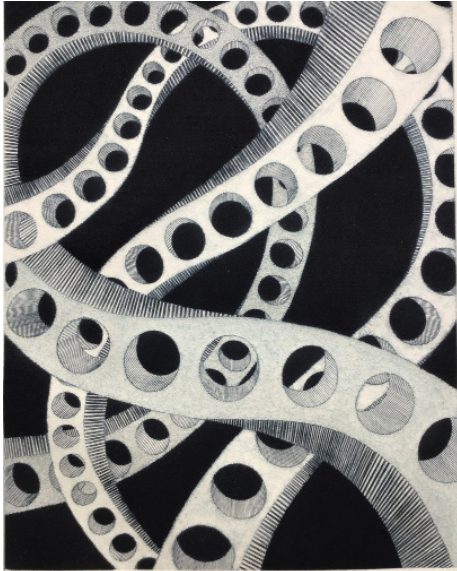
My work uses abstraction to explore emotional states shaped by memory, strength, and lived experience. Through processes of layering, fragmentation, and repair, I reflect on how identity, particularly femininity, is formed and reformed over time. Influenced by quiet natural rhythms and subtle structures, the work holds tension between vulnerability and strength, inviting reflection rather than resolution.

Bio:

Rosaria Bazan-Pepe is a Long Island-based mixed-media artist working in collage, acrylic, ink, and digital printmaking. Her work explores identity, resilience, and the emotional landscape of femininity, drawing on natural forms and overlooked patterns in organic and microscopic imagery. Rosaria often describes her work as abstract painting with paper. A full-time studio artist, she has exhibited her work in galleries and arts institutions throughout New York.



John Benevento



Nautilus
Drypoint Intaglio Print, 22" x 18"
NFS

Artist Statement:

The prints I've submitted to this exhibit, one of them older and one brand new, represent my own personal take on employing abstract shapes, lines, colors, and perspective to convey thoughts and meanings not usually associated with typical works of art. In this submission, both pieces are meant to evoke different types of motion, albeit with different techniques to achieve their goals. "Nautilus" employs drypoint exclusively to display random and chaotic movement, much like the arms or tentacles of an octopus. By contrast, "Time Passages" additionally uses closely-spaced straight lines and colored brush markers to show uniform, controlled motion like the transit of celestial bodies through space or the passage of time as measured by clocks or watches.

Bio:

I am a retired MRI physicist who has always been passionate about drawing, especially when creating detailed pieces of art which mirror my experience in a technological environment. I like to think of my work as the results of some visual experiment: images which are hyper-detailed and highly structured, the findings of which may not be fully revealed or understood upon completion. I particularly enjoy blurring the distinctions among human (and animal) anatomy, plant structure and inanimate objects to create hybrids that may look familiar, yet exist only in some alternate universe.



Tom Brydelsky



Step Inside
Acrylic and Collage on Canvas, 36" x 36"
\$6,000

Artist Statement:

Working abstractly Brydelsky investigates the nature of perception, memory, and the living environment. Bold color and swatches of collage invite the viewer to explore the relationships between color and form.

Bio:

Tom Brydelsky, a painter living on Long Island, New York, creates abstractions in oils and acrylics and continues to explore the beauty of encaustic.



Frank Carfora



#15
Acrylic, 48" x 36"
\$1,400

Artist Statement:

I often watch as viewers instinctively try to "solve" an abstract piece of art... their eyes darting across the surface in a restless search for a recognizable anchor—a horizon line, a face, or a flower. It is a deeply human, almost primal impulse to categorize and label the world around us, but this need for representation often acts as a barrier to true seeing. My hope is that you will resist the urge to name what you see and instead allow yourself to feel the weight of the work. I want you to look past the absence of "things" and discover the immense layers of emotion and physical effort embedded in every single brushstroke. By abandoning the search for a literal subject, one might find that the purpose of abstract art isn't to mirror the external world, but to provide a direct, unfiltered (and perhaps momentary) encounter with the intensity—and subtlety—of the human spirit.

Bio:

Frank Carfora has been a resident of the Town of Huntington for the past 14 years, and loves the vibrant art scene that enriches Huntington and Huntington Station. He studied Fine Arts at SUNY Plattsburgh, and has pursued his passion for Abstract Painting ever since. Despite a "momentary" 28-year hiatus to focus on family and career, Frank's passion for Abstract painting never subsided, and in 2022, he restarted his efforts to put pigment to canvas with a renewed energy and drive. Frank's hope is that his work will offer—on any level—some meaning to others, and perhaps bring joy (or questions, at the very least!) to those who take a moment to view his work.



Barbara Boyd Carter



The Boxing Match, Duquesne Gardens, 1952
Casein on Brown Paper, 22" x 28"
\$5,000

Artist Statement:

Soon after taking her first computer class in Huntington, my mother rendered this view of her backyard, "Cherry tree and bird bath," on a Wacom tablet in MS Paint. She really took to this medium, drawing still life, calendars and Christmas cards of water scenes and old houses in Word, Pencil, Photoshop, and GIF animation.

Bio:

Barbara Boyd Carter's watercolors of old houses and landmarks of Huntington, Cold Spring Harbor and Northport in the 1980s were acquired by the Huntington Historical Society and the First Presbyterian Church in Northport. She graduated Carnegie Tech's School of Art in 1954 with a BFA in Pictorial Design, where she studied with Andy Warhol's teachers. She died in 2019.



Justyna Dawidowicz



Turquoise Beach
Ink, Gouache, Acrylic on Canvas, 22" x 28"
\$390

Artist Statement:

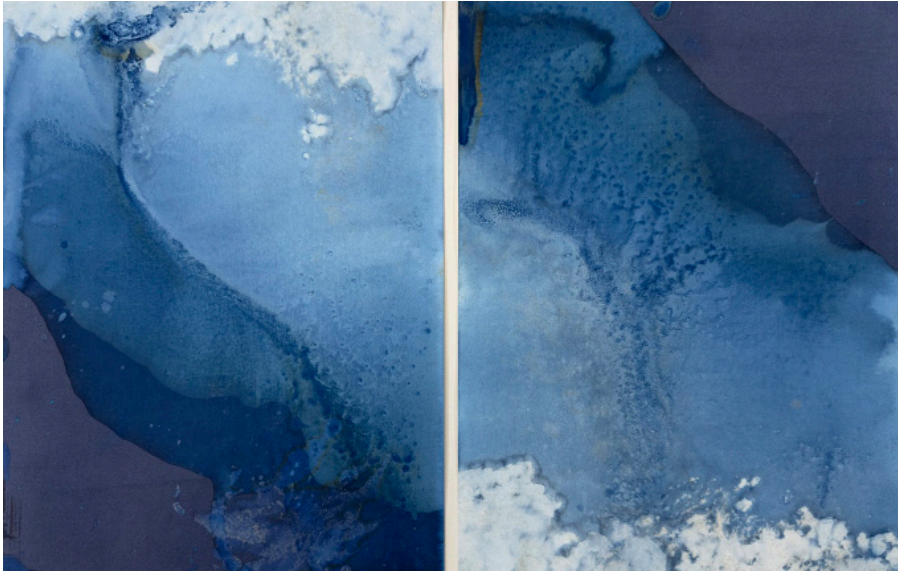
These paintings depict an escape through internal landscape of subconsciousness, where the abstract scale and setting of the stones allow a window into a world which depicts both the real and imaginary landscape elements. The stones can be seen as little pebbles on the beach or as huge minerals floating in space. The cosmic elements in the paintings remind us that there are infinite possibilities and freedoms that come with being a part of something so vast and limitless. The stones depicted in the paintings were once jagged and sharp as a result of the trauma they have received in the past but now they have been smoothed and rounded by time and erosion. Just as our anxieties can be smoothed through the journey of learning as we age and accept not being able to control many aspects of our lives. At the same time there is always a glimmer of hope in the darkest of times. One can choose to move towards that light, depicted in the paintings as shimmering stars and lines made with gold leaf and ink.

Bio:

Justyna Dawidowicz is a contemporary artist based in Long Island, New York. Born in Poland, she left in 1994 for Montreal, where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and Drawing from Concordia University. She exhibited at Montreal galleries including Belgo, Art Mur, and VAV Gallery. In 2013 she moved to Brooklyn, New York, continuing her practice in a studio at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. During this period, her work shifted from realism toward more abstract, process-based approaches. Justyna has also lived in Ottawa, where she received the Best Regional Artist Award from the Ottawa Art Gallery in 2017. Beyond her studio practice, she has extensive experience sharing art-making in healthcare settings, providing art therapy services in mental health and oncology units.



Christine Donnelly



Ebbs and Flows
Unique Cyanotype, 16" x 22"
\$650

Artist Statement:

These works of art demonstrate my exploration of alternative photography to create ethereal and magical images inspired by shapes and forms found in the natural world. As a grateful recipient of the 2025 and 2026 Long Island Grants for the Arts Fellowship, I have been deeply exploring cyanotype processes. Initially working with foraged and up-cycled materials to create photograms, I also experiment with altering chemical components and employing the cyanotype materials as a playful, expressive painting medium. As demonstrated in "Surf, Sand and Sun" and "Ebbs and Flows", I often transition my studio to the outdoors, bringing prepared papers along on hikes and beach visits. Immersing myself and the papers into streams and waves, I capture the essence of these natural water sources in collaboration with the sun. Each image is a magical, surprising result of the organic conversation between the movement and forces of surf, sand, sunshine and the passing of time. Just as water evolves and transforms, these works of art will continue to change over time—subtle shifts in color and texture emerge as the cyanotype chemicals react with salt and sunlight, resulting in "living" works that mirror the rhythms of nature. Through this immersive, connective and meditative creative process, I intend to create images that encourage viewers to pause and reflect on the vital importance of connecting with each other and our natural world.

Bio:

Christine Donnelly is an award winning artist and art educator whose work explores the playful and experimental intersections of nature and abstraction. Born and raised on Long Island, she earned a



Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Graphic Design from Hofstra University and has pursued graduate level art studies at LIU Post and the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Christine earned her Master of Arts in Education from Dowling College. Since 2001, Christine has been an art teacher in the Seaford Public Schools, where she also shares her passion for creativity through facilitating professional development workshops with organizations such as NAEA, ASA, and Balanced Mind. In 2025, Christine was selected by the Art Supervisors Association to receive the Established Educator Award. In addition to various local venues such as the Art League of Long Island, Christine also facilitates community workshops through her creative partnership with the Kasher Studio and Gallery in Northport. Christine's artwork has been featured in solo and juried exhibitions across Long Island, including MoCA LI, Jeanie Tengelsen Gallery, Andy Tarshis Fine Art Gallery and the 2025 Long Island Public Arts Festival. Her work has also been displayed at multiple Gallery North Art & Music Festivals. Christine's artwork earned an award of Honorable Mention 2D at the 62nd Long Island Artists Exhibition. Her pieces are held in private collections throughout the United States and Canada.

Christine recently joined the Board of Directors at the Art League of Long Island where she was also a 2025 Resident Artist. In an effort to strengthen the local arts community, she is also the host of Artist Salons at the Art League of Long Island, a series of networking events for local artists. Christine is a proud recipient of the 2025 and 2026 Long Island Arts Grant Fellowship through which she deeply explores cyanotypes—an alternative photographic process whose experimental qualities align with her love of discovery and her connection to the natural world. Her current body of work includes combining cyanotypes with techniques including monoprinting and soil chromatography to create atmospheric abstractions that echo the beauty of earth, water, and sky. Through her practice, Christine aims to rekindle a human connection to the environment, inviting viewers to pause, notice, and care for the fragile beauty of our planet.



Dennis Dubey



Turbulence
Acrylic on Canvas, 12" x 24"
\$150

Artist Statement:

I spent 43 years as a Clinical Psychologist, helping others to express their thoughts and emotions largely in a verbal manner. My artworks now serve as my own vehicle for self-expression. Fluid Art techniques encourage free flow of paint, ideas, and emotions. Once initiated, paint and emotion flow rapidly, without boundaries or judgment. After they are unleashed, I can then compose definition to convey my purpose.

Bio:

I am a 74 year old artist from Chicago, IL and have been living on Long Island since 1972. After an early Blue Ribbon in a Halloween painting contest at age 8, I took a 65-year hiatus as an artist. I retired my career as a Clinical Psychologist after 43 years and began painting. Recently I was selected to participate in the Solo Artist Pavilion for "Arts on Terry," (9/14/2025); my entry for the "Hang Your Mezuzah" program (Suffolk YJCC) was accepted for exhibition in Dec., 2025; I will have a solo exhibit at the Comsewogue Library ("Deeper Waters") from November 1-30, 2025.



Alex Ferrone



Billowy Flow

Photography: Dye Sublimation on Satin Aluminum, 21" x 31"

\$2,500

Artist Statement:

Photographing from high altitude vantage points above the Earth allows me to capture natural abstractions of varying colors, tones, textures, and dimension. By observing from the sky, I have become more conscious of our precious surroundings, and my photographs are more mindfully created with intention to generate conservation awareness from an aesthetic approach. Not designed within the realm of digital drawing or alteration, my images disconnect observers from present technology and daily discord and engage them to contemplate the tranquility of nature as they meditate on the forms, texture, and colors. Along with presenting our landscape's aesthetic value and meditative benefits, my intention for my photographs is to also strengthen the viewer's awareness and appreciation for our fragile, precious ecological systems.

Bio:

Based on the North Fork of Long Island, as a female fine art aerial photographer, Alex Ferrone is inspired by her environment that she explores from unusual vantage points of photographing from helicopters and camera drone. Informed by the unique, natural abstract compositions created within the water bodies on Long Island, Ferrone's photographic series, Aerial Observations, brings to the viewer the beauty of the environment's ever-changing forms with a focus on the aesthetic and environmental attributes.



Terry Finch



No Way Out
Acrylic on Canvas, 35" x 34"
\$650

Artist Statement:

"No Way Out" was inspired by the slot canyons in south-eastern Arizona. They are a maze of magnificent colors, narrow passage way, and soaring cliffs.

Bio:

Growing up surrounded by the canyons, mesas, rock formations, and vibrant colors of the south-west, I was inspired as an adult to attempt to paint my abstract interpretations of these magnificent landscapes.



Kimberly Gerber



Red Ascension
Photography, 14" x 11"
\$150

Artist Statement:

Not content to accept a place simply for what it is, I use the camera as a tool to discover a distinct vantage point. I splice, fragment, and re-order the buildings, people, and landscapes that surround me, distilling them to elemental shapes and forms. I am curious about the world, peeling back surface layers to show the textures, colors, and scale that unite and contrast one thing from another. Refashioned through the camera's viewfinder, these spaces are made new and ordinary objects are not what they appear to be.

Bio:

Kimberly Gerber is always making something. She is not afraid to experiment with materials and get her hands dirty. Trained as an architect, her photographs investigate form and space. Always in search of fresh perspectives, Kimberly has been known to veer off paths, cross red tape, lay on the ground, and otherwise push her limits with camera in hand.



Gerry Giliberti



Abstract #6
Archival Pigment Print, 24" x 20"
\$500

Artist Statement:

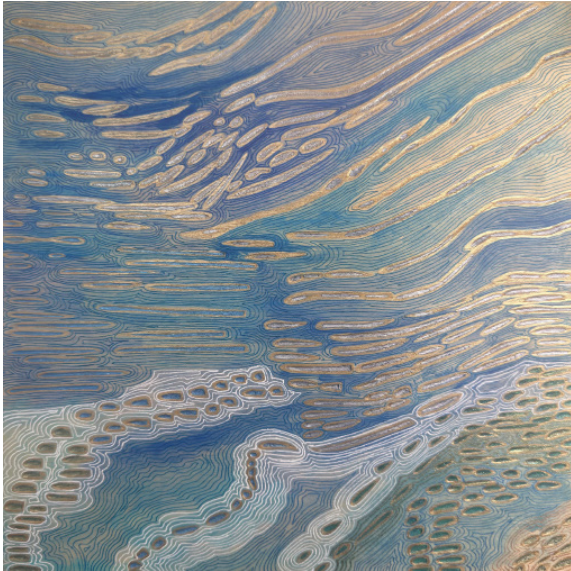
My intent is to create a photographic metaphor that explores the spiritual and the abstract. The artistic aim is to render reality somewhat unreal. The use of multiple media allows me the flexibility to capture subtleties and mysteries of light that help redefine the academic assumptions of what photographic art really is.

Bio:

I'm a print-based photographic artist who uses graphics, photography, sculpture and digital imagery to create abstract, surrealistic images and constructions that bring the viewer into a new visual world. Having a classical bachelor of fine arts education including printmaking, photography, sculpture, oil and watercolor painting, illustration, etching, silk-screening and other specialized printmaking processes, including archival photographic processing techniques, that lays the foundation for my ability to see simple images among complex textures.



Eve Hammer



Playa Villa Palmar
Mixed Media, 10" x 10"
\$450

Artist Statement:

My work is driven by process rather than predetermined outcome. Each piece develops through layers of mark-making that respond to the surface and to shifts in energy, attention, and emotion over time. I'm interested in how repetition, interruption, and accumulation can create tension, movement, and quiet moments within a composition. The act of working becomes a way of listening—allowing form to emerge through presence, patience, and physical engagement with the materials. Rather than communicating a fixed narrative, the work offers space for reflection, inviting viewers to encounter their own sensations, rhythms, and interpretations within the structure of the piece.

Bio:

Eve Hammer is a Long Beach, New York–based mixed-media artist working primarily on salvaged wood, treating each surface as an expansive, textured field for exploration. Using ink, pen, marker, and paint in intuitive and nontraditional ways, she blurs the line between drawing and painting while building abstract compositions that move between free-flowing gesture and subtle structure. Inspired by nature's soft geometry and a meditative, process-driven practice, her work reflects an inner landscape shaped by rhythm, repetition, and emotional resonance.



Heather Heckel



Mobius Arch

Color Pencil and Adhesive Vinyl on Patterned Paper, 16" x 16"

\$250

Artist Statement:

This artwork was created during my artist residency at Alabama Hills National Scenic Area in California, a Bureau of Land Management site. My inspiration was to document the forms created by eroding metamorphosed volcanic rocks. My first impression of this landscape was the otherworldliness of the terrain, and being baffled by the concept that these rocks are still in the process of morphing. I documented this time and space since it will look different in our distant future. I created this artwork using adhesive vinyl and colored pencil on patterned paper. I chose this patterned paper because the designs reminded me of the layered geological processes that formed this unique topography. The adhesive vinyl comes in a variety of vibrant colors that are an exaggeration of colors that I spotted in the desert, and offers a resting spot for viewers. Ultimately, this is a lesson in positive and negative space.

Bio:

Dr. Heather Heckel, EdD, is an artist and art educator who lives in Manhattan with her two dozen houseplants, and teaches on Long Island. Her award-winning artwork has been shown internationally, and is part of several national permanent collections. She has been awarded over 30 artist residencies through the National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management, and loves traveling domestically and abroad.



Melissa Johnides



Macro Worlds
Photography, 18" x 20"
\$300



Two Feathers
Photography, 16" x 20"
\$300

Artist Statement:

At 30 years into my journey with photography, I have wanted to focus on something I have always admired but never dove into, that being, both macro photography and creative studio photography. Coincidentally, this fits the theme of 'Form' quite well. I am motivated to photograph the colors, shapes, and textures of natural materials. At the same time, I am adding my own hand to the work by adding maybe color or light in a way that can both alter and increase the interest of the item being photographed. I wish to reflect back to the viewer something they may not have been able to see on their own, that lies in subjects they are actually quite familiar with.

Bio:

Melissa Johnides has been making art her entire life. She is a native Long Islander and an art educator of 20+ years. It is experiences with people and places that inspire her art, most often through the mediums of photography and mixed media.



Joan Kim Suzuki



Give Kindness and It Will Come Back
Acrylic, Oil, Sand, Wax on Canvas, 36" x 48"
\$2,500

Artist Statement:

My abstract piece explores the idea of harmony through the recurring symbol of the circle—an everlasting reminder that what we put into the world returns to us. Inspired by the colors of dawn, it carries a sense of renewal, peace, and balance. The scattered circles and blooming flowers represent both the cycles we move through and the quiet growth that happens beneath the surface. Even the roots serve as a grounding force, suggesting that serenity begins from within. Though abstract art is not my usual medium, creating this work allowed me to express my ethics and hopes that shape my life.

Bio:

Joan Kim Suzuki is a self-taught American artist shaped by a deeply cultural Korean upbringing. Her work explores the harmony between her Korean heritage and American identity, blending both perspectives into expressive, contemporary pieces. Through her art, she celebrates the beauty of belonging to both worlds.



Christopher Mallon



Tibbet's Twist
Segmented Wood Turning, 16" x 12" x 12"
\$2,000

Artist Statement:

My entry for "Essence of Form" is a piece I've titled "Tibbet's Twist", in honor of the Artist Malcolm Tibbet's, whose book, "The Art of Segmented Turning" inspired me to try this very complicated and difficult technique. Tibbet's describes the process as a "Segmented Ribbon", comprised of hundreds of small pieces of Black Walnut, Maple, and Padauk, glued up in alternating patterns, arranged in angled strips, and cut into cone shapes that are then cut in half and re-glued to form the flowing "ribbon" shape of the piece. It is an extremely difficult technique requiring accuracy and much patience, but the result is one that catches the viewer's eye, and always begs the question : How is this done? I thought about this piece and reviewed the instructions in the book for 8 years before finally deciding to try it. I hope you enjoy it!

Bio:

Chris Mallon (CHRISTUFF) is a Long Island based Artistic Woodworker, specializing in Wood turning, Marquetry, (2-D Painting with Wood), and Intarsia, (3-D Marquetry). A longtime member of Long Island Woodworkers, I am inspired by the beauty of wood, and the incredible effects that can be created through it's use.



Emily Martin



Above the Lines
Oil on Canvas, 30" x 48"
\$2,000

Artist Statement:

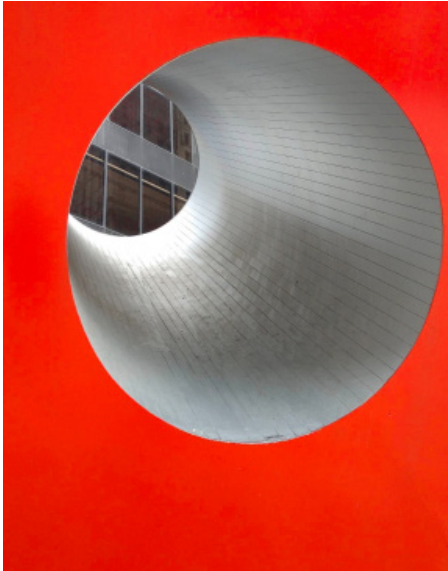
My current body of work welcomes the viewer into moments of peace that I observe in the midst of the chaos and brokenness in the world around me. As I explore these moments of peace, I realize that I find respite in nature. I'm consistently drawn to the textures, colors, and shapes that are found in the natural world specifically the magnificent colors and forms in sunsets throughout the season. As I layer paint, I aim to mimic the forms of the changing foliage with bold sunset palettes in order to invite the viewer to partake in a peaceful pause.

Bio:

Emily Martin is a textile artist, weaver, painter, and educator. She is currently the Arts & Education Consultant at the Heckscher Museum of Art (Huntington, NY) and an adjunct art professor at St. Joseph's University (Patchogue, NY). Emily received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fiber with a concentration in Graphic Design from the Maryland Institute College of Art. Emily was an instructor and college portfolio advisor at Huntington Fine Arts (Greenlawn, NY) teaching drawing, painting and sculpture. Emily has taught floor loom weaving and block printing at the Textile Arts Center (Brooklyn, NY) and the Center for Contemporary Printmaking (Norwalk, CT). Drawing inspiration from textures found in the world around her, Emily strives to create abstract, multimedia work that incorporates mundane, natural textures with her faith.



Kristen Memoli



The Red Cube
Photography, 16" x 20"
\$125

Artist Statement:

As a young child, my, now retired, architect father often brought me into Manhattan to visit his office and walk amongst the buildings that inspired him. We would cross the bridge into the city, and he would teach me about perspective, light, lines, and color. Years later, as I walked around Manhattan with my own children, I was struck by all of those elements in this one simple shot.

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.



Jeanne Menoutis



Pas de Trois
Stoneware, Glaze, 22k Gold Overglaze, 25" x 7" x 2.5"
\$1,000

Artist Statement:

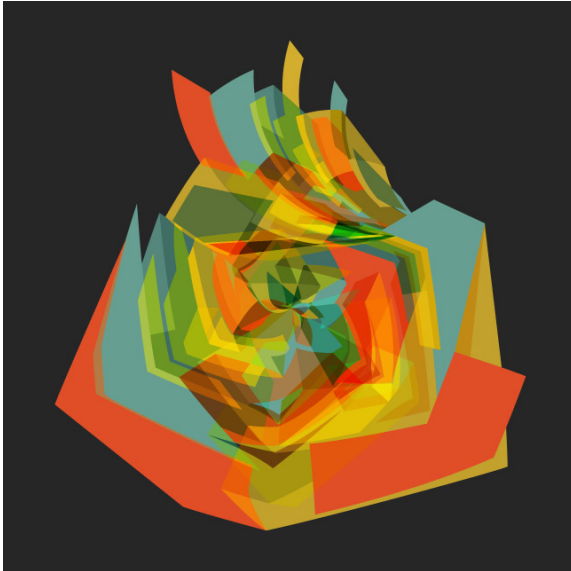
An homage to my time as a modern dancer, Pas de Trois undulates and moves gracefully on the wall - its gold centerpiece shining as the principal dancer surrounded by her two supporting partners.

Bio:

Jeanne Menoutis is a local, North Shore ceramic artist creating sculpture, functional pottery, and body art in porcelain and stoneware. Jeanne enjoys breathing new life into discarded fabrics such as old lace by using them to emboss texture and designs into her work. Old denim and dishcloths are resurrected into sculptures when dipped in liquid porcelain and fired. Many of her pieces are embellished with a third firing in 22k gold luster. Jeanne's art combines her love of thrifting and reusing with her passion for creating art.



Kasmira Mohanty



Kinetic Bloom
Vector Illustration, 16" x 16"
\$200

Artist Statement:

My abstract artwork represents a conscious departure from the portraiture I am commonly known for, creating space to explore complex emotions and ideas that are difficult for me to express through words or figurative imagery. By stepping away from defined faces and identities, I focus on color, texture, rhythm, and form as primary carriers of meaning. Many of the abstracts I am submitting play with the idea of sound, using visual rhythm, repeated line work, and layered compositions to suggest movement, vibration, and resonance. These pieces are inspired by internal states, shifting moods, and unspoken experiences that cannot always be captured through realism. Abstraction allows me to trust instinct, embrace imperfection, and let each work evolve organically, inviting viewers to form their own emotional and personal interpretations.

Bio:

Kasmira Mohanty is an artist who expresses emotion and identity through thoughtful, creative work, blending imagination with personal experience. She is inspired by everyday moments, culture, and the power of art to tell stories and connect people across different perspectives.



Patricia A. Morrison



Symphony of Color
Acrylic, 25" x 30"
\$800

Artist Statement:

My name is Patricia Morrison I was born in Harlem, New York and was raised in Port, Jefferson, Long Island. For many years I was a nursing assistant and dialysis technician. I acquired a Nursing Assistant Certificate from BOCES and a Dialysis Technician Certificate from Stony Brook hospital. When in high school I took many art classes and often enjoyed drawing my classmates and teachers. Over the years I attended many art college courses. Recently I been creating abstract painting and using modern color theory, Newton For this piece I chose a stretched cotton canvas and primed it three times. I worked with synthetic and bristle brushes and rollers to apply paint. I also used Golden and Winsor & Newton acrylic mediums. I wanted to express the love of life and to paint something uplifting.

Bio:

I am Patricia Morrison I am a passionate about art and I enjoy experimenting with all types of mediums. I have used in the beginning pencil and charcoal, then ink, watercolor, oil and acrylic paint. Recently my themes are nature, family memories, and experimenting with Josef Albers color theory. I am proficient in realism as well as abstract genres.



Howie Pohl



Estee Lauder Building No.4
Silver Gelatin Film Photography, 23" x 17"
\$375

Artist Statement:

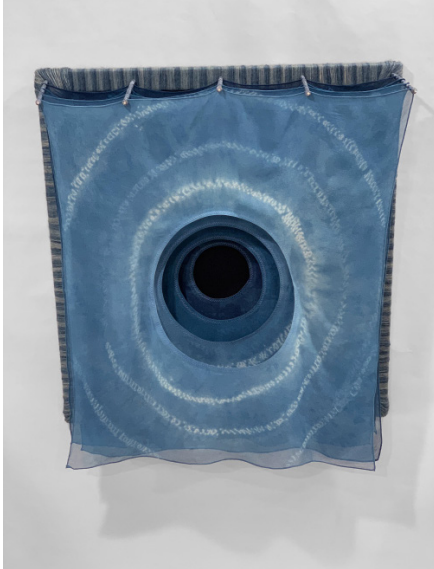
Most of my photography occurs in random trips throughout Long Island. I am always on call to find visual elements- shapes, forms, lighting, unusual elements, in their natural environments. Many of my photographs show the withering effects of time on nature and manmade structures and objects. All of the photos submitted for this exhibit isolate shapes from larger objects or natural elements, and whittle them down into something that will hopefully interest the eye and the intellect.

Bio:

I am an analog photographer, shooting black and white film and printing in my home darkroom. A friend suggested I show my work in galleries in 2015, and, since then, it has appeared in over 75 venues throughout the US, including sixteen times at the Huntington Arts Council. My goal has always been to find art and beauty in unexpected places and to convert those scenes into small visual treasures.



Bernadette Puleo



Empty Echo
Fiber, 26" x 28" x 6.5"
\$1,000

Artist Statement:

To me an echo is a word that evokes an inner voice. The voice of our memories. But what happens to that voice when it is stolen by dementia or Alzheimer's disease? That echo becomes empty, void of its own inner voice. The victims can no longer hear the echo of their identity.

From the void of darkness to the fading light, from infancy to old age we collect memories. As children our memories are sharp and clear as the darkest of the panels and as we age the memories begin to fade as represented by the lightest panel. The hand stitched shibori concentric circles represent waves of memories as they reach out to speak to our inner selves. But the circular portals in each panel represent the emptiness of that communication.

Bio:

I am a life long graphic designer/textile designer with a MFA in Visual Communications. In recent years, I have been growing Japanese Indigo. This plant and its blue pigment is my muse and inspires my fiber art.



SkuLLivan



Feeling Loved Through Bulletholes
Acrylic on Canvas, 22 3/4" x 22 3/4"
\$5,000

Artist Statement:

Think of me as an observer of the society, a conduit through which emotions and feedbacks manifest in artistic ways. There are several messages I wish to transpose in my art, references to a deep exploration of the hectic and sometimes shady behaviors that underscore the human experience, confronting the viewer with the stark reality of our species' impact on each other and all the damages we're inflicting to our planet. The principles guiding my artworks are deeply rooted in a desire to shed light on the petty insecurities and selfish needs prevalent in our society and as individuals, coming from mind visions, streams of thoughts and experiences. Through monstrous and emotional portraits, both figurative and abstract imaginary spaces, I seek to create a dialogue about the often unspoken facets of our existence while trying to leave a mark on the time. It's a combination of rough feelings and peculiar aesthetics that define my personal style. I love experimenting with different techniques such as charcoal, acrylic, ink and watercolors and I mostly use paper, canvas and cardboards as my preferred surfaces for painting and draw. Art it's a necessity that serves as a poignant reminder that, as part of humanity, the burden can be unbearable, yet it is through shared experiences of pain, depression and desolation that we find our deepest connection and understanding with ourselves and the planet we all live on together. Creating art is imperative! In these hard times it's an highly subversive act, there might not be a tomorrow to do it.

Bio:

Painting and producing dark art, informal contemporary abstract and digital artworks. In my public performances I always wear a skull mask because it's not important who I am but the message people get from my work. SkuLLivan is the deepest voice of my artistic character who expresses himself both with emotional figurative in an abstract-informal language, as his theme can only be depicted in iconoclastic pictorial thought. As an artist I must embrace the courage to paint the infinite and imagine it according to my sensitivity and, above all, according to the orderly perception I have of space and human nature.



James Slezak



Composition 0224
Digital Photo Composition, 20" x 30"
\$800

Artist Statement:

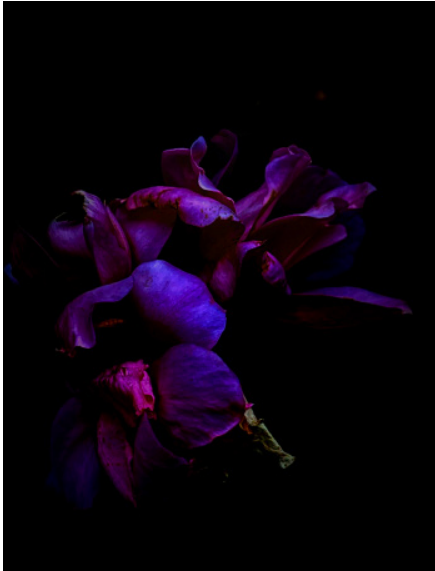
I enjoy making small compositions of materials and then photographing these against a white background in strong sunlight using a macro lens. Then I make adjustments in Photoshop.

Bio:

I enjoy finding visually interesting subjects in the world around me. I then enjoy interpreting these subjects.



Mary Jane Tenerelli



Dark Promise
Photography, 14" x 16"
\$475

Artist Statement:

My work is meant to convey the beauty, the fear, the curiosity and revelation that comes with exploring the unknown or the unseen.

Bio:

Mary Jane Tenerelli is a photographer who began taking pictures in March of 2020, often abstract landscapes or dreamscapes, and macro flora images.



Jo Wadler



Metamorphic Rocks

Ceramic, Glaze, Candle, 4" x 6"

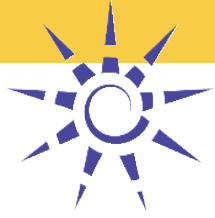
NFS

Artist Statement:

My journey as a jewelry artist, metalsmith, and fiber artist is a tapestry woven from a deep reverence for nature and a lifelong fascination with the intricate beauty of the world around me. Inspired by my daily walks, gardening, and the instinctual allure of shiny objects—much like a raven—I find profound meaning in capturing these elements in wearable art. With a foundation in Graphic Design from the School of Visual Arts (SVA), my artistic evolution has been a fusion of creativity and craftsmanship. Transitioning from graphic design, I discovered a passion for metalsmithing, enameling, fiber arts, and ceramics, each medium offering a new canvas to express my connection to the natural world.

Bio:

Jo Wadler is a mixed-media artist and metalsmith whose work explores the intersection of sculpture, craft, and storytelling through wearable art. She primarily works with enamel, metal, clay, and fiber—materials she uses to create expressive, one-of-a-kind pieces that push the boundaries of traditional jewelry. Each creation, whether a ring, necklace, or ceramic-enamel hybrid, is treated as a small sculpture with its own narrative and presence. Driven by curiosity and a passion for experimentation, her creative process is intuitive and idea-driven, often beginning with visualizations that evolve through sketching and hands-on exploration. Jo's ideas thrive on the energy of trying new materials and approaches, where mistakes are embraced as part of the discovery.



Troy Wilkerson



Fragment
Oil on Canvas, 20" x 20"
Price on Request

Artist Statement:

Guided by memories of spaces that may have been, or yet to be. The disjointed fragments merge, rigged by the paths linear and intersecting, emerging a tense field for discovery.

Bio:

A Huntington native, Troy is a multidisciplinary artist with a career in illustration, fine art and education for over twenty years.



Kitty Wilkonski



Primordial Essence
Canvas, 18" x 24"
\$450

Artist Statement:

My work explores the relationship between emotion, memory, and the quiet moments that shape our inner worlds. Through my practice, I seek to translate lived experience into visual form, using my chosen medium as both a language and a mirror. Each piece is rooted in observation—of people, of nature, and of myself—transforming ordinary details into reflections of something deeper and more universal.

Bio:

What inspires me as an artist is the quiet emotions, shapeless forms, and the essence of life surrounding us within and without. What is curated from the silence, stillness, and simply letting go of a blueprint. I find myself unknowing of what I will create. I follow my instincts while residing in a meditative flow state. This allows me to freely express without structure, it is without limit. I base my work on the abstract of life. For example, I think of objects at a microscopic level. This highlights the primordial essence of us all. The pixels that come together to create form. I desire my art to remain up to the interpretation of the viewer, giving it many different identities. It is not simply one thing, it is a compilation of perspectives. My art is not based on the product of my work, but more so the journey in which it emerges from.



Valentina Yefimova



Passion (Diptych)

Molding Paste, Rose Gold Leaf, Acrylic on Canvas, 8" x 8"

\$400

Artist Statement:

My practice explores the intersection of past and present, sound and sight, and the evolving relationship between humanity and the natural world. Each work emerges from an ongoing dialogue shaped by personal experience and broader, universal themes.

Every phase of my artistic journey has contributed to the development of my visual language, allowing me to create paintings that balance introspection with collective resonance. My work is informed by the legacy of art history, including Botticelli's articulation of feminine grace, Renoir's sensuality, John Singer Sargent's approach to color in portraiture, and Claude Monet's exploration of light. The use of gold references both Gustav Klimt and contemporary artist Anselm Kiefer, connecting historical symbolism with material experimentation.

I work in mixed media, combining acrylic and oil paint with molding paste and gold leaf to create layered surfaces rich in texture and luminosity. Through these materials, I examine the connection between humanity and environment.

Bio:

With a background in fashion design in New York, Valentina Yefimova now translates that visual foundation into painting, drawing inspiration from movement, materiality, and the enduring dialog between form and emotion, exploring timeless themes through color and composition.



Angeli Zankel



Year 2020
Acrylic on Wood Board, 36" x 24"
\$2,500

Artist Statement:

My work was inspired by the chaos of the year 2020. In the World Health System, we witnessed some of the most amazing moments. Our heroes wore white and blue coats with visors. We watched as they worked tirelessly and willingly, and their efforts will never be forgotten.

Bio:

Angeli Zankel is a Contemporary artist living in the suburbs of New York City. Born in Lima, Peru. Raised in an artistic environment, she was influenced by her father who was a successful illustrator and an advertising art director, fostering her passion for art from a young age. Angeli pursued her education in Advertising, earning an Associates Degree, and later delved into Fine Arts at New York Institute of Technology. Following a prosperous career in Advertising and Marketing, she has now shifted her focus to her enduring love for fine art, showcasing a distinctive style characterized by abstract composition and vibrant colors that evoke strong emotions and visual impact.