



Alice Stoler

Alice Stoler, an award-winning artist, has exhibited widely in the tri-state area. She is a member of the National Association of Women Artists, Salute to Women in the Arts and the Painting Affiliates of the Art Center of Northern New Jersey. A former art teacher, she has studied at the Art Center, the Art School at the Old Church, the Art Students League, the Brooklyn Museum and Binghamton University.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

Jacob Javits Center, the New York Theological Seminary, The Cork Gallery at Avery Fisher Hall, Lever House, the New Jersey State Museum, Nabisco Headquarters, Bergen PAC, Binghamton University and the Princeton Medical Center.

COLLECTIONS

Private throughout the United States

Princeton Medical Center, Plainsboro, New Jersey

“In my paintings, I recreate images of nature, and man’s imprint upon it, from an accumulation of memories. I paint intuitively, with attention to design and color, and rarely have a preconceived idea. The viewer becomes an active participant in the suggested scene set before him. It is he who discovers a mountain or a river, a bridge or a building and where one area may begin and another end.”



Bio:

Andrea Geller lives and works in Bergen County, NJ. She developed an interest in painting at a very young age and decided to pursue a career in art, studying painting at Cornell University and Parsons School of Design. Early in her career she worked as a freelance illustrator and graphic designer, with such prestigious clients as the New York Times, The Washington Post, Psychology Today and Random House. Geller completed her MFA in painting from William Paterson University and has been teaching on the college level since 1997.

Inspired by Expressionism and the Bay Area Figurative Movement she is interested in the universality of humans in their environments. In her paintings, she explores gestural figures in motion on land and in water, and proxemics, the space between people as they move. Her work has focused on Water, the Bath, Pools, and a recent series titled Travelers.

Most recently her painting 'Swimming over Antarctica' is included in the New Jersey Arts Annual Exhibition "Mother Nature vs Human Nature: The Inequity of Climate Resilience", through June, 2023. Andrea Geller is represented by Emerge Gallery in Saugerties, NY.

Andrea Placer
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Biographical Information

Origins: Brooklyn, New York; has lived in New Jersey more than 40 years.

Education: B.S. in Biology, and M.A. in Communication Sciences and Disorders
Previously, an educator ; teacher of Biology and General Science; Learning Disabilities Consultant, and Chairperson of a Child Study Team providing Special Education Services.

Art Background: Andrea is essentially self-taught, but has taken classes wherever she has lived. She has participated in colored pencil workshops taught by Paula Madawick, Kristy Kutch, Linda Lucas Hardy, Arlene Steinberg, Gemma Gylling, among others; has taught at The Art Center at Old Church, Demarest, NJ; has presented to local art groups.

Awards: Winner of multiple awards, including 3 “Best in Show” and many 1st and 2nd Place. Juried awards include those from the Colored Pencil Society of America, Salmagundi Club, American Artists’ Professional League, Audubon Artists, Manhattan Arts International, Stamford Art Assoc., Hudson Valley Art Assoc., Art Center of Northern NJ, Ringwood Manor Art Assoc., Light, Space & Time Competition, and the Paint the Parks Mini50 Competition. She received the Bergen County Senior Juried Art Show’s 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 First Place in Professional Drawing Awards; 2nd Place Drawing Award in the 2007 New Jersey State show; 1st Place Drawing and Best in Show in the 2008 New Jersey State Show.

Solo/ Group Shows: Andrea has exhibited at many galleries and in national & international juried shows in New York City and State, New Jersey, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Wisconsin, Georgia, Minnesota and Quebec, Canada.

Professional Affiliations: Andrea is a Signature Member of the Colored Pencil Society of America (CPSA, CPX), a Signature Member of the American Artists’ Professional League (AAPL), elected member of the Salmagundi Club, NYC, Allied Artists of America, and The Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club, where she serves on the Board of Directors. She has been represented by the Piermont Fine Arts Gallery, Piermont, NY

Publications: “Featured Artist”, Colored Pencil Magazine, May 2015; CP Treasures, Volumes II, III and IV; CP Hidden Treasures IV, V, VI & VII; The Richeson75 Int’l Landscape, Seascape & Architecture 2014, 2016, 2021, 2022; The Richeson75 Int’l Still Life & Floral 2015, 2021; The Richeson75 Int’l Figure/Portrait 2015; The Richeson75 Int’l Small Works 2016, 2017; several issues of CPSA’s “To the Point” magazine.

Arnold Abbe Amster

(1939 – 2022)



Arnold Amster began his artistic studies as a pre-teen attending classes at the Brooklyn Museum. After high school, he attended Pratt Institute for two years before transferring to New York University. There, he received a B.S. in Painting and Sculpture, an M.A. in Painting and Sculpture, and his Ph.D, for which he received the NYU Founders Day Award for Academic Excellence.

For his dissertation, “The Evolution of Color as a Primary Element in Painting, 1850 - 1970,” he explored color theory and usage from the impressionists up to his current time in the 1970’s. He was privileged to study with some of the leading American artists of the 50’s and 60’s and was influenced by some of the most important artists of his time: Josef Albers, Mark Rothko, Clifford Still, and Willem de Kooning, and was honored to have worked with Hale Woodruff.

Immediately after graduating with his Bachelor’s degree, he started teaching in the NYC schools at Decatur Junior High School in Bedford-Stuyvesant and at the High School for Art, Music & Performing Arts. From there, he joined the faculty at Clarkstown Junior High School and quickly moved over to Clarkstown High School South, where he served as Chair of the Art Department, and was known simply as Doc, from 1976 until his retirement in 1996. He also served as an Adjunct Professor at Rockland Community College and St. Thomas Aquinas College. He received the Rhode Island School of Design Honors Seminar fellowship for “The Advancement of Art Education,” and was nominated for the prestigious George Olmsted Prize for excellence in secondary teaching.

Along with other Clarkstown South faculty members, he designed "Recurring Themes," an interdisciplinary course combining AP Art History, AP Literature and Composition, and AP European History. It was chosen by the College Board as an exemplary course of study. He also co-taught a Music and Art class to showcase the compatibility and interconnectedness of disciplines.

Throughout his life and career, he continued to support the arts. He was known to encourage his students to achieve their highest potential and to appreciate the beauty and richness created through the arts.

During all these years he continued his own artistic development and love of color by moving from painting, to adding paper collage to his paintings, and then, to collage alone. He continued to produce art until his death in 2022.

Carol Greiff Lagstein
Bio



Carol received a BFA at the California College of Art where she studied sculpture, painting, pottery and photography. Her career goals took another direction when she attended a conference on art therapy in San Francisco. She returned to the east coast to attend Pratt Institute where she received a MPS in art therapy.

Carol practiced art therapy in several different settings. In 1986 she started teaching art therapy at St. Thomas Aquinas College. In 1994 she became STAC's Director of Art Therapy. In 1994 she received a Masters in Social Work from Colombia University.

Painting was always a part of Carol's life. Her earlier work focused on traditional watercolors of still lifes and portraits. During a retreat to Giverny, France, she changed her whole concept of painting. For ten days she painted in the Giverny gardens and other locales where Monet had painted his masterpieces. She started using oil paints and stopped trying to render purely what she saw. She chose to let the color and light envelope her and guide her to find a new voice for her work.

Presently, Carol has returned to figurative work, painting dancers in dynamic positions juxtaposed with unlikely backgrounds. A tension is created to intrigue the viewer.

Carol has exhibited her work extensively in galleries and juried shows.



CAROL PERRON SOMMERFIELD

Carol Perron Sommerfield returned to painting in 2011 after working for 32 years as a corporate executive. Since that time, she has exhibited widely and won numerous awards. Ms. Sommerfield has had seven solo exhibits in Westchester County over the past ten years and her work has been selected for juried exhibits at The Belskie Museum of Art and Science, Fairleigh Dickerson University, Point Park University, ArtsWestchester, The Catskill Arts Society, Blue Hill Art and Cultural Center, and galleries in Westchester and New York City. In 2014 Ms. Sommerfield was juried into the National Association of Women Artist, The New York Society of Women Artists and the New Rochelle Art Association. Ms. Sommerfield was awarded multiple studio and artist residencies at Arts, Letters and Numbers (Avril Park, NY) and Drop, Forge and Tool (Hudson, NY). She was the co-curator of The Donald Gallery in Dobbs Ferry, NY, for four years and the Chair of the annual Dobbs Ferry Beaux Arts exhibit and competition for Westchester County artists for five years.

Ms. Sommerfield earned a B.A. in Fine Arts from Ramapo College, an MBA in Management from the University of New Haven, both a MA in Organizational Development and a PhD in Human and Organizational Systems from Fielding Graduate University.



David Friedman

David Friedman has studied and created art throughout his life. He has always been struck by the look of a painting *before* it was finished, when there was still a sense of the mystery of what would unfold. The imagination always seemed to be more engaged at that stage of a painting, with more possibilities of creative interaction with the viewer.

He has also been very involved with music throughout his life, studying piano quite seriously, and composing as well. When he went to college, it was to study music and philosophy, but a strong central chord pulled him back into visual art, and he received his BA in Studio Art from SUNY Albany in 1978. After graduating, his music took him to NYC, where he worked as a musician and composer for modern dance for 12 years, performing extensively in NYC (including LaMama ETC, the Joyce Theater, The Kitchen, Roulette, Dance Theater Workshop, and The Public Theater), in Europe at the Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek Museum in Copenhagen, Denmark, and for many years as a musician/composer at the American Dance Festival in Durham, NC and at Jacob's Pillow in Massachusetts. Throughout these years he never stopped drawing and painting. While working for a few years in the Dance Department at Connecticut College, he took advantage of the opportunity to study Intaglio Printmaking. Soon after that, he was at a crossroads – he decided to find some way of making a living where he could feel more secure financially, but still, have time to paint and make music.

He moved back to NYC in 1987, went back to school, began a career in computer software design, and continued to work in the IT field for over 30 years. Throughout those years, although he never stopped playing music, he also immersed himself more deeply in his artwork. Having left the world of IT in 2020, he now dedicates his time to painting and composing.



ELEANOR GRACE MILLER

A classically trained artist, Eleanor Grace Miller received her BA from Monmouth University, where she studied under Eleanore Mikus and Bernard Aptekar, one of the original SOHO Ten Downtown, and continued her studies at the National Academy School of Fine Arts. Miller has exhibited extensively throughout the East Coast, both in fine art galleries and corporate venues, and is the recipient of numerous awards, including Best of Show at the Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, MA, the Anna Hyatt Huntington Award from the National Arts Club, and the Gamblin Artists Award from the Salmagundi Club. Her work is in both private and corporate collections. She is currently on the faculty at RoCA and the Pelham Art Center.



GRACE MALUPA

Ms. Malupa majored in economics and until recently was doing consulting work in New York in the field of business technology. She “remembered” what it was that she wanted to do when she grew up and in 2016 decided to shift her career into Art. She studied at the Pratt Institute, the School of Visual Arts in New York and at Urban Arts in New Jersey. She also trained for six months in Florence, Italy at the Accademia del Giglio.

Exhibited work:

- 2022 Blue Hill Art & Cultural Center, *Improvisions – Creative Expressions*
- 2020-2021 Blue Hill Art & Cultural Center, *Structures & Time*
- 2019-2020 Blue Hill Art & Cultural Center, *Blue Hill Artists Past & Present*
- 2018 Hoboken Artists’ Studio Tour, *Monroe Center (group exhibit)*
- 2017 Hoboken Artists’ Studio Tour, *Monroe Center (solo exhibit)*

Contact at:

grace@gracemalupa.com

www.gracemalupa.com



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Contact at:

grace@gracemalupa.com

www.gracemalupa.com

Helene Manzo



Bio and Artist Statement

My paintings and prints begin with observations of the natural world, the abundance and wildness of the flora, weather and the seasons. The painting and prints begin with a loose description of what is seen and quickly becomes expressive, allowing for creativity and improvisation.

The prints are Monotypes, a process that creates a unique one-of-a-kind print. The process begins with a smooth surface plate, plexiglas is preferable to glass, and continues with the etching ink that is applied by rollers, used credit cards, and other found implements, to create an image that is transferred to acid-free paper by one pass through a printing press. Hence the name "monotype" as only a single print is made, an edition of one unique print.

As a painter/printmaker, the qualities of these prints inform my work, blurring the line between painting and printmaking. The pressure of the press facilitates the transfer of the image and also adds to the energy and spontaneity, by the uncontrolled movement of the inks. I agree with Roberta Smith, the New York Times Art Critic who refers to Monotypes as "The most seductive of all print mediums."

Work has been included in the following exhibitions and venues:

Boston Printmakers Print Biennial awarded a Juror's Prize by the juror, the artist Jim Dine.

Third National Juried Monotype/Monoprint Exhibition, Juror Mark Pascale, curator
Department of Prints and Drawings, Art Institute of Chicago, awarded a Juror's Prize.

National Juried Print Show Ink Press & Repeat, William Patterson University, Wayne, NJ

The Center for Contemporary Printmaking, Norwalk, CT

Parkside National Print Show, University of Wisconsin, Kenosha, Wisconsin

Blue Hill Art & Cultural Center, Pearl River, NY. Exhibition dates December 19, 2019 to April 4, 2020.



IVAN PAZLAMATCHEV

Ivan Pazlamatchev is a Bulgarian-American painter rooted in figurative tradition. His paintings delve into allegorical narratives and compositional tensions, with contemporary interpretation backed by classical training received at the prestigious School for Fine Arts in Sofia, Bulgaria. With over 30 years of experience working as a fine artist, Ivan has exhibited in galleries and museums in Europe and throughout the United States. Notably, in 2008, Pazlamatchev's paintings were included in the Societe Nationale Des Beaux-Arts Salon at Carrousel du Louvre in Paris. In 2018 he had a comprehensive retrospective exhibit at the Art Gallery Georges Papazov in Bulgaria. In 1997, his solo exhibition at the National Palace of Culture in Sofia represented the Painting portion in the Salon of the Arts '97. He has received awards, grants, and invitations, including to the Art Fusion Festival in Berlin, Germany, and has work residing in public and private collections, including the S. C. Rockefeller, Jr. collection. Several of his works are included in The Lunar Codex, a diverse collection of contemporary arts and culture launched to the Moon.

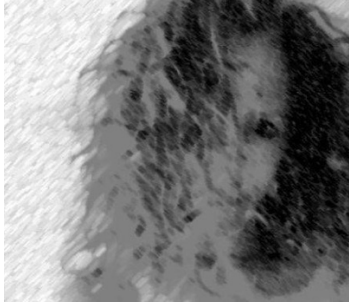
Solo Exhibitions

- 2020 - Lagstein Gallery, Nyack, NY
- 2020 - The Art Gallery at the Rockefeller Park Preserve, Pleasantville, NY
- 2018 - Art Gallery Georges Papazov, "Retrospective", Yambol, Bulgaria
- 2016 - Union Arts Center, "Femme Eternal", Sparkill, NY
- 2015 - Woodward Gallery, @ The Gourmet Garage, "Seeds", New York, NY
- 2006 - Hopper House Art Center, Nyack, NY
- 2003 - Sylvia Schmidt Gallery, New Orleans, LA
- 2001 - Anthony Kelley Gallery, Pensacola, FL
- 2000 - The Downey Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
 - Soho Gallery, Pensacola, FL
- 1999 - Bulgarian Consulate, "Breathing", New York, NY
- 1998 - Kerygma Gallery, "The Romantic Muse", Ridgewood, NJ
- 1997 - National Palace Of Culture, "Salon of the Arts - '97", Sofia, Bulgaria
- 1996 - Allen Sheppard Gallery, Piermont, NY
- 1991 - Atelier U. Buckenmaeir, Uberlingen, Germany
- 1986 - Central Theater House, Yambol, Bulgaria

Awards, Grants & Invitational

- 2019 - Fusion Art Festival, "Home At The Crossroads", 12th ed., Dolen, Bulgaria
- 2017 - Fusion Art Festival, "Home At The Crossroads", 10th ed., Berlin, Germany
- 2008 - Strategic Opportunity Stipend, NY Foundation for the Arts, New York, NY
- 2000 - Strategic Opportunity Stipend, NY Foundation for the Arts, New York, NY
 - Third Millennium Sculpture Award - finalist, Angelicum, Milano, Italy
- 1997 - Award of Excellence - NAT - Educational Center, juried exhibition, New York, NY
- 1995 - Best in Show Award - Rockland Center for the Arts, Nyack, NY

Website: www.ivanpazlamatchev.com



J. Tedesco

J. Tedesco is Bronx born & suburban raised. Long involved in creative endeavors but never formally educated, Tedesco has recently transitioned into oil painting and continues to study and experiment at local Arts Center studio classes. Inspired by images of the natural world, from both above and below, their art explores color and shape in both abstract and realistic form.



Janice Baragwanath

Earned her BFA from the San Francisco Art Institute, after studying at Rhode Island School of Design and Cooper Union. She also took classes at Paier College of Art, New York Academy of Art and with portrait artist Daniel Green. She teaches drawing and painting and in community education programs.

Janice's work was featured in Watercolor Magazine and included in many juried shows, including at the Saco Museum in ME, New Britain Museum in CT, and Newport Museum in RI. She has won numerous awards from Hudson Valley Art Association, American Artists Professional League, Connecticut Watercolor Society, and North East Watercolor Society.

Since moving to Nyack, she has been in shows at ROCA, Blue Hill Art and Cultural Center, Hopper House as well as solo exhibits at the Nyack, Valley Cottage, and Pearl River Libraries. She enjoys painting portraits, architecture, and nature, especially flowers, fruits and vegetables. Janice recently wrote and illustrated a cookbook, [Eating at Home](#). See more of her work at www.janicebaragwanath.com.



Jayne Conte

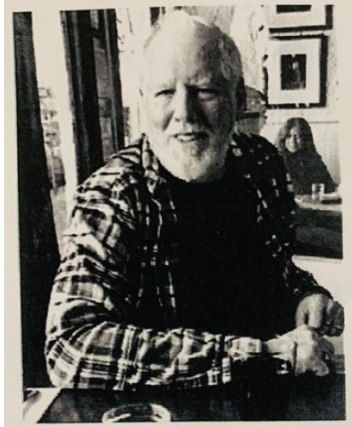
Jayne Conte is a graphic designer, painter, and artist. She is a graduate of the Fashion Institute of Technology and has taken classes at the Art Students' League of New York City. She worked as a creative director for Pearson Education, where she designed and managed both the interior and cover design for textbooks in the college division. Jayne specializes in watercolors and has held several exhibits at local venues in the Hudson Valley, NY. She is passionate about sharing her artistic talents with others and teaches watercolor classes in New York and New Jersey.



Judy Zehentner

I have always been fascinated by the beautiful things created by the intersection of color and light. The subject may be the incredible detail and variation found in a bird's feathers, the delicate symmetry in a flower's springtime bloom, the golden hour before a shoreline sunset, the reflection of light off the surface of the water, or the light and shadows created in a busy cityscape. I am mindful of all of these experiences and attempt to capture each unique moment with my camera. For me, capturing these moments reveals the beauty and exquisiteness of life itself. Nothing brings me more joy, more peace, and more fulfillment than photographing the beauty and energy surrounding me and sharing what becomes revealed with my camera. Given the conflicted times in which we live, I believe it is critical for all of us to take the time to see, feel and savor the glorious color and light and loveliness of the world. It's there waiting for us to see.

My work has been selected for several juried shows including at the Cape Cod Museum of Art, Cape Cod Creative Arts Center, Cultural Center of Cape Cod, Blue Hill Art and Cultural Center, Garrison Art Center, Plymouth Center for the Arts, and the Cotuit Arts Center.



Kenneth Burns

As a young man, Kenneth Burns was influenced by Bob Dylan's music & Sandy Koufax's pitching. Each of them stirred the depth of creativity and parked the flow of movement that would appear later in his art.

Once retired, he discovered the joy of painting while using pastels, colored pencils, watercolors and acrylics. He is a member of the Nyack Art Collective and has displayed his work at the Richard Boyd Gallery in Portland Maine, The Arts Students League (Vytlacil Campus) in Sparkill, NY and the Edward Hopper House in Nyack, NY.

Creativity, although dormant for a long time, is now his main focus and drive. By experimenting with photography and various painting techniques:

Kenneth Burns has found his voice.

To contact the artist about purchasing an artwork on exhibit, please visit www.kfburnsartworks.com or contact the artist directly at burns4862@gmail.com



Laurette Fischer

After 25 years of teaching art, I retired to devote my energies to my love of painting. The seas and skies are my source of inspiration.



L. WEISBART POLSON

Lori Weisbart-Polson began painting and studying art at a young age. In her twenties she attended classes at the Art Students League in New York City and has traveled through Southern France on painting workshops. Weisbart-Polson has a BA in communications and a Design Degree. Her true love is painting and drawing. Polson, in addition to enjoying fine art, has been representing preeminent portrait painters for over twenty years. The link to the art consulting site is: LORIPOLSON.COM Before that, Lori was an art director for Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Worldwide in New York City. Her fine art site is LWEISBART.COM
"For a true artist, paintings must come out, like a sneeze. When language no longer seems adequate, I'm compelled to paint." Lori Weisbart-Polson

EXHIBITS

Ceres Gallery, New York, NY
Piermont Flywheel Gallery, Piermont, NY
EJ Audi Gallery, New York, NY
Saatchi & Saatchi New York, NY
Westwood Art Gallery, Westwood, NJ
St. Peter's Univ., Englewood Cliffs, NJ
American University, Washington DC
Belskie Museum of Art and Science, Closter NJ
The Old Church Cultural Center, Demarest, NJ

551-486-1798 fine art website: lweisbart.com portrait consulting website: loripolson.com



Miroslav Vrzala

Born in the Czechoslovakia in 1960, came to the US in 1970. Graduated Pace University in Pleasantville, NY in 1983. Now self employed since 1995. Now living in NJ.

As a young kid, I always loved to draw, paint and later on loved to take photographs. I got interested in photography in 1978 when I got a part time job in a department store selling camera equipment. I shot slides, both Kodak and Fuji until about 1995, during which time I entered local photo shows and participated in local camera clubs.

In 2009 when I purchased my first digital camera and haven't put it down since. During this time I entered local, national and international shows, been published, and received numerous awards during this time.

My photos are in public and private collections in the Americas, Europe and Africa. My technique is simple, get up early to photograph the early light, this can be done for both land and cityscapes. With today's technology, you can take photos in the morning, download, process, frame and hang your photo the same day.

“Look ahead, look up, look down, look right, look left, don't forget to look behind, there is always something to photograph.”



NANCY BEAL

The art critic and poet Gerritt wrote in his review of a One Penn Plaza exhibit:

“Beal makes a theatrical event out of a garden blooming in summer, convincing us of the authenticity of her outlook by sheer detail and design.”

I have an intimacy with my gardens and I am interested in the dialogue between what I see and the paint itself. Foregrounds are one-to-one correspondence and the views tend to go off east to the Taconic Mountains. All landscapes are painted *en plein air*. I savor the interconnections between the stem and the flower structures set against the vista of an expansive landscape.

I have had 18 one-person shows, the most recent one at the Gallery Northeast in Kinderhook, New York in October of 2022.

Pam Grafstein

pamgrafsteinphotography.com

pamgrafstein@gmail.com

Examining small details has always defined my character. Early on, I learned to appreciate the value of patient observation, and discovered that fascinating scenes can be found in what at first glance appears ordinary. My work demonstrates an emphasis on the simplicity of shape and pattern accomplished by thoughtful composition. It exemplifies the sentiment that one does not have to travel far for wonderful photographic opportunity, as many of my favorite images were created at my home, or not very far away.



My journey as a photographer started over 25 years ago, when I began my career as a middle school Life Science teacher, and could finally afford my first “real” camera. I am a long-time member and Co-Vice President of the Rockland Photography Club, which has provided the motivation and inspiration that have nurtured my growth as an artist.

My work has been displayed at the Soho Photo Gallery in Manhattan, the Blue Hill Art & Cultural center in Pearl River, NY, the Medford Art Center in NJ, Studio Montclair Gallery in NJ, the Mount Kisco Library in NY, the Martucci Gallery in Irvington, NY, the Upstream Gallery in Hastings on Hudson, NY, the Art League of Long Island in Dix Hills, NY, the Piermont Flywheel Gallery in NY, the Garner Arts Center in Garnerville, NY, the Nyack Art Walk in Nyack, NY, Emerge Gallery in Saugerties, NY, the Clarksville Gallery in West Nyack NY, Gallery Meraki in Garnerville, NY, Barrett Art Center in Kingston, NY, The Barn Gallery in Ringwood, NJ, and at the Intermezzo Gallery at the Bergen Performing Arts Center in Englewood, NJ. Many of my photographs have received recognition in exhibits sponsored by the New York Center for Photographic Art, Adventures in Photography, St. Catherine of Bologna Patron of the Arts Association, and the Ringwood Association of the Arts, and have won awards in competitions sponsored by the New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs and the Rockland Photography Club.

Please visit my website www.pamgrafsteinphotography.com to view more of my work. Contact me at pamgrafstein@gmail.com to let me know how my art speaks to you - I am interested in your thoughts, and always welcome the conversation!



PAUL TAPPENDEN

www.paultappenden.com

www.rocklandforager.com

March 23, 1947 - October 4, 2021

An award-winning artist, Paul Tappenden's creativity varied over a career spanning 45 years. He worked on Broadway sets, television and film; created stunning Hudson River landscapes; was a noted muralist and developed two unique painting techniques. He was awarded honors from government and organizations as a champion of the arts.

Paul studied music and art at Milton Keynes College (a division of Oxford University) in Buckinghamshire, England. After earning his degree, he taught in England and Bermuda before coming to New York in the mid-seventies.

His work includes pen and ink drawings, etchings, watercolors, and oil and acrylic paintings and murals. He developed two unique painting techniques called *Fresco Découvrir* and *Modellier Massé*, bridging the gap between painting and traditional fresco.

Paul's subject matters range from portraiture, landscape, still-life and architectural. At one point in his career, he developed a reputation for paintings of the Hudson River Valley and the quaint Victorian village of Nyack where he lived for 43 years.

He was a member of the United Scenic Artists painting scenery for Broadway plays such as *Cats* and *Evita*, TV including a year on *Saturday Night Live*, and over fifty movies including *Cotton Club*, *Legal Eagles*, *Trading Places* and *The World According to Garp*.

Later in life, Tappenden studied herbs, natural health and foraging, becoming an expert forager sharing his knowledge through workshops, foraging expeditions and **The Rockland Forager** blog. He published two books, *The Edible Plants of Nyack*, and *The Edible Plants of Nyack and Beyond*, which is more extensive and in its second edition.

Tragically, he died in 2021 from COVID19 and kidney disease, leaving his wife Kathy of 45 years and daughter Kelly.

Awards

2006: Award of Excellence, Rockland County Executive Award

Artist of the Year, State Legislature of NY and Arts Alliance of Haverstraw

2004: Prize painting for Rockland Gay Pride

2003: Pride of Rockland Arts Award; Rockland County Executive Award for Visual Arts

Commissions

The Plaza Hotel, NY; The Whitney Estate, NY; Jumeirah Essex House, NY; Ralph Lauren; Old Navy; Nyack Village Hall; Nyack Hospital; Architectural Digest; Town and Country; Guide to the Nyacks; Rockland County Tour Guide; Rivertown Magazine; Rockland Magazine; Hook Magazine; Bergen County Magazine; Journal News; Rockland County Times



PEGGY OPALEK

"To me, photography is an art of observation. It's about finding something interesting in an ordinary place...I've found it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them." Elliott Erwitt

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

I practice looking closely at the subjects I photograph in an effort to show the viewer a new perspective. It is the photographer's eye that makes a photo unique and interesting. Through my photography, I try to capture special places and moments in time to evoke an emotional response. I am especially interested in the interplay of light, shadows and textures. Unusual patterns and juxtapositions often catch my attention. I'm drawn to both urban decay and the beauty of reflections.

BIO

My photographic journey began some forty years ago when my husband, Carl introduced me to a 35mm manual camera. I learned film processing, printing, and mastered the complexities of my camera by taking courses at the School of Visual Arts and the International Center of Photography.

When digital photography took over I packed up my traditional darkroom. Over the years I have exhibited my work in various libraries and galleries in New York and New Jersey. My work has been included in juried shows at Hopper House, NAWA (National Association of Women Artists) in NYC, Rockefeller preserve in Ossining, as well as Blue Hill Art and Cultural Center in Pearl River. My husband, Carl, and I had a joint show at the Pomona Cultural Center entitled *A Duet of Creativity*.

I can be contacted at peggyopalek@gmail.com.



Ray Lagstein

Music and art have always been a historical pairing, as is evident in Ray Lagstein's work. His improvisational music has evolved into painting, a process of experimentation marked by intuitive perception.

The abstractions, organic in nature, are rich with sensuality of color and gestural lines: They are a constant improvisational experience.

Lagstein's richly textural surfaces are highlighted by strong accents and vigorous brush strokes, often using rags and knives. The compositions are not methodical or premeditated, rather, they are insightfully reviewed by the artist in the moment. His style provides for an expanse of compositional variation with the persistent ambience of musical energy.

Lagstein has studied with Eleanor Grace Miller at ROCA for many years, as well as Gale Bennett, in Giverny, France, and Nigel Konstam at the Verrochio Art Center in Tuscany. Recent exhibits have been at the Union Art Center in Sparkill, New York, Renaissance Art Gallery in Orangeburg, New York, and various venues in connection with the Nyack Art Collective, of which he is one of the founding members. He currently performs in the jazz harmony group, High 5 Vocalworks.

His gallery, Lagstein Gallery, in Nyack, New York, is dedicated to the perpetuation of fine art in all mediums, including film, animation and crafts.



Sandra Taggart

Sandra Taggart, a visual artist based in Brooklyn earned a BFA from the School of the Art Instituted of Chicago and did graduate work in Educational Psychology at NYU and Hunter College. She earned a Certificate in Computer Technology from NYU. Her work explores the sciences and the human condition, with an emphases on the environment and the universe.

Taggart is a recipient of a Brooklyn Arts Council CAF grant. Her work has been shown in solo and group exhibitions across the US including: FiveMyles Gallery (Brooklyn), Baruch College Gallery (Manhattan), Hammond Museum (Salem, MA), Wiseman Gallery, Rogue College (Grants Pass, OR), Kentler International Drawing Space (Brooklyn), Hyde Park Art Center (Chicago), Austin Museum of Art (TX). Taggart's primary focus is drawing and painting. However, she also presented her full length performance, "About Time," at FiveMyles Gallery in Brooklyn. Her work is in the collection of the Brooklyn Art Library.



Subhra K. Bhattacharya

Subhra likes to visualize emotion in his work, and weave a story with shapes, lines, and colors. He looks for the unexpected in the mundane, the interplay of light and shadow in form. Capturing the emotive moment inspires him.

He grew up in Kolkata, India, among a myriad of colors, rhythms and verses and was deeply influenced by both eastern as well as western art and literature in his formative years. He pursued engineering in his undergrad and majored in Aerospace Engineering. After immigrating to the United States he completed his graduate studies in Computer Science. Later, he pursued further studies in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. He currently works in New York in a quantitative engineering field.

Subhra's work has been exhibited both locally as well as internationally. Locally, he has recently exhibited in the Atlantic Gallery in New York and the Spring Street Gallery in Newton, NJ. Internationally, he has won dozens of photographic awards – including gold and silver medals – and hundreds of acceptances at international salons and exhibitions organized under the patronage of [PSA](#) (Photographic Society of America), [GPU](#) (Global Photographic Union) and [FIAP](#) (Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique) resulting in photographic distinctions being awarded to him by both PSA and GPU.

He also loves to write and has workshopped with local writing groups. Some of his short stories and poetry have been published.

Subhra believes that the purpose of all visual art is to evoke an emotional response from the viewer, and that fine art photography is no exception. His art is intentional and attempts at creating specific moods. His training in the quantitative fields as well as his familiarity with the written word allows him to fuse multiple disciplines into his work to give rise to a unique perspective. With this, he attempts to break through the traditional role of photography - to tell a story of a place and a time, and to create suggestive and timeless feelings.



Susan Phillips

All of our senses allow us to reflect upon the world. Dreams and conscious musings are based on the qualities of these reflected perceptions. Puddles hold a special fascination for me because of their ephemeral, multi layered nature. They are transitory, changing from one moment to the next at the whim of the wind, a passing truck, or people stepping blindly into them. The on-going magic of these images lies in the myriad of possibilities that they present. Each photograph may lead to a mysterious, enigmatic and surreal world. Presenting not just a mirrored effect, each one offers perhaps, a trip to a phantom, floating city, a fictional underground society that exists beneath the pavement, or on the nether side of the curb, available only to those who will “slip” into the puddle by allowing their preconceptions to dissolve. I know surely that each site will appear differently when the next puddle arrives, and as well, to the next viewer who will bring his or her psyche and allusions into play. Hopefully those who peruse these photographs will come away seeing that puddles can allow us to visualize, through them, a temporary yet beautifully vivid, altered reality.

Susan Phillips is an artist who resides in New York City and Woodstock, NY. Her mediums are photography and collage. She has exhibited her work locally and nationally for many years.

She is an active member of the Woodstock Artists Association & Museum, and the National Association of Women Artists, in New York City, where she has been the Gallery Coordinator for over fifteen years. Ms. Phillips is a member of the Center for Photography in Kingston, NY, The International Center for Photography in NYC, and the Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild. She is represented by Emerge Gallery, in Saugerties NY.

Ms. Phillips has received the highest Photography Award from The National Association of Women Artists. (Jurors: Anita Rogers, Anita Rogers Gallery NYC, Lisa Small Senior Curator European Art, Brooklyn Museum). In 2019, she was granted a European art residency at Arte Studio Ginestrelle, (Assisi Italy). In 2020, she was selected for the Woodstock Artist’s Association and Museum Exhibit: “A Different Kind of Now”. Beasenderfer Gallery NJ, awarded her 3rd place winner in their 2022 Collage Exhibit. Her photographs have been published in “New York Magazine”, “Art Ascent”, “The Fat Canary”, and "The Catskill Mt Region Guide".

She continues to expand her photography portfolios of Graffiti, Puddle Reflections NYC, Rain, Pond Reflections, Torn Elegance, and Street Seen, among others. Her collage compositions are ongoing. Her work can be seen at www.susanbphillips.com



Suzanne Lacke

I am an artist currently living in Salisbury Connecticut.

I received a bachelor's degree in Art History from the University of Pittsburgh and an MFA from the University of California at Berkeley. In addition I studied at the Art Student League in New York City. There I studied figure drawing, painting and sculpture. I spent a long time sketching people in the subways, streets, cafes and bus stations.

After moving to California and receiving my MFA I continued with my interest in painting and drawing people in the streets in the setting of the times: in car windows, views from restaurants, people walking down the streets, sitting on trains and in restaurants and cafes. Living in Berkeley California it was inevitable that an unhoused person would be in my field of vision. I painted from sketches, people posed for me and I worked from photographs. I could say my Perspective and Perception is that of an outsider looking in.

After moving to Connecticut I have established myself in a studio nearby in Millerton New York and continue to paint people, still lifes and landscape. I continue to develop my series of people in the landscape, city scape, and town scape. I also keep up an active figure drawing practice in my studio.

I am a member of the Blue Mountain Gallery in NYC and exhibit my work at local colleges, libraries and in my studio in Millerton.

Suzanne Lacke
www.suzannelacke.com



Trine Giaever

I attended to Rhode Island School of Design for my BA and the New York Academy of Art got my MA. I am an illustrator, painter and a printmaker. I worked as a full-time artist in the editorial graphics department for the New York Daily News and Also for the Associated Press. Now I do freelance graphic work for scientific publications.

I think working for the newspapers and publications has forced me to work fast and furious, and somewhat narratively. I try to use this same “deadline” approach when I draw or paint.

Color decisions are also quick and dirty with hopefully expressive brushwork. I think the trick is to balance the form and content with the color and the mood. I try to get at least one think “right” in the painting, and sometimes, that is enough.