



collage artists of america

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024



Skyler McGee, *Hide*, installation
encaustic, textile, mixed media and silkworm cocoons, 6' x 5' variable, 2021

NEXT ZOOM MEETING MARCH 22

FEATURED SPEAKER: SKYLER MCGEE



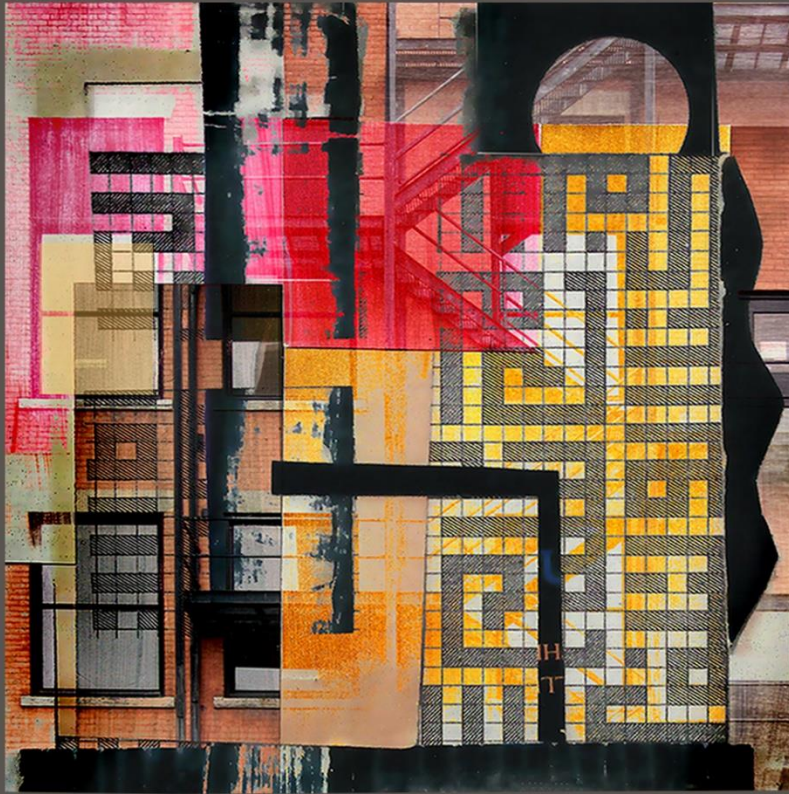
Skyler McGee, who lives and works in Jacksonville IL, is an indirect storyteller. She is ever combining images from her world: plants and animals, buttons and bones, maps and teacups, her children's drawings. These disparate elements create new relationships and form a disjointed narrative, both familiar and decontextualized. Painterly expression and detailed drawings are placed next to abstract shapes, fields of color, and layered imagery. These images have roots in ecology, fashion, cartography, and anthropology. In other words, they are human: depicting diverse relationships with our earth, each other, our personal and collective history. Her work provides a visual space to explore the experienced complexity of place, its beauty and difficulty. It celebrates and excavates the stories, creatures, locations, homes, and objects through which we create meaning.



OUR NEXT EXHIBIT

COLLAGE ARTISTS OF AMERICA
Annual Members Juried Virtual Show

INTERPLAY



APRIL 1 - MAY 31, 2024

Reception: Saturday April 6, 5-7pm PDT

Juror: Nancy Kay Turner

The new exhibit INTERPLAY will go live online April 1 at sfvacc.org with the virtual reception being held April 6 from 5-7 PDT. Stay tuned for the zoom info that will be coming to you soon.

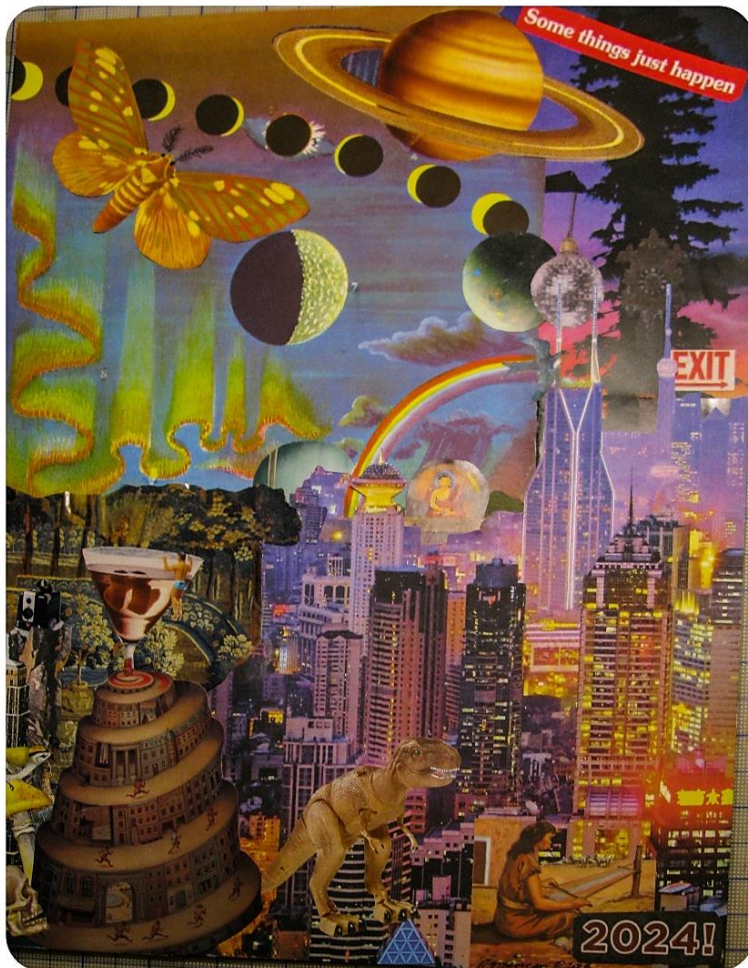
COLLOQUY

Jean Hess jeanhess@bellsouth.net

To launch this column I sent out a note to a few collage artists asking them an open-ended question: *Art historians have suggested that collage began with the search for ways to incorporate “random” imagery into a work of art – one path to the universal, the primitive and the unconscious. And sometimes the abstract.*

What is “random”? What does it mean to “find” materials for collage? Why is this an important distinction?

In the spirit of classic market research, I looked for patterns to share. Here is the interim result. **Please help me expand on this randomness topic for next month (e-mail to jeanhess@bellsouth.net). Send images of course!**



Pat Spencer
Paper collage on board.
primaseadiva@yahoo.com

Artists care whether or not “found” materials are consciously sought or “something you come across without looking for it.”

“On rare occasions I have found something on my walks.”

One suggested that truly “random” materials would have to be “blind”:

“Selected and placed on the ground while blind, without the sense of touch or even sound....You had no choice ...

You just use it no matter what.”

Disparate, “unrelated” things can emerge over time [you found it in the attic; a friend gifted you] and hold the promise of surprise when combined. Sometimes chemicals like Citrusolv can be used to deliberately alter printed media in abstract patterns.

They also differentiate between “man-made” and “natural” materials suggesting that what arises naturally is less likely to be affected by culture. One uses hard-to-control bees wax as a medium. Another suspends fragile plant material in acrylic resin.

By contrast, while some artists stockpile ephemera ["I keep files"], imagery found on the internet appears suspect as over-mediated:

"I don't use anything downloaded from the internet or programs that auto-generate."

But clearly the question itself missed the mark by stressing materials! In reality, artists put more emphasis on process. Manipulating found materials, they try to achieve a sort of random ideal:

"Arrange them in a unique way."

"Bury them to be barely seen and then inscribe images and words in the layers on top."



Three photos of a work in progress, top left to top right to bottom.

Neranza Noel Blount

Tending the Telomere

Mixed media collage suspended in beeswax on wood. <https://neranza.com>

Artists try not to plan. Some suggest that they are not really "thinking" while they work.

"I enjoy collage partly because it's a combination of intention and just letting things fall into place."

Asked for images of work that incorporated random elements, one artist replied "I don't bother to record works in progress only when they are done."

And yet as one stated, the result may yet be a "complete compositiona meaningful and pleasing visual relationship." Another noted "I use repositionable glue and do not use permanent glue until I'm satisfied."



Caitlin Seidler. Citrusolv-treated magazine pages on paper.
<https://www.facebook.com/caitlin.seidler>

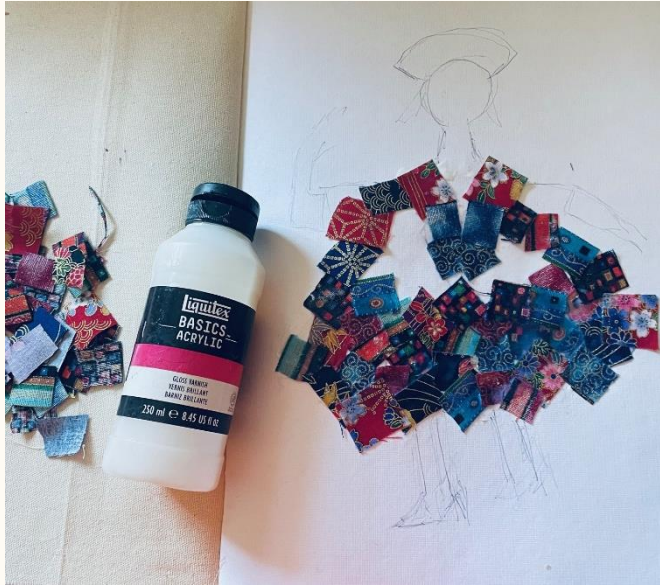
That is to say, artists doubt that anything can be purely random. They acknowledge that ideas, methods and materials are mediated in some way before they reach us, and that we operate selectively according to our own aesthetic preferences and pre-conceptions about what we wish to create.

Postscript from Jean: I myself keep believing that “random” is possible and desirable, but I agree that it probably will not come from outside. We are too selective and deliberate. In my own work I keep trying to achieve what I would call “salience” or “surprise” by allowing for accidents. I think of the various means already used: Robert Morris drew blind-folded; Brice Marden put paint brushes on the end of unmanageably long rods so he had little control. I just consciously ignore a first impulse grounded in instinct – to place mark or material in just the right place for balance – and instead break my own rule so things get skewed a bit and need to be fixed. Over and over.

COLLAGE AND FABRIC



The pear is created with different pieces of green fabric including prints, and it's mounted on paper.

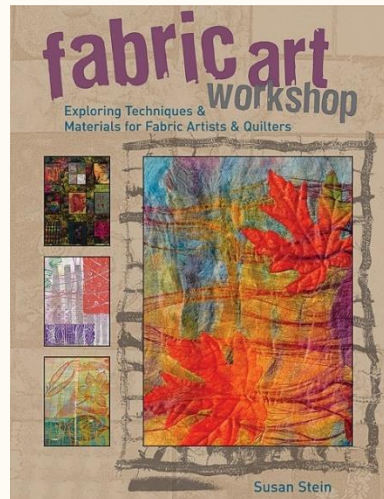
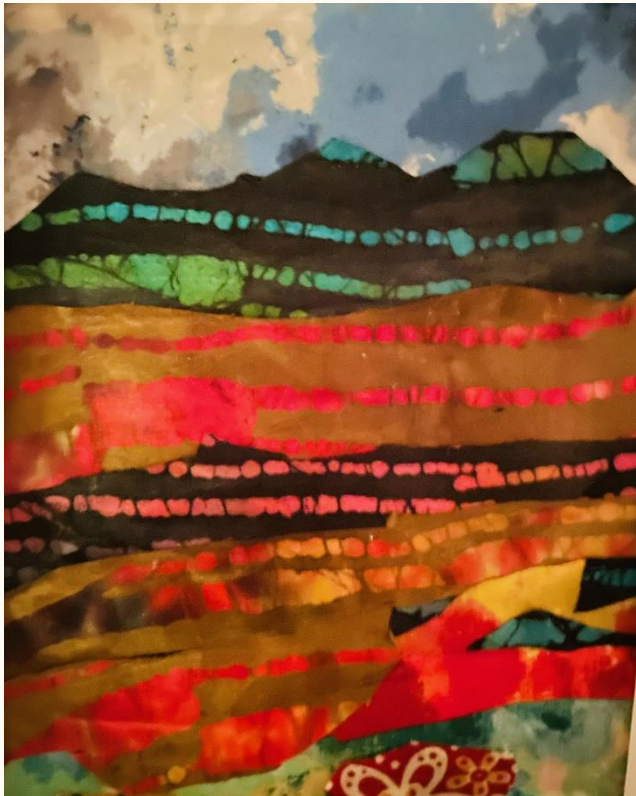


Matte medium takes place of glue. Glue can be used but dries quicker so if you want texture it's better to use matte or gloss as it gives flexibility to manipulate pieces and make texture. The fabric was purchased in quarters, then was cut into pieces.



Fabric was incorporated in this dress.

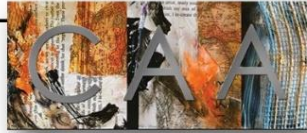
Images and suggestions on this page are from **Barbara Zager-Mathis.**



Barbara recommends *Fabric Art Workshop: Exploring Techniques & Materials for Fabric Artists and Quilters*

The horizontal strips are cut from fabric and arranged to create a natural image from sky blue to ground cover. The use of a sharp scissors ✂ gives it a painted effect. The use of matte medium gives the artist ability to move fabric easily while wet, manipulating with the fingers to shape it, since it soaks through the piece.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



collage artists of america

CAA NEEDS YOU!

Enhance your involvement in **Collage Artists of America** by becoming a more active member and participating in one or more of the activities listed below. These are the opportunities that welcome Volunteer or Co-Chair Board support.

Check off any of the activity boxes that interest you and forward to the relevant committee Chair or our

President, Sylvia H. Goulden shgoulden@sbcglobal.net

For questions or additional CAA details, feel free to email the Chair directly or see the CAA website [link](#). *We look forward to your involvement!*

☐ **COMMUNICATIONS**

Open

☐ **EXHIBITS**

Pennie Fien, Chair
pmfine50@verizon.net

☐ **GRAPHICS**

Carol Priamo, Chair
cp@carolpriamo.com

☐ **HISTORIAN**

Open

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Susanne Belcher, Co-Chair
susannebelcher@yahoo.com
Patrice Goldberg, Co-Chair
goldberg.patrice@gmail.com

☐ **PHILANTHROPY**

Open

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lorraineglessnerstudio@gmail.com

☐ **PUBLICITY**

Lauren Rechner, Chair
lauren.rechner00@me.com

☐ **SCHOLARSHIPS**

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merken1821@gmail.com
Jennifer E. Robertson, Co-Chair
jennyrob@umich.edu

☐ **WORKSHOPS & HOSPITALITY**

Barbara Zager-Mathis, Chair
barbaraslife49@gmail.com

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Best time to contact me is: _____

CLICK BELOW TO ACCESS THE VOLUNTTER FORM

<https://www.collageartists.org/resources/Documents/Volunteer%20form%20Version04%201.29.24.jpg>

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for newsletter submissions is the **2nd of each month**. The newsletter publishes nearly every month. If you know of collage-related art shows, workshops, or exhibit opportunities, or if you're a CAA member and are participating in a show or fair, let us know. Contact Kwei-lin at **Kweilin111@aol.com**

CALENDAR

2024

FRIDAY MARCH 22
ZOOM MEETING
SPEAKER:
SKYLER MCGEE

APRIL 1-MAY 31 2024
INTERPLAY
MEMBERS ONLY
ONLINE EXHIBIT
SFVACC.ORG
JUROR:
NANCY KAY TURNER

SATURDAY APRIL 6
ZOOM RECEPTION
5-7PM PDT

MAY 2024
WORLD COLLAGE DAY
ZOOM SHOW AND TELL
DETAILS TBA

FRIDAY MAY 17
GENERAL MEETING

2024

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27
GENERAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 2024
ONLINE OPEN EXHIBIT
DETAILS TBA

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22
GENERAL MEETING

NEW MEMBERS

CAA WELCOMES the large group of new members who joined CAA in February and early March (some were listed in the February newsletter), in response to our Interplay exhibit. There were well over 20 new members. We will do our best to provide you with activities to make your membership worthwhile.

Dunia Barrera
New Canaan CT
www.duniabarrera.com

Noble Golden
Seattle WA
Noblegolden.com

Taryn Jackson
Tuscumbia AL
[anyslyenchanter.wixsite.com](http://anyslyenchanter.wixsite.com/my-site)
[/my-site](http://my-site)

Brian Raymond
Berkeley CA

Nick Mozak
Chicago IL
Nickmozakart.com

Adriane Dedic
Newark CA
www.myartiststudio.com

Polly Castor
Bethel CT
www.PollyCastorArt.com

Carol Fettin
Omaha NE

Sarina Vanacore
Brooklyn NY

Fania Greenwood
Raleigh NC
Faniagreenwood.com

Cole Anson
Chapel Hill NC

Helen Peter
Sugar Land TX

Shawn Ahn-Lee
Huntington Beach CA

Virginia (Ginny) Hoppe
Wylie TX

Shelley Carlisle
Nevada City CA
www.shelleycarlisle.com

John Diephouse
Lansing MI

MEMBER ART

Congratulations to **Marie Chapien**, who will participate in Kolaj Residencies in Scotland this summer.

<https://kolajinstitute.org/collage-residencies-in-scotland/>

She also has been selected for a group show, Abstract Exhibition, at the Covet Art Gallery, 1922 South Coast Highway, Unit A, Oceanside, CA 92054.

The show runs from March 9–23.

Sylvia Hamilton Goulden is also exhibiting in the show.



An article about the art and life of **Susanne Belcher** has been published in Voyage LA. Here's a link:

<https://voyagela.com/interview/meet-susanne-belcher-of-tarzana/>





From **Jean Hess:**

"Healing Through Enchantment." Hand-stitched textile collage. Antique Japanese mended Boro fragments; antique and vintage found fabrics, ribbons, trim; contemporary embroidered patches; found trinkets. Silk neckties from the collection of John Robertson, M.D. Linen, cotton, silk, wool, metal, plastic. 72 x 18"

"I am sharing this because it is a good example of how ideas can evolve and improve through dialogue. It is a commission recently completed for Dr. John Robertson, a psychiatrist working with children in Knoxville, Tennessee. To enchant his patients, Dr. John wears silk neckties that feature popular cartoon characters. He wanted to have a tapestry commemorating his practice that incorporated these characters.

Necessary conversations ensued, things changed and expanded. I had a bit of a problem embracing "Snoopy" as an aesthetic. I wanted to turn the cartoon faces into celestial orbs, so that the finished piece could be more ethereal like a starry sky. I also wanted to use my preferred mix of old fabrics and to emphasize muted colors. I sent John progress shots.

John in turn took to the idea of an "ethereal" piece and, feeling at one point that the work was kind of flat, allowed me to add embroidered stars to enliven the surface. Then, when he also mentioned his desire to have a caduceus and a brain, I segued into obtaining commercially available bling. Making it a truly collaborative, playful, almost risky work of art that we both like."

S. P. Harper synthesizes historical and contemporary styles by mixing the classical tradition of still-life painting with modernism. By reforming and re-employing, her work fits into the Ecocentric Art Movement to reduce, reuse and recycle. ART276 Gallery is proudly presenting S. P. Harper's "Elizabeth Taylor Jewels" Series of 7 paintings illuminating the iconic actress. These artworks are the result of a collaboration with the artist De Camille. The event takes place from 4 to 7 pm on March 1st, 2024. The exhibition "Elizabeth Taylor Jewels" will remain open until April 4, 2024. Please don't forget to bring friends!



Pressed Flowers, Botanicals & Encaustic Retreat

A collaborative teaching venture with Beth Murphy and **CAA Program Chair Lorraine Glessner** July 29 -August 2, 2024 AT LAREAU INN & FARM, Waitsfield, Vermont

More information: <https://www.lorraineglessner.net/vermont-retreat-1-1>

If you have always wanted to combine pressed flowers and botanicals into your encaustic paintings, then this is the retreat for you! . . . Working on both paper and fabric, we will experiment with pressed botanicals, flowering pounding, photo transfer and in depth encaustic collage processes. New this year, we have also added botanical paper cutting and cyanotype using pressed botanicals and the brilliance of the Vermont summer sun.





Barbara Tabachnick reports: "Rounding off February, I have been juried into two new shows by the Los Angeles Art Association/Gallery 825. The first is an online show, *Reputed*, an all-media exploration of an artist's "signature" style or exemplar of their work, running online only from February 17- March 15, 2024. See the show at <https://www.laaa.org/reputed>. I have an encaustic monotype in that show.

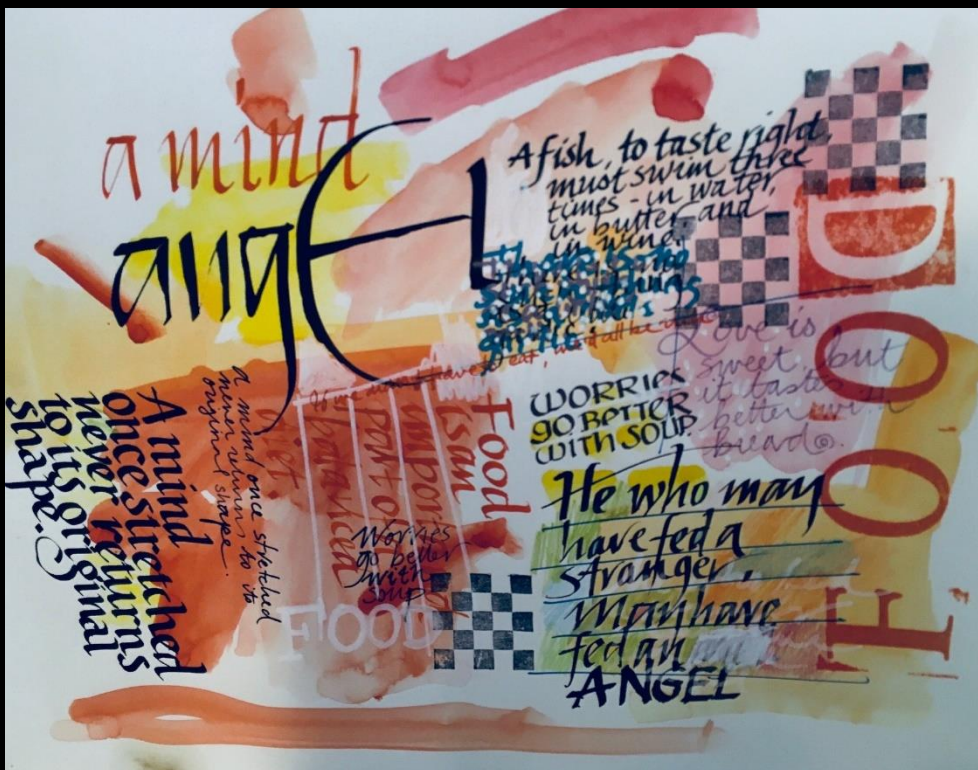
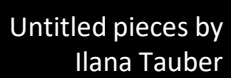
I have two pieces in the West Hollywood gallery show, *Whereabouts*, which opens Saturday, February 24 at 825 N. La Cienega Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90069, 310.652.8272. The show runs until March 15. Here is one of my pieces (above) from our travels, *Nyhavn*.

REMEMBERING ILANA TAUBER



Ilana Tauber, a very longtime member of CAA, passed away on 1-20-2024. A world traveler, she lived in Los Angeles and worked as a high school art teacher. Her most unique ability was her calligraphy, which she often combined with mixed media. Artworks can be viewed at <https://www.ilanataubersartgallery.com/>.

Susanne Belcher says, "A few of us used to get together with her for art critique sessions a number of years ago. She was such a lovely person, very talented artist and calligrapher." CAA members recall her from a holiday pop up event that our group sponsored at the SFVACC brick and mortar gallery in in 2018 (above).



OPPORTUNITIES

Finger Lickin' Good

https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=13239



Sponsoring organization: <https://www.shockboxxproject.com/homepage>

Contact Email: pmsartwork78@gmail.com

Entry Deadline: 4/21/24

Entry Fee (Entry Fee): \$25.00; **Media Fee**(Additional Media Fee): \$5.00

This is an Open Call to **ALL THEMES, STYLES** and **MEDIUMS** and artists from **ALL LOCATIONS**.

Cutting edge Hermosa Beach (California) gallery is looking for the best working artists to feature in an upcoming group exhibition at **ShockBoxx Gallery** in late May of 2024. The top artist submissions will receive **Featured Wall Space** and inclusion on **Artsy** for this exhibition. This call is open to your interpretation and we invite you to have some fun with it. Since the call is wide open, we leave it up to you to choose your very best artwork to submit to this Juried Group Show. That's right, anything goes. Submit only the work that **you** like best.

Artworks will be judged based on creativity, originality, quality of work, composition, and overall artistic ability.

Exhibition will also be featured on **ARTSY**.

Jurors: To Be Announced.

OPPORTUNITIES 2

Summer Dreaming - visual art exhibit at Art Works Downtown San Rafael, California

https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=13258



Sponsoring organization: <https://www.artworksdowntown.org/>

Email: info@artworksdowntown.org

Contact phone: 415-451-8119

Entry Deadline: 5/2/24

Entry Fee (Entry Fee): \$40.00

Theme: Calling artists to submit your vibrant creations for our Summer Dreaming exhibition. Capture the essence of sun-soaked days, lazy afternoons, and the vibrant colors that define summer. Express your vision and interpretation through any medium that transports the viewer to a whimsical realm of heat and light-hearted adventure.

Juror: Hakki Serhat Cacekli; Senior Director, Jessica Silverman Gallery;
jessicasilvermangallery.com

Application Requirements

Artwork Requirements:

- San Francisco Bay Area artists only (artist must live within 100 miles from San Rafael, California). Refunds will not be given to applications who don't qualify.
- Open to most subject matter including abstraction.

OPPORTUNITIES 3

Strictly Abstract 2024

https://artist.callforentry.org/festivals_unique_info.php?ID=13016



Sponsoring organization: <https://www.ohanloncenter.org/>

Contact Email: office@ohanloncenter.org

Contact phone: 415-388-4331

Entry Fee: \$40.00

Entry Deadline: 03/26/2024

Juried by Anthony Meier

An ONLINE exhibition.

O'Hanlon Center is looking for fresh, nonrepresentational work that inspires, evokes and conveys the essence your work. **All media welcome except video.**

“... discover the uniqueness, the singular presence, the vibration, color, shape, texture, temperature, time-space motion, of oneself. IT IS ALL BOUND TO BE THERE”

—Ann O'Hanlon

Each artist may submit up to 3 individual pieces of artwork for consideration into this juried show.

OPPORTUNITIES 4

JOIN WOMEN PAINTERS WEST!

<https://womenpainterswest.org/apply-for-membership/>



It's
**Time
To Join**

APPLICATIONS DUE **APRIL 8, 2024**
ACCEPTANCE NOTIFICATION MAY 8, 2024



- **Join** A diverse group of 200+ professional and award-winning women artists.
- **Get Known** Participate in WPW exhibits in galleries, art centers, universities and museums in and around LA. as well as online.
- **Hang Out** Connect with other members at monthly Zoom meetings where you will learn from such guest speakers as renowned artists, gallery owners, workshop presenters, career and marketing consultants. Enjoy art sharing get-togethers in members' homes.
- **Field Trips** Tour: museums, local galleries, private exhibitions and collections, member artists' studios. Participate in drawing days at select venues.
- **Do Good** Take part in our philanthropy & scholarship programs.

*Membership Chairs: Carol Kay,
18cakay18@gmail.com or Rhonda Burton,
hello@rhondaBurton.com. For application
forms and more information about WPW,
please visit: www.womenpainterswest.org*



Membership in Women Painters West (centered in Los Angeles) is achieved through a jurying process, which takes place annually. Prospective members must fill out an application form and submit three examples of their artwork, which are reviewed by the Art Jury, a panel of five Women Painters West members.

PAST CAA GUEST SPEAKERS

All Collage Artists' meetings with guest speakers, starting with January 2018, are listed here: <https://www.collageartists.org/page-18255>

Our first COVID-era meeting in September 2020 was held by zoom and was recorded. All subsequent meetings have been recorded and are listed below with links, along with the start time of the speaker's part of the meeting. It is with great pride that CAA has incorporated outstanding, if not world-class artists, from far and wide into our programs.

NANCY KAY TURNER JANUARY 2024 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_g1rDkMsVU 21:40

ROXANE HOLLOSI NOVEMBER 2023 <https://youtube.com/watch?v=mdQnvgZIAM8> 26:45

BARBARA TABACHNICK SEPTEMBER 2023 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhhQx52KODY> 23:33

ANDREA BURGAY MAY 2023 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iepZyiVaqZk> 42:12

ADAM P. FAUST MARCH 2023 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iZEEiMx69sQ> 31:10

JEAN HESS JANUARY 2023 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GA0v5D4wWDU> 42:15

JANE DUNNEWOLD NOVEMBER 2022 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9V0UnUocFc> 13:50

JIM MORPHESIS SEPTEMBER 2022 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFhWe8PHqbw> 28:20

SUZANNE STRYK MAY 2022 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSpK7KNrYQg> 33:01

WORLD COLLAGE DAY MAY 2022 (SPECIAL EVENT:VARIOUS SPEAKERS)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iDw1dOdw-Oo> 12:00

BILLY RENKL MARCH 2022 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1XEpnGlohC> 33:45

TODD BARTEL JANUARY 2022 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOP5Uxm5wsl> 33:80

NICK DEFORD NOVEMBER 2021 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4H_PQwkV-E 30:30

TRUDY SISSONS SEPTEMBER 2021 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5IZVh7GT-P0> 34:40

ALVARO SANCHEZ MAY 2021 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SdFtdWtFYEl> 47:25

DELLA WELLS MARCH 2021 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDMfH6oOhig> 47:22

TREY MILES (SOTALENTEDMILES) JANUARY 2021 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pwSXbvhbJss> 44:27

MEIKEL CHURCH NOVEMBER 2020 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vRZA0e-9DtU> 24:30

SUSIE GESUNDHEIT SEPTEMBER 2020 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ro2oCT3aTUzE> 23:35

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shgoulden@sbcglobal.net

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pmfine50@verizon.net

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lorraineglessnerstudio@gmail.com

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susannebelcher@yahoo.com

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goldberg.patrice@gmail.com

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shawnriley@gmail.com

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shawnriley@gmail.com

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cp@carolpriamo.com

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kweilin111@aol.com

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lauren.rechner00@icloud.com

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Barbara Zager-Mathis
barbaraslife49@gmail.com

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merken1821@gmail.com

Co-Chair: Jennifer Robertson
jennyrob@umich.edu

WEBSITE MANAGER

Barbara Tabachnick
btachnick@csun.edu

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Barbara Zager-Mathis
barbaraslife49@gmail.com

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Position open

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Jean Hess

CAA MEDIA AND CONTACT INFORMATION

CAA WEBSITE

<http://www.collageartists.org>

CAA FACEBOOK GROUP

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/collageartistsofamerica/>

CAA SNAIL MAIL

ATTENTION—NEW ADDRESS!!!

Collage Artists of America
11239 Ventura Blvd. Ste. 103-274
Studio City CA 91604

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Susanne Belcher

susannebelcher@yahoo.com

Patrice Goldberg

goldberg.patrice@gmail.com

**DO YOU HAVE A PICTURE OR STORY FOR THE
NEWSLETTER? WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.
DEADLINE IS THE 2ND OF EACH MONTH.**