

WOMEN AND NATURE



A MSAC OPEN CALL
EXHIBITION



Selected artists/artworks for the online exhibition
May 7, 2020 - June 30, 2020 via three social media platforms
Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter: @mdartscouncil

Selected Jurors

- Laura Amussen
- Kellyn Mahan
- Jillian Abir MacMaster

Laura Amussen



In 2006, Laura Amussen received her MFA from Rinehart School of Sculpture at the Maryland Institute College of Art. Since graduating she has been an active participant in Baltimore's local art scene. She is an award-winning artist, an educator, and independent curator. She was the director of exhibitions and curator at Goucher College for over ten years, where she programmed and mounted over 100 exhibitions. Since 2012, she has been applying a thematically based, curatorial approach to her work, producing multiple works simultaneously, one informing the other. Thus, her practice is that of a visual storyteller, employing an interdisciplinary approach that often includes large-scale site-specific installations, intimate sculptures, mixed media works, videos, projections, photographs, and performances. Amussen's work has been exhibited locally and nationally, as well as featured and reviewed in many publications including *Sculpture Magazine* and the *New York Times*.

Kellyn Mahan



Kellyn Mahan is an entrepreneur and arts advocate in the state of Maryland. She founded 12 Bees Creative which is a creative boutique that provides clients with marketing and brand services, with a unique focus on partnering with the creative economy and art community. As a large-scale event and festival organizer, she has created and produced over 600 events that have invited tens of thousands of people to participate in the arts.

Jillian Abir MacMaster



Jillian Abir MacMaster (b. 1995, she/her) is a Palestinian-American photographic artist from Frederick, Maryland. She graduated from Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, West Virginia with a BFA in photography in 2017. She has exhibited her work locally and nationally and is a passionate arts advocate.

Selected Artists & Artworks

These pieces were chosen as part of MSAC's juried exhibition, Women and Nature. This exhibit explores our relationship with Mother Earth through 2-dimensional visual art and poetry created by Maryland artists.

Selected Artists List

Visual Arts

1. Anna Fine Foer
2. Bridgett Sullivan
3. Carol Brown Goldberg
4. Christine Neill
5. Claudia Cappelle
6. Curtis Woody
7. Dominique Butler
8. Geraldine Pontius
9. Joan Bevelaqua
10. Kami Olsen
11. Lauren Silex
12. Margaret Dowell
13. Molly Nuzzo
14. Monique Crabb
15. Lorena Long
16. Rhonda Smith
17. Nikita Yogaraj
18. Angela Helbert
19. Julie Simon
20. Kathy Lynn
21. Lynn Parks
22. Chloe Irla
23. Renee Van der Stelt
24. Diane Hunt
25. Joan Rosenstein

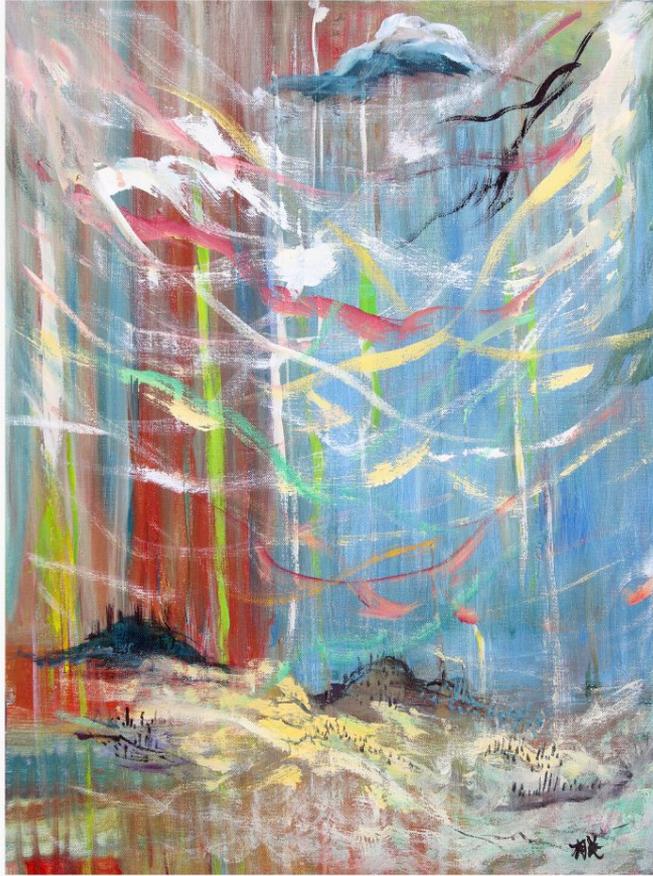
Visual Arts

Invited artist: The First Lady of Maryland Yumi Hogan

My artwork is my interpretation and abstract vision of the harmony of nature. We human beings are part of nature like cool breezes, trees and flowing water. I feel this existence in the meaning of nature through the freedom of movement and unstructured imagery. All of our lives are connected in this way.

Some of my works depict the sudden change that has affected my life. I began to use more colors and lines. The flowing colors and lines represent a childhood memory of my mother and grandmother making silk fabrics, carefully moving each silk strand in the air. I am reminded of the soft colorful strands, swaying with the breeze.

This work is my interpretation and abstract vision of the harmony of nature. We human beings are part of nature like cool breezes, trees and flowing water. All of our lives are connected in this way. Rather than replicate a scene, each of my paintings has no beginning, no end, and no focal point but represents a continuous flow as if wondering through a dream. It is my intent to make people feel and understand the breath of nature through my works.



YUMI HOGAN

Nature of Symphony 4

Mixed media on Canvas

31" h x 25" w, 2017

Website- <http://www.yumihogan.com/>

1. Anna Fine Foer

Baltimore City

Anachronistic is a word that fits much of my work. Digital technology allows me to reproduce images to construct a collage made in a traditional way; with cut paper and adhesive playing with distortions between visual perspective and surface image. I exploit this combination of ultra modern and old by placing images of new technological devices or practices in ancient or historic settings; a commentary about the state of “civilization”.

I may be describing the curve of the earth on a flat piece of paper and using collaged images to blur boundaries between the natural and the manufactured/technological world.



Terra Cognita

Collage, hand-colouring

24" h x 35" w, 1998

Instagram- @afineartiste

Facebook- annafine4art

Website- www.annafineart.com

ANNA FINE FOER

2. Bridget Z. Sullivan

Baltimore City

Bridget Z. Sullivan, a resident of Baltimore, Maryland, is a recipient of two Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Awards. She exhibits her work in local, national and international venues, and is a Professor, and Director of the Interactive Media Design Center at Towson University.



BRIDGET Z. SULLIVAN

Commission

Archival pigment, pastel, graphite, charcoal
on fine art paper

24" h x 24" w, 2019

Website- www.bridgetzsullivan.com

info@bridgetzsullivan.com

3. Carol Brown Goldberg

Montgomery County

Carol Brown Goldberg was born in Baltimore, MD. She moved to the Washington, DC metro area after graduating from University of Maryland with a B.A. in American Studies. She received a second B.A. ((BFA)) at the Corcoran School of Art, where she was awarded the Eugene M. Weisz award upon graduation.



CAROL BROWN GOLDBERG

Maggie on my Mind

Acrylic on Canvas

58" h x 79" w, 2015

Video link

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydp-rcF9x_Q

4. Christine Neill

Baltimore City

My work chronicles the ephemeral states of the natural world. I note intersections where environmental and anthropological worlds meet. The effects of environmental changes and invasive species on human life and the reaction of earth's habitat to these threats underlie my investigations. Watercolor and drawings are applied to W/C paper; digital segments of my photos are printed onto the handwork and over painted until all surfaces have a layer of watercolor. An image is often printed on the framing Plexiglas.

White death syndrome is decimating coral reefs worldwide. Coral colonies coexist with an alga, which nourish the coral. Pollution and warming sea temperatures are killing the algae, thus starving the corals. Dead reefs, devoid of the life-giving algae, turn a stark white. The Plexi print depicts microscopic zooxanthellae leaving the colonies dissipating as they rise.



CHRISTINE NEILL

White Death

Watercolor, archival pigment print on paper,
framing plexiglass

42”h x 28” w, 2018

Instagram- @christine.Neill01

Facebook- Cneill@mica.edu

Website- www.ChristineNeill.com

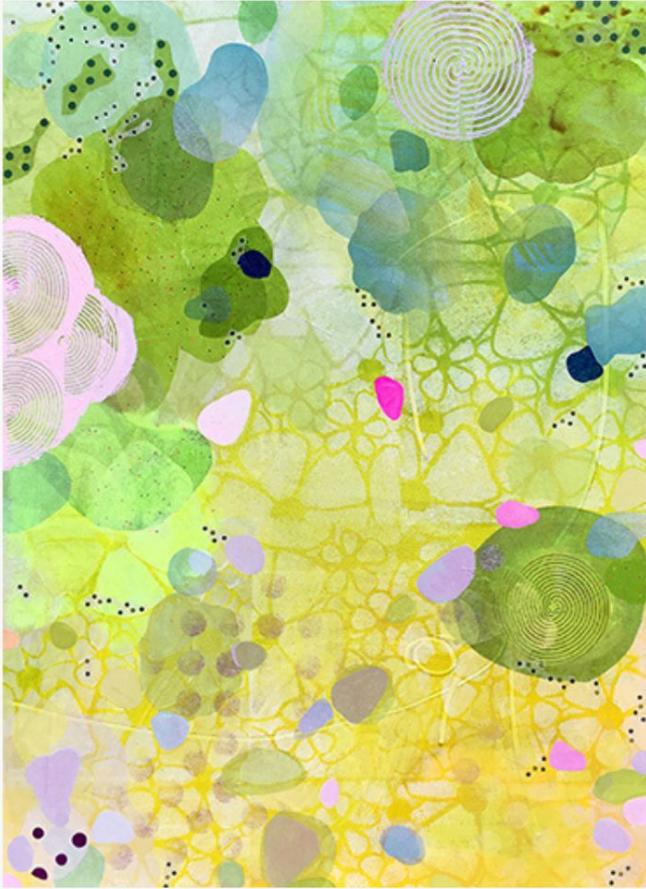
5. Claudia Cappelle

Baltimore City

Painting has become for me an instrument of personal transformation as well as an avenue of growth, not only for the development of my art but the evolution of my spirit. This process allows for the freedom to explore new ideas and challenges the pursuit of my visual integrity. It is an expression that involves making choices and taking risks, while inviting openness for finding better solutions. It involves trust, letting go, giving up control and preconceptions; thereby creating something greater and less contrived, often more powerful than what I had originally conceived.

A pivotal change in my work occurred in 2004 with the discovery of no longer being interested in recreating nature through representation. The engagement with this new process became an exploration of seeing inward to express the spiritual essence of nature through abstract form. The expression of nature in abstraction has led my work towards a more authentic direction. It allowed my own visual language and symbols to emerge.

Searching inwardly allows a complete transformation from the beginning idea to the final painting. This process is an ongoing quest that opens infinite possibilities.



CLAUDIA CAPPELLE

Zen Garden (with white floater frame)

Acrylic, oil, and paper collage

48"h x 36" w x 2"

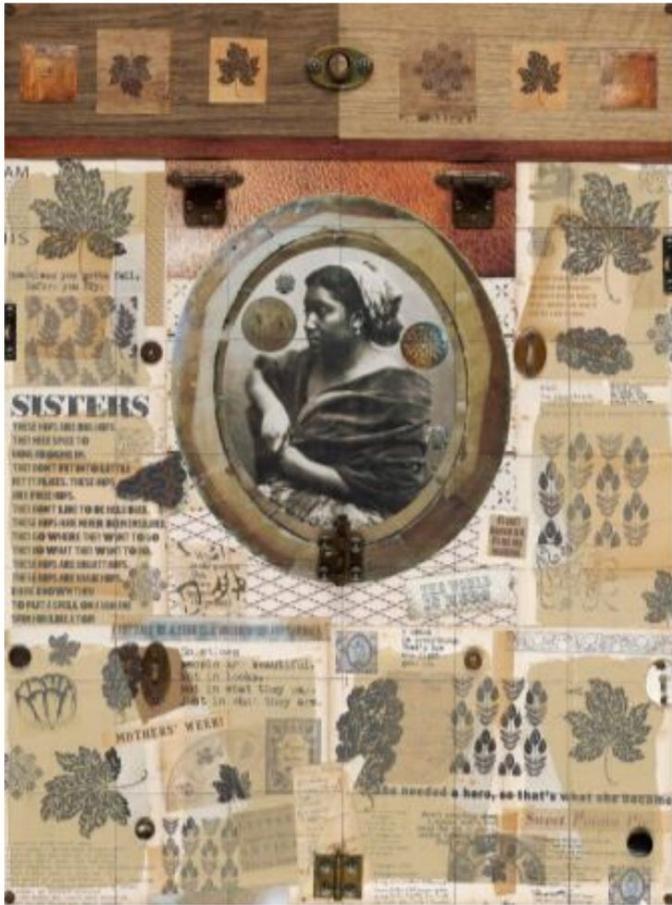
Email- cmcappelle@gmail.com

Website- <https://www.claudiacappelle.com/>

6. Curtis Woody

Prince George's County

As a visual artist, I get to play around with boundless visual elements I can gather and juxtapose them to give me and the viewer particular reference points to elicit something perceptive in our visual memories. With these elements I have created a series which I refer to as “quilt paintings”. I begin each painting with a geometric vocabulary of hand-cut museum board blocks. The block grid is the conceptual underpinning of each quilt painting. I create these paintings with the understanding that each block has a life of its own. Some are painted with gesso or modeling paste for a raised surface. Other important elements of the paintings are the colors. My challenge is to create an arrangement of colors that have contrast yet blend together. I approach my art with great honesty. My goal is not to pre-plan the end results, rather to let the feelings and the emotions of the overall design dictate how each block fit together. Mediums may include acrylic, pastel, graphite, texture crackle or clay paint. I incorporate beads, rope, paper, grommets, fabric, hot glue and various other objects while constructing the blocks. Inspiration comes from many sources. I incorporate images of Adinkra symbols, the Bassa alphabets of Liberia and small segments of authentic slave narratives. Other sources of inspiration are from early 19th century quilt makers. Some replicas of old newspaper advertisements, articles, messages and photographs occasionally accentuate the compositions while adding a symbolic richness to the paintings. The meaning of the attached elements often becomes clearer to me as they are assembled. Because of the multi-layering it is my expectation that the creations offer a powerful, spiritual, sensitive ongoing experience and at times are biting commentary.



CURTIS WOODY

Stepping Lively in Place

Mixed Media Collage Painting

32" h x 40" w, 2017

Email- cwdotman@yahoo.com

Website- <https://www.msac.org/artists/curtis-woody#/0>

7. Dominique Butler

Baltimore City

My work revolves around viewing nature as person on color. Influenced by personal experiences as a multi-racial black woman raised in a white-dominated, rural community in northern Vermont, my paintings are an accompaniment of research on the distinct disconnection between black bodies, the great outdoors and the questioning as to why nature, outdoor recreation, and environmentalism are white dominated. The pieces are derived from photos taken while out hiking and then translated into intimate gouache paintings. Within my work I aim to bring to surface a discussion and exploration of how nature in the United States is racialized and question if our histories of slavery and racial violence have determined who should have access to natural spaces.



DOMINIQUE BUTLER

Hidden Pine

Acrylic and oil on panel

20" h x 24" w, 2018

Instagram- @_dom_butler

Website- dominiquebutlerart.com

Tip jar info- Venmo: @DomButler44

Paypal: paypal.me/yellowochrebear

8. Geraldine Pontius

Baltimore City

Memory, Memorial, and Personal Memoir here are two images merged from paintings done on site with photographs, which document a specific place or landscape. The paintings make an overlay, just as emotions and feelings about a place might well up, while gazing out a window on a scene. Themes are city to country, front porch to back porch, road to slave quarters merged with the fields and cottages of home, and other flickers of thought made explicit. Each image is a narrative unto itself and they all explore the subconscious mind as provoked by the sight of a specific place.

Once I started painting landscapes outside, direct from life, the contrast with reference photos impressed me. I liked the emotional content of the watercolor paintings. They were succinct, without clutter. When viewed next to the watercolors, I saw my photographs as static, documentary and formal. The watercolors had forward motion but no context. I took my photographs in Baltimore City, and painted landscapes in Baltimore County. Thinking of the relocation of urban families to the suburbs gave me the narrative for each image. Since my watercolors were scanned, they were digital. Taking advantage of technology to merge images, adjust color, and create emphasis, the series Pastoral Edge took shape. Street photographs of Baltimore's row house buildings and parks, when put together with lush fields and streams made dreams of a rich life visible, against a backdrop of worn out streets, as if in a dream.



GERALDINE PONTIUS

Edge of a Clearing

Archival Digital Print on Canvas

8”h x 10” w, 2019

Instagram- @gcpontius

Facebook- Facebook.com/gpcolleagues

Twitter- @gcpontius

Website- www.geraldinepontius.com

Tip jar info- [Paypal.me/GCPontius](https://www.paypal.me/GCPontius)

9. Joan Bevelaqua

Howard County

Joan Bevelaqua has made a mark on many aspects of the art community. A painter who works primarily in watercolor and oil, Joan has held teaching positions, juried art exhibitions, and directed several galleries. She also has held a number of organizational positions, including serving as President of the Watermark Gallery in Baltimore, Md. and on the Board of Directors for Foundry Street Studios and Gallery in Savage, Md.



JOAN BEVELAQUA

The Myth of Possession #1

Oil on canvas

22" h x 24" w

Website- joanbevelaqua.com

10. Kami Olson

Baltimore County

My work is a response to ephemerality and the interactions of the body with nature in a surreal space. I reference growth and decomposition through impermanence and the cycle of life. By using a flesh-like color pallet I emphasize a warm, dreamlike space, experience or idea. My works depict figures emerging from or morphing into different types of flora, inspiring the idea that the body is grown from soil, or that the flesh is fertile for plant life. I aim to remind humanity that we are one with the dirt our feet touch and that we are connected to the land we interact with.



KAMI OLSON

Untitled

Silver Gelatin Print

26" h x 20" w, 2018

Instagram- @kamiolson.art

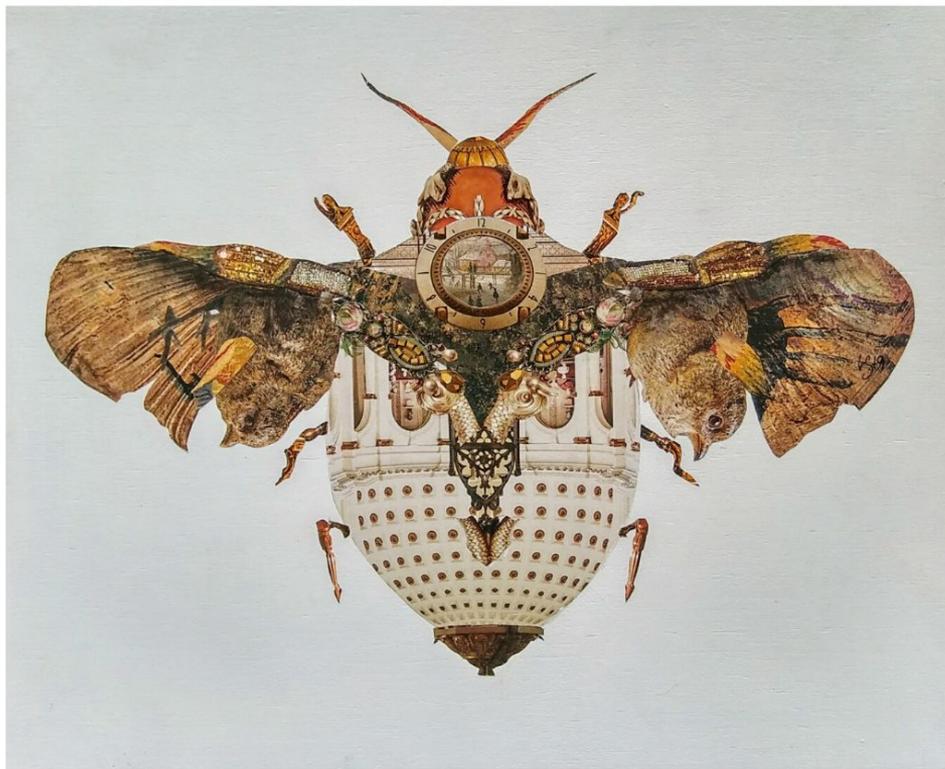
Website-

<https://kamiolsonart.wixsite.com/gallery/>

11. Lauren Silex

Baltimore City

I am a cut-paper collage artist living in Baltimore. My work is heavily influenced by nature and civilization's effect on it. The insects, birds, and mammals portrayed in my art are storytellers, encouraging the viewer to come closer, to engage in the tale, and to consider their own actions and decisions on our current Eden.



LAUREN SILEX

Sacristy Fledgling

Cut-paper collage

8" h x 10" w, 2019

Instagram- @lesart55

Website- lesart55.wixsite.com/laurensilex

12. Margaret Dowell

Calvert County

Dowell began life working with her family in the tobacco fields of Calvert County, MD. Today she resides in the arenas of Art and Education, holding terminal degrees in both fields (MFA in Art, Ph.D. in Education). Dowell currently teaches for the Art Department at Carroll Community College. She creates her social commentary paintings in two Maryland farm house studios, one in Johnsville and the other in Sunderland.



MARGARET DOWELL

*Angel Confronts Disrespect, Searches
for Kindness, the Universal Good (God)*

Oil on Canvas

30”h x 40 w, 2018

Website- margaretdowell.com

13. Molly Nuzzo

Baltimore County

My work uses portraiture to explore ideas of embodiment, by which I mean, the relationship between personal identity and appearance. I seek to ask questions about the interaction of embodiment with social experience and ways in which the body can be a site for marginalization.

My paintings are my personal investigations into socially constructed standards of gender presentation, body, gendered beauty and bestowed legitimacy established by a heteronormative society and culture. My continual interest in painting queer subjects, or queer bodies, is sparked and sustained by my own experiences and relationships with others whose identities fall outside these social norms. I view my representations not simply as appropriations of the physical body, but as honest and relatable portraits of people in my beloved community.

As I engage in the painting process, the relationship between myself as artist and my subject becomes pivotal. Through the course of close observation and response, I see myself both constructing and mediating the subject's body, a kind of inter-embodiment in action through painting.



MOLLY NUZZO

*Some Memorials, or, Self Portrait with
Birds and Bees*

Oil, beeswax, insect specimens on paper

28"h x 36" w

Website- mollynuzzo.com

14. Monique Crabb

Baltimore County

Dear You is a story quilt about my brother who suffered from Bipolar Schizoaffective Disorder for over twenty years. I worked on this piece for over a year before he passed away. It is a story of a person whose seasons in life revolved around jails, hospitals, mental institutions, and halfway homes. The evolution of this piece is documented through #johnpaulcabreracrabb on instagram. I have written stories that correlate to selected symbols that tell the story of my brother's life. Constructed entirely of plant dyed second hand fabrics with raw edge applique symbols and hand quilted.



MONIQUE CRABB

Dear You

Watercolor, archival pigment print on paper,
framing plexiglass

42" h x 28" w, 2018

Instagram: @handworkquilts

Venmo: @handworkquilts

PayPal: PayPal.Me/handworkquilts

Website- handworkquilts.com

15. Lorena Long

Frederick County

Art (painting, specifically) helps to defeat the mundane moments in life. Making colors collide and combine into an interesting composition is what keeps me coming back to the studio day after day. Ultimately, I make art for myself but I find great joy in sharing it with others. I believe we were made by God to enjoy beauty and to create a little ourselves.



LORENA LONG

Miss Grace

Mixed media

2019

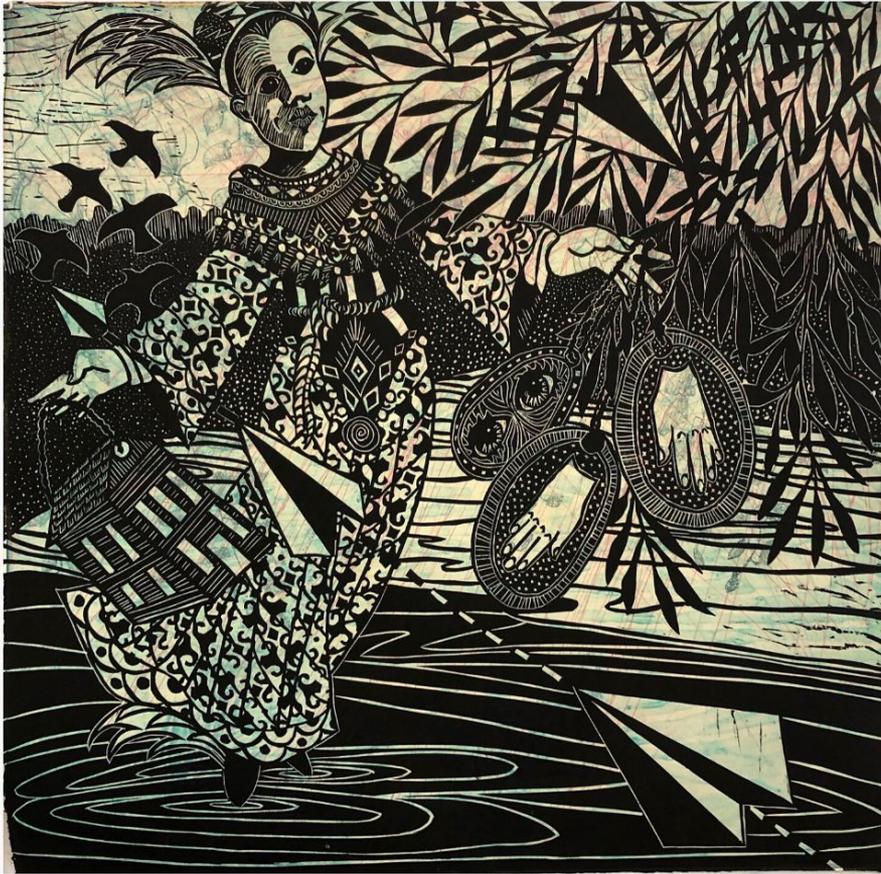
Instagram- @lorena.long

Facebook- Lorena Long, Mixed Media Art

16. Rhonda Smith

Washington County

Rhonda J. Smith is a practicing artist and retired professor of Art who is committed to advancing processes that explore and redefine what printmaking can be. She uses non-toxic inks and the non-traditional approach of mounting her prints onto archival boards. Smith received her BFA from Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky and her MFA from the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. Her work has been exhibited regionally and nationally. A list of recent exhibits can be found under Discover on her website. Smith has traveled extensively in Europe, Africa, China, Peru, India and the United States. Born in Fort Worth Texas she has lived in Kentucky, New Mexico, West Virginia, Virginia and now in Keedysville, Maryland. Since 1987 Smith has been a professor of Art at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, West Virginia where she currently serves as a Master Teacher.



RHONDA SMITH

Protection for Your Journey Home

Linocut with intaglio monotype

24" h x 24" w, 2019, \$800.00

Email for purchase:
middlebridgestudio@gmail.com

Website- www.middlebridgestudio.com

17. Nikita Yogaraj

Baltimore City

Nikita Yogaraj is a global health researcher by day and an illustrator by night, specializing in pen and ink portraits (but dabbling in botanical art and urban landscapes).



NIKITA YOGARAJ

Aloe Mane

Mixed media

14"h x 17" w, 2020

Instagram- @nikitavyart

Email to inquire about purchasing:
nikitayogaraj@gmail.com

Website- nikitayogaraj.com

18. Angela Herbert

Wicomico County

Angela grew up in a small village in the green rolling countryside of Cumbria. An idyllic place between the high peaks of the Lake District and the grey waters of the Solway Firth. She has lived and worked in London, Paris, Spain & Zimbabwe, and has currently put down roots on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

Angela is a Contemporary Watercolorist who also uses paper, gouache, and pastel to create her vibrant and colorful paintings of landscapes, figures, and African animals.



ANGELA HERBERT

All she ever wanted was a Garden

Mixed media on canvas

20”h x 16” w, 2019

Instagram- @angela_herberthodges

Facebook- Angela Herbert-Hodges

PayPal: Angela Herbert-Hodges

Website: angelaherbert-hodges.com

19. Julie Simon

Howard County

My work crosses traditional boundaries. Trained in traditional film and video production, I've gravitated away from representational reality and toward the abstract and non-linear across many media, most recently photography.

I'm most interested in line, shape, and form and how perception changes when the subject is segmented and magnified. Photographing nature lends itself to this theory. By shooting in macro, a flower isn't just a flower anymore. By printing it large, and removing its context, it becomes something new entirely.



JULIE SIMON

Lilly pt.1

Digital Photograph

22"h x 28" w

Instagram- @juliesimondigital

Email to purchase work:
Julie@juliesimondigital.com

Website- juliesimondigital.com

20. Kathy Lynn

Montgomery County

Kathy found the inspiration for her photography business through her part-time job at a family-owned flower farm. Surrounded by fields of flowers set in ever-changing colors and lighting, Kathy knew she wanted to photograph flowers of all kinds, focusing on flowers, foliage, and fruits and vegetables from farms and farmers' markets in and around Maryland.

One of her garden photos is featured on the breakfast menu at the newly renovated Hotel Indigo in Baltimore. Her photographs are a regular feature on the LED Art Billboard in downtown Baltimore. She most recently was a 2016 winner in the Grow, Eat, Shoot photography contest held by the Future Harvest Chesapeake Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture. She also has exhibited her award-winning work at the Sandy Spring Museum, the Club House at Gibson Island, and at other regional venues. Her artwork was recently selected for All in for Art at Landon School, an exhibition organized by The Art Connection in the Capital Region (ACCR).



KATHY LYNN

Green Leaf

Digital Photograph

17" h x 21" w, 2018

Instagram- @kathylynnflowerphotography

Facebook- Kathy Lynn Photography

Website- kathylynnflowerphotography.com

Venmo: venmo.com/kathylynn

PayPal: paypal.me/kathylynnphotography

21. Lynne Parks

Baltimore City

Lynne Parks was born and raised in Northern Virginia. She has been a resident of Baltimore, MD since 2003. She has a BA from Hollins University with an independent major in creative writing/theater/film studies. She is the Outreach Coordinator for Lights Out Baltimore, a bird conservation and wildlife rescue organization. She is a practicing visual artist, curator, writer, and performer.



*White-throated Sparrows: migratory
bird/glass collisions monitoring*

Archival pigment print

16"h x 20" w, 2020

LYNNE PARKS

22. Chloe Irla

Carroll County

Chloe Irla grew up outside of Richmond, VA but moved around a lot as a teenager. She attended McDaniel College before receiving an MFA from the Mount Royal School of Art at the Maryland Institute College of Art. She has exhibited nationally and in Sofia, Bulgaria. Chloe has been a resident artist at the Vermont Studio Center and the Wassaic Project. As an educator, she has taught studio art courses at MICA and the University of Maine at Farmington and is currently an Assistant Professor of New Media & Digital Art at McDaniel College. Chloe lives in Westminster, MD with her husband, fellow artist Jason Irla, and her young daughter, Felix. She loves reading and listening to podcasts, baking, gardening, and running.



CHLOE IRLA

Irene by the River II

Acrylic on panel

24" h x 24" w, 2020

Instagram: @c_wirla

PayPal: chloe.s.irla@gmail.com

Website- www.chloe-irla.com

23. Renee Van Der Stelt

Baltimore County

Renee van der Stelt is an artist & educator exhibiting art work at venues throughout the U.S. and abroad. Select solo exhibitions include *Neck of the Woods: Marrow* at Elon University, *What Lies Beneath*, for China Hutch Projects, *Borders and Migration: Shifting Geographies* at Rogers Gallery, Berea College, KY, *Recordings* at Hamiltonian Gallery, Washington D.C., *Sphere Chart & Site Drawings* at GalleryOne, Ellensburg, WA, *Veiled Geography: Impermanent Drawings* at the University of Vermont, *Projections: Line on Land* at the Target Gallery in Alexandria, VA, and *Global/Local* at the Roswell Museum of Art, NM.



RENEE VAN DER STELT

Labyrinth Land Drawings I & II

Digital print of environmental work

18"h x 24" w, 2019

Instagram- @vandersteltrenee

Website- www.reneevanderstelt.com

24. Diane Hunt

Queen Anne's County

My connection with nature is a strong one. It has developed and grown since I was a small child. I feel a part of all the land & trees, the animals and the waters are all parts of me and connect with my soul in a way that brings happiness and peace to my heart.

I share those feelings and more through my paintings. I wish to make connections through my art, between people and nature.



DIANE HUNT

Rumblings

Oil on canvas

16"h x 20" w, 2019

Instagram- @DianeHuntStudio

Facebook- @DianeHuntStudio

Website- www.dianehuntstudio.com

25. Joan Rosenstein

Montgomery County

Joan Rosenstein received her B. S. in Painting from Skidmore College and her M.F.A. in Painting & Printmaking from The University of Michigan, where she held an Art Department Teaching Fellowship. Before joining the faculty at Montgomery College in 1967, she was Acting Head of the Education Department at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis. In later years, Rosenstein was a Fellow at The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and received two Scholarly Activities Grants & a Sabbatical Grant from her employer, Montgomery College. In addition, she received four grants from the Arts Council of Montgomery County, and a grant from the Humanities Council of Montgomery County. In June 1997, upon her retirement from the Art Department, the Board of Trustees of Montgomery College granted her the status of Professor Emerita and awarded her the Bronze Medallion in recognition of her thirty years of distinguished service to the College.



JOAN ROSENSTEIN

Fowler Park Kaleidoscopic Tapestry

Tapestry

16" h x 60" w, 2017

Website- joanresenstein.com

Thank You

