



TORRID

ABSTRACT IMPRESSIONS

presented by

JUNIPER
RAG



Ann-Marie Gillett

SEEKONK, MASSACHUSETTS



Ann-Marie Gillett | Seekonk, MA
Red Entangled
mixed media
17 x 17 in.
\$275

● Winter Heat
mixed media
13 x 13 in.
\$260

Damned Dead Ends
acrylic and graphite
13 x 13 in.
\$250



My current work explores various themes that give rise to vastly different imagery but are born from the same source—the natural world that exists around me on my 12-acre homestead. What is often unnoticed fascinates me. My work often centers on encounters with nature that are not grand or majestic, but the smaller things that demand a closer look and contemplation.

Observing the subtle and dramatic changes that occur daily in my environment gives rise to a language of color relationships, textural surfaces, and morphing shapes and forms that I use in my work. Over the years I have developed a technique that involves painting different color gradations and textures on artist tape and then cutting and arranging the tape to build up an image. Colored pencil, watercolor, marker and graphite are sometimes used to enhance the work. The methodical and contemplative nature of this work suits my process to intuitively make decisions and revise what I make as the image takes form.

The images submitted for this exhibition were all done during the height of the pandemic. Torrid usually reflects the idea of heat in a literal way, but my interpretation of this theme is less about heat and more about intensity—feeling confinement, fear, loss of freedom, the intensity of feelings that had no place to go. My more figurative work turned into images that were direct reflections of how I felt—a release of sorts. I experimented with new ways of making images, and ultimately found a new type of freedom exploring these abstractions in spite of the limitations imposed by lockdown.

* Ann-Marie is a prolific supporter of Juniper Rag, showing in ORIGIN, ARTISTS on FIRE, selling all 4 of her pieces from both shows. Ann-Marie was also published as curated artist in Juniper Rag V2, curated by Marjorie Rawle of Fitchburg Art Museum.

Clare Asch

MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS



Clare Asch
Red
watercolor on paper, framed
16 x 10 in.
\$400

In her paintings, Clare Asch explores the interaction of chance and predetermined structures. Natural phenomena like gravity and seismic activity such as earthquakes and volcanoes fascinate her. She also has a long-standing interest in mark making. This dialogue of chance, gesture and structure is the foundational basis of her art.

Clare showed an early interest in art and was given a scholarship to attend art classes at the Brooklyn Museum at age ten where she found the emphasis on creativity and freedom magical. Needless to say, she continued with art, attending the High School of Music and Art then Cooper Union. Asch later received an MFA from Lesley University.

Some of her recent exhibitions have been at Galatea Fine Art, Fountain Street Gallery and at the Associazione Culturale Sei l'Arte in Venice.

She was recently commissioned by the deCordova Museum Corporate Program for an installation of artworks at the Riverfront Office Park in Cambridge, MA. Clare's paintings can be found in the collections of the Boston Public Library, the Essex County Courthouse, the Marriott and Massachusetts General Hospital and at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

* Clare Asch was in our DARKNESS virtual exhibition and now TORRID.



PHOTO © DAVID LEE BLACK



Curtis Speer

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

Seeing things from at least two perspectives would lead me to continue to create bodies of work that play with the mind and the eyes. Using Light as my main subject, I am able to capture the subtleties of life, death, color, contrast, texture and emotion. With a full college scholarship for drawing, was taught to develop my own perspective which would later apply to my life as an artist using a camera.

Out of the five human senses, it is the unique privilege of sight and accompanying visual stimulation that is the highest valued of all our gifted intelligences. In addition to its utilitarian necessity, this vision is where we turn in times of introspection, reflection, imagination, and is what encourages a plethora of emotions in our dreams. The gift of creation is truly divine, and those that choose to share their chosen craft with the mission of encouraging thought and contemplation are truly the connectors to our soul.

Each one of my limited edition images is comprised of pigment on cotton rag then mounted to a hard wood panel and hand-finished.

As the factors of our daily lives coalesce into a global challenge, wanted to romance the idea of climate change, pollination and plastics in our land and seas. Creating Dutch-inspired still lifes that tend to nod at what seems to be a more simpler time, decided to depict our current world in a cooler palette to denote the possible implications of inaction.

Join Curtis Speer to celebrate the official opening of the new CUSP Gallery Newport. Juniper Rag will be there!

Opening

April 28

CUSP Gallery Newport

Limited Edition Fine Art Photography & Lifestyle Goods
35 Broadway, Newport, RI 02840

* Curtis has been a curated artist in the magazine, by Luis Antonio Fraire. In 2022 he then curated V4 of Juniper Rag, due out soon. Curtis also hosted Luscious Punch at his gallery CUSP, Provincetown for Robin Reynolds with Julia C R Gray in 2022.



Curtis Speer | Newport, RI
Anthropocentric
Fine Art Photography on Cotton Rag
with Custom Black Walnut Frame
18 x 24 in.

\$2800



Heather Muenstermann

SPENCER, MASSACHUSETTS



Growing up in my mom's studio, I was surrounded by art materials and inspiration. A mixed media artist since youth, I continued on a path to earn my BFA from the University of Arizona and an MA in Art Therapy from the University of Illinois, Chicago. Having worked in a variety of mental health settings, I've now settled into a fulfilling role as a special education paraprofessional. Making art will always be part of my life; the process of creating can be a cathartic adventure with unexpected and satisfying outcomes.

The piece, Torrid, grew from colors that depicted my immediate experiences: Scorched, Suffocating, and Dangerous, a metaphor for occurrences happening within my life. As the work developed, it became a landscape, suggesting a planet where all humanity share one space. The shades of blue and red lend themselves to a universal vibration, akin to heat rising, mirage-like.

Having researched the word, "torrid," I found the British describe this as, "full of difficulty or tribulation." Working through this while experiencing tumultuous upheaval in my life, "Tribulation" perfectly described what I wished to express. After nearly 18 years of pain, my marriage came to an end. To convey the emptiness I felt, I recycled boxes with layers of gesso, paint, pastels and pencil. Further I broke down the surfaces and my artwork by cutting them into smaller squares and rectangles. Having done that I was free to reassemble the whole, to present it in a different way, providing a different outcome.



Heather Muenstermann
Tribulations
Cardboard, acrylic, pastel, pencil
18 x 22 x 1 in.

\$180

This is Heather's first time showing with Juniper Rag at TORRID.



Howard B. Johnson

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS



I take a more Pop Culture oriented approach to Visionary Art: a sort of unconventional metaphysics with an ironic portrayal of world imagery, UFOs, grail mythology, alternative religions, paganism and esoterica.

Composition is complex with multi-faceted references, each feature of the work becomes a vignette of interest; all equally rendered so as there are no lax spots in the finished piece. An element of intended goofiness, whimsy and wit runs throughout the composition. Titles are arduous and part of concept.

Howard has been a featured artist in Juniper Rag and has shown in ORIGIN at JMAC. TORRID is his second exhibition with us. *

Schrodingers Fortune Cookie[Is there a Future or not?] 2022-2320 x 24 x 1.5 in. Mediums: Ancient computer punch cards, dot matrix paper with perforations to give the effect of a printed universe, pastel paper, various technical text: biological, algorithm script , hard stick medium, ink, neo-color crayons mounted on Ampersand staged board. \$3,200

Woman With Two 44 Magnums And The Biggest Tits In The World Vs. Man With Two Six-Guns And The Biggest Balls In The World [Diptych] 2022, 38 x24 x.75 in. Mediums: neo color crayons, prisma color, ink, graphite on pastel paper mounted and sealed on Ampersand staged board. \$5,000

The Divine Magus Of Light 2021, 20 x 24 x 1.5 in. illumination being neo color crayons, prisma color, ink, graphite on pastel paper mounted and sealed on ampersand staged board. \$3,200



Howard Johnson, a life-long resident of Worcester, Massachusetts, is one of the most original and distinctive artists working in New England today. His artwork has often been described as “visionary,” and indeed he has spent his entire career creating images of things that most of the rest of us could never see, or even imagine.

Johnson’s visions are informed by his deep interests in avenues of intellectual and creative pursuit that attempt to understand, or at least describe, phenomena at the furthest reaches of human comprehension—myth, legend, religion, occult and arcane philosophical systems (like alchemy), science fiction and fantasy, and the search for extraterrestrials.

His drawings of other beings, other worlds, and other states of mind seem like pictures grabbed from dreams or hallucinations. They depict shallow, claustrophobic spaces of indeterminate scale, crowded with dense mobs of monsters and aliens, accompanied by objects and symbols borrowed from both American popular culture and ancient rituals. The creatures shift, intertwine, and focus their unsettling attention directly on us.

These fantastic scenes are made palpable and emotionally powerful by Johnson’s prodigious aesthetic technique. For many years, he has been a master draftsman, with a virtuoso command of line. More recently, he has added color to his artistic arsenal to make his images both richly attractive and creepily repulsive. Johnson is also a student of art history, and has closely studied Pablo Picasso, the Surrealists, Hieronymus Bosch, and other artists who have shared his penchant for the bizarre. To this mix he adds sensuality, a dark humor, and curious titles that serve only to deepen the mystery of his apparitions.

-Nick Capasso, FAM Director



James Varnum

NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS



James C Varnum
Artist Statement for Scirocco 1, 2, 3.

These mixed media paintings were part of a solo show at Galatea Fine Art, dealing with climate change and global warming.

Originally, I produced work that had flat surfaces rendered by the acrylic pouring fluid, while beneath the surface were textures and depth executed by layering different components. Recently I've created pieces that have texture and contours that are tactilely inviting. In an exhibit, I invited viewers to touch the surfaces of the work. It was fun to watch viewer reactions when I asked them to touch a painting. Something out of the ordinary!

Focusing on the surface contours, these low-relief works are a change from my typically flat rendered substrates. The works are on cradled Claybord and consist of modeling paste that is shaped and patterned, dried and painted or marked. Then clear acrylic fluid is poured over the entire piece. Finally, I enhanced and added to the mark making on the top layer.

James is on the boards of the Newton Art Association, and Galatea Fine Art in Boston, and he belongs to several other art associations and actively exhibits. James studied art in Boston and San Francisco, where he earned a B.F.A. from the San Francisco Art Institute.

James' work is also live on ESCAPE, a virtual exhibition presently on juniperrag.com. TORRID is his second time showing with Juniper Rag. James' work was also selected by Juniper Rag while curating NewtonNOW exhibition with Nearby Gallery in Newton, MA. *



James C Varnum | Newton, MA
Scirocco I, II and III
mixed media
12 x 12 in.
\$425



Joelle Tomb

NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Joelle Tomb, who is from Lebanon was born into a family of artists and grew up in her father's art school. When she moved to Boston, she became involved with various arts organizations, as a former board member at ARCK, and as a docent at the Institute of Contemporary Art. She has organized a number of public art projects; including I Am, We Are, Walls That Speak, and the Webster Court Project. She also helped launch the Artist in Residence Program at Central Café and is President at New Art Center in Newton.

Joelle is also a Real Estate Advisor at Engel & Völkers Wellesley and an Art Educator at The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston.

Joelle just returned from Lebanon, where she presented work from past generations of her family, as a tribute to her father Fouad Tomb and late grandfather Maroun Tomb, icon of the Lebanese impressionist artistic movement.

MESHWAR Exhibition continues until May 13th at the Dar El-Nimer for Arts & Culture, Lebanon.

* TORRID is Joelle's first show with Juniper Rag. Joelle's work was also selected by Juniper Rag while curating NewtonNOW exhibition with Nearby Gallery in Newton, Massachusetts.



Joelle Tomb | Newton, MA
acrylic on canvas
48 x 48 in.

\$1100



John Pagano

PAXTON, MASSACHUSETTS



“Mark making, color, the subconscious and the physical act of applying paint is central to my art work. I want to confront the viewer with a visual challenge, large or small, a dare to question themselves and what they are seeing, and give them an opportunity to bring themselves into the picture . . . color, speed, temperature and spirit are always at the forefront of my art making. My more recent work moves in the gap of abstraction and representation. I enjoy playing within the boundaries of imagery, that gap between what is realistic and what is abstracted. As a painter I work intuitively. I rarely doubt the direction a picture takes as I am working on it. I have learned to trust that the painting will unquestionably reveal its direction, it is always a self portrait.”

Quoted Nick Capasso, Director of the Fitchburg Art Museum states, “John Pagano is an immensely accomplished painter who extends important traditions of abstract painting into the 21st century. With roots in the work of Gorky, deKooning, and Twombly, he creates lyrical and colorful images that suggest subtle and ineffable mental states.”

Juliet Feibel, Executive Director of ArtsWorcester says “John has an unusual bravery with his materials, and is willing to inhabit sometimes uncomfortable spaces between the figurative and the abstract. His solo exhibit through ArtsWorcester in 2012 was the highlight of our year.”

John has been a featured artist in Juniper Rag magazine and has showed at ORIGIN, ARTISTS on FIRE, ELEVATION our virtual exhibition on juniperrag.com and TORRID.



John Pagano | Paxton, Ma
Just the Two of Us
acrylic on canvas
37 x 50 in.
\$1700



Juror's Choice Winner

Kaitlyn Malinowski

NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Torrid recalls vibrancy, light, and heat. In my paintings, I portray this through light and color. Establishing a fantastical mood, vibrant threadlike forms exist in unnamable realities. The forms react with their environment, often shining in a dark background and emitting a bold glow. Strands rise and twist as they radiate inner light, heat, and energy.

The forms often join to create hearts, diamonds, flowers, and spirals. These symbols exist between the polarities of playful coyness and potent femininity. They are a reclamation of identity and power.

As an artist, I am interested in oil painting to celebrate my experience of feminine energy and power. The fibrous identity of my forms references a deep history of women and woven work. With painting and a deep respect, I render strands shining and rising. It is through the nature of the medium that I can create realities in which the subject matter consistently metamorphizes, overthrowing projected barriers and allowing for femininity and transformation to flourish within the painted plane.

Emerging artist Kaitlyn Malinowski was born in Buffalo, NY and received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting at Buffalo State University in 2018. During her undergraduate program, she studied observational drawing and painting techniques. In 2021, Kaitlyn received a Master of Fine Arts in Painting from Boston University.

Kaitlyn Malinowski has shown work in galleries in the greater Boston area, including Gallery 263, The Nearby Gallery, and the Piano Craft Gallery. Currently, Kaitlyn resides in Newton, Massachusetts, where she maintains her painting practice and teaches elementary and middle school art.

This is Kaitlyn's first time showing with Juniper Rag. Kaitlyn's work was also selected by Juniper Rag while curating NewtonNOW exhibition with Nearby Gallery in Newton, MA.

* Kaitlyn has earned Juror's Choice for 2nd place for TORRID.



Kaitlyn Malinowski | Newton, MA
Bloom Glow.
oil on wood panel
11 x 14 in.
\$300

Convergence
11 x 14
oil on wood panel
\$300

Moon heat
6 x 36 in.
oil on canvas,
\$3,000



Karen Nunley

HUDSON, MASSACHUSETTS

Originally from New Jersey, I hold a degree in French from Bethany College in West Virginia and the University of Dijon in France. I worked for many years in the computer field - as a programmer, project manager, and technical writer.

From the time I could hold a pencil, I have had a need to make marks on paper. In 1987, I took a watercolor class and began a love affair with that medium and the desire to make art a priority. Over the years, I have added elements of collage, pastels, oil sticks, acrylics, and printmaking to my work. I am an active member of ArtsWorcester, Cambridge Art Association, and the Monotype Guild of New England. I have also taken courses at the Worcester Art Museum and Wellesley College Greenhouses. I maintain a studio at Hudson Art Studios at 14 Main. My work has appeared in many local shows and galleries, and I have been honored with a number of awards.

Karen Nunley has been a curated artist in Juniper Rag and has had work in ORIGIN at JMAC, February 2022 and ELEVATION, a virtual exhibition recently on juniperrag.com. TORRID is her third show with us.



Look for her work in our OUTRAGE issue dedicated to Ginger Navickas as a response to the overturning of Roe v. Wade.



Karen Nunley | Hudson, MA
Tiny Ladder Sharp Teeth
acrylic on canvas
30 x 24 in.
\$350



Honorable Mention

Keri Anderson

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS



Keri Anderson is an expressionist painter and live painter. Some of her themes and influences deal with portraiture and the natural world. She focuses on aiming at the complications of life and the sensual nature of art through a combination of texture, color, symbolism and narrative.

Her work has sometimes been referenced to looking through a dirty window. In 2000 Keri received a BFA from Columbia College in Chicago. She also teaches art in Worcester Public Schools. Keri has also been known to work with other mediums such as leather, wood, plaster and burned debris. Keri has exhibited in and around Central Massachusetts and Chicago, Illinois.

Keri has been a featured artist of V2 Juniper Rag, curated by Marjorie Rawle expert and showed in ORIGIN and TORRID exhibitions.



Keri Anderson, Worcester, MA
An Invite to Eternity
acrylic on canvas
40 x 30 in.
\$850

Charge Me Up
12 x 24
acrylic on canvas
\$300



Kate Morgan

DOUGLAS, MASSACHUSETTS



Kate Morgan | Douglas, MA
The Turning ●
mixed media on canvas, with
wood floater frame
31 x 31 in.
\$1000

Meditative ●
mixed media on canvas, with
wood floater frame
19 x 19 in.
\$725

Be Still
mixed media on canvas
16 x 16 in.
\$550

next page



Kate's work statement

The word “Torrid” has many definitions. For this exhibition I have likened the definition “hot” to a type of therapy I am learning, DBT (Dialectical Behavior Therapy). In DBT we learn to live on the “middle path”. From there we can bring the cold logical mind and the hot emotional mind into the middle path where our true self lives. From there we have the ability to make wise decisions in our lives. I tend to lean to the hot, torrid, mind often. In all these artworks I am expressing tools I’ve learned to help me walk the middle path into my wise mind...

“*The Turning*” is about many things. Some personal, and some I would like to share. In this piece I see myself, and others, turning to embrace the broken parts within us. For survivors of PTSD, this is a continual struggle. To love our past selves with compassion and unconditional love. Turn and love yourself.... This piece was also inspired by the infamous Thom Yorke in his song, “Hearing Damaged”. A personal favorite of mine.

For “*Meditative*”, in meditation we create a “safe” place to ground us, and in this piece I see it. In a bed of flowers and earth soaking up nature to its fullest. I am an avid gardener and have been since my early twenties. All aspects of gardening thrill me from seed, to care, to stem. To me, this is a safe and beautiful place to rest.

“*Just be still*” It’s not so easy for some to stop. They actually have “Stop” signs in kindergarten rooms for this very purpose. When you are fired up, or “Torrid” in your hot emotional mind, which I am, just try to stop and be still can be a challenge. You have to stop, breathe and reassess before any more action. I’m a work in progress...

Additional works added by demand...

Because Kate’s painting *The Turning* has been such a show stopper and many people have asked to be back up buyers, even, We have requested two more original works from Kate, listed on the next page.

In 2011 I went to an art therapy group for women with PTSD at McLean Hospital in Bedford, MA. I have developmental PTSD from childhood abuse. Several art mediums were set in front of us and we were asked to express an emotion. I grabbed some pastels and for the first time I expressed myself through art. It was and is the best medicine I have found. I am an accidental artist just trying to get through life. The actuality that my art is valued and appreciated is a boon and something I am grateful for.

I am a mixed media collage artist living rurally in Douglas Massachusetts. I work from my home studio. I am bound to no medium, but I gravitate towards collage and acrylics in most of my pieces. My subject matter is women’s figurative collage painting. I love to create generous texture in my work. I achieve that by creating layers of Venetian plaster, modeling pastes, crackle medium, glazes, photography, natural fiber papers, and more. I am fond of traditional hand-screened Japanese washi paper and use it in most of my pieces. I write thoughts, poems, and lyrics in most backgrounds that are sometimes legible or you get a glimpse of through the layers. I am highly influenced by music and the many books I’ve read. I love fantasy fiction as an

escape in today’s world and also as a source for my imagination.

My work is self-therapeutic and expressionistic at its core. My work tells stories of my past, present, and what I hope for. They represent what I dream things should be and outlet emotional and spiritual themes I am working through. Faith in the Divine and the Unseen is a continual thread for all my inspiration. I am passionate about finding light in the darkness and I hope that peeks through in my art.

My paintings are now owned across the world and have been on the cover of Somerset Studio Magazine & Juniper Rag.

I am a member here and with the Cambridge Art Association. I have exhibited locally in Massachusetts at Arts Worcester, Sprinkler Factory, The White Room and JMAC in Worcester and at Davallia Gallery in Vermont.

Throughout my career, I’ve been passionate about sharing art through in-person workshops and several online courses. My classes all have an emphasis on mental health awareness and the power of art medicinally for the mind, body, and soul.



● Forget It
mixed media on canvas, with
wood floater frame
31 x 31 in.
\$1100

Lost Girls
mixed media on canvas, with
wood floater frame
19 x 19 in.
\$725



“*Lost Girls*” This piece was created in honor of and thinking about all teenage girls and survivors of trauma and abuse. Troubled teens are often reacting to something in their life that disrupts their normal path. Many of these children stand in other’s judgment. Instead of judging, we should ask why they behave the way they do. Be kind to her, very few are. This part of me took over for several years and unfortunately, set me up for more trauma and hurt. But today that part of me has learned to face pain and hard truths for the most part. Keep going.

Mediums: Venetian plaster, modeling pastes, old book pages, acrylic ink and soft body, collage, photography, washi paper, natural fiber papers, pastel, pen, graphite, sealed with satin varnish.

“*Forget It*”. Inspiration: This artwork is about the mind-body connection. How protective our mind can be of our body and vice versa. Depicted here is the part of us that can protect our minds by forgetting painful memories in order to survive and thrive, as in the case of trauma. This piece is personal to my life and perhaps it will resonate with yours in some way.

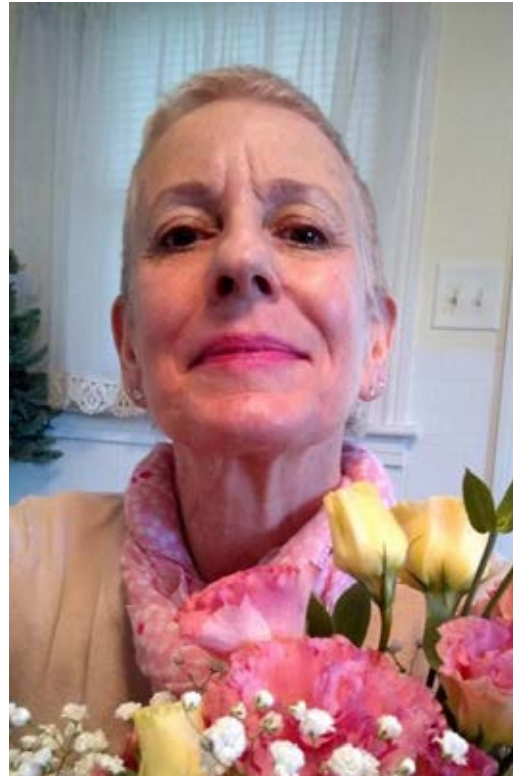
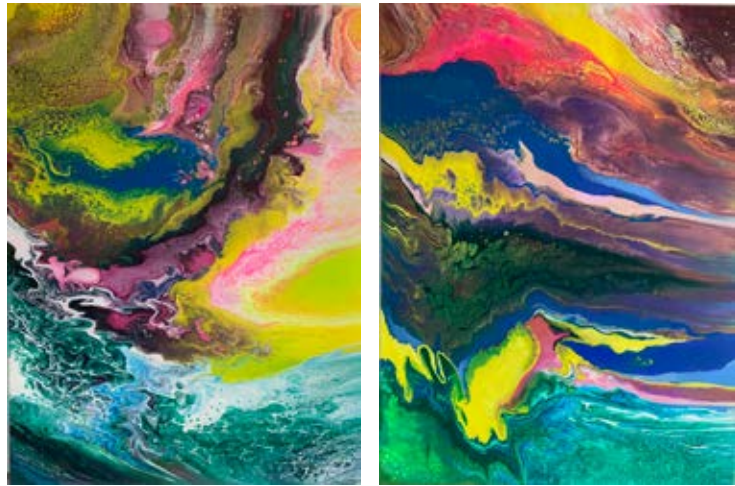
Mediums used: Venetian plaster, gold leaf, tissue paper, soft body, and acrylic inks, pastel, glazes, graphite, charcoal, string, pen, inktense blocks, collage, photography. Sealed with satin varnish.

Kate speaking at the art social



Kristin Young

SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS



Kristin Young | Shrewsbury, MA
Between Frontiers
Oil and Acrylic
30 x 40 in.
\$500

I'm an abstract expressionist painter primarily utilizing oils and acrylics. I work spontaneously in the moment and draw my inspiration from my psyche and emotions. My work is full of energy, movement, and color. I paint in the pursuit of catharsis from the frenzy of thoughts that occupy my brain, trying to bring balance to myself. The vibrancy of color has always made me feel most alive.

To me, these pieces represent turbulence in keeping with the title of this TORRID show. With scorching acidic yellows and pinks, they hearken to the heat-emanating connotations of the word, and with the churning, liquid feeling I gave them I paid homage to torrid's ancestral sister-word, "torrent." At the same time, I did not want these paintings to be interpreted as any one given thing. All at once, they are meant to gesture at forms taken by the ocean and rivers, mountains and valleys, lichen and algae, and the interstellar clouds of outer space.

This is Kristin's first time showing with Juniper Rag.

Lisa Barthelson

RUTLAND, MASSACHUSETTS



Lisa Barthelson has exhibited throughout New England and New York. Her mixed media, printmaking, sculpture and installation work has been featured in curated exhibitions of contemporary art at Fitchburg Art Museum, Newport Art Museum and Danforth Art Museum. The site specific sculpture: 'hanging' was purchased by the Newport Art Museum for their Permanent Collection. In 2022, Barthelson was awarded a Finalist Grant in Drawing and Printmaking by the Mass Cultural Council.

'aii 23, aii 24, and aii 25' are part of an expansive 'art in isolation, family debris' series. Since March of 2020, the Covid 19 pandemic, the fight for social and racial justice and a loss of faith in government, has had me looking inward. My initial response was to work small, using materials that I already had at home. The intimately scaled works built with remainders of my ongoing family debris monoprints, could be held in my hand and felt reminiscent of domestic arts, offering the same meditative comfort in the making. The pieces have been homework, providing an opportunity to re-use, re-work, rethink, offering sanity and sustainability while following my mantra: waste not want not.

Lisa has been a curated artist in V2 of Juniper Rag, curated by Marjorie Rawle and has shown with us at ORIGIN at JMAC in February 2022. TORRID is Lisa's second show with Juniper Rag. Look for her work in our OUTRAGE issue dedicated to Ginger Navickas as a response to the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

Lisa Barthelson | Rutland, Ma
aii 23, art in isolation, family debris
monoprint with mixed media: printed
collage and thread on cradled panel,
wired
10 x 10 in.
\$425

aii 24, art in isolation, family debris
monoprint with mixed media: printed
collage and thread on cradled panel,
wired
6 x 6 in.
\$ 325

aii 25, art in isolation, family debris
monoprint with mixed media: printed
collage and thread on cradled panel,
wired
5 x 5 in.
\$275



Lydia Kinney

GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS



Lidia Kinney | Greenfield, MA
Flare
acrylic on panel
11 x 14 in.
\$300

Flash
acrylic on panel
10 x 8 in.
\$150

Squiggle
acrylic on panel
10 x 8 in.
\$150



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* Lydia has been a curated artist in V3 Juniper Rag, curated by Luis Antonio Fraire and has showed with us at ORIGIN in 2022. Lydia was also invited to show work on our Art Market. TORRID is her second show with Juniper Rag.



Martha Wakefield

BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS



The slip is a recurring theme in my work which embodies grief and loss yet signifying rebirth. We still feel the aftereffects of lost pandemic years, senseless gun violence and devastation of asinine wars. This body of work seeks to capture that sense of unease but signals immense change in our evolving world. Now there is a passion to live after witnessing the tenuousness of life. The slips scantiness conveys the current fragility of our existence. They imply human presence of intense energies. There is a tectonic shift as the rules for living are forever changed.

An award-winning painter and photographer, Martha Wakefield has exhibited her work in over 75 exhibits across the country including the Fitchburg Art Museum, Wheaton College, Lasell University, and the Griffin Museum of Photography. Artist's residencies include Weir Farm National Historic Site, Vermont Studio Center and Orquevaux, France. Wakefield's work has been featured in several publications including Artscope and Watercolor Artists magazine. Her paintings are in numerous corporate and private collections internationally. She is represented by Powers Gallery of Acton, MA.

* Martha's first showed with Juniper Rag in our virtual exhibition DARKNESS, and we are glad that she is back for TORRID. Look for her work in our OUTRAGE issue dedicated to Ginger Navickas as a response to the overturning of Roe v. Wade.



Martha Wakefield | Belmont, MA
shift 12
mixed media on paper
36 x 28
\$1600

shift 25
mixed media on paper
36 x 28
\$1600



Melissa Parent

BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS



My recent artistic focus has been exploring the relationship between humanity and nature. Humans are made of the same elements as our natural world, our bodies having been evolved from the very dirt we walk on and our microbial ancestors. Our coexistence with this natural world can be both tumultuous and simultaneously harmonious. My work explores this dichotomy with collage, mixed media paintings, as well as abstractly, reflecting chaos and chance in tandem with control. It is a balance between what we feel or imagine, what we know to be real, and what we intend for our future and our intellectual growth. In this series the word *Torrid* weighs heavy in the sense that passion and intention can go a long way when it comes to taking care of this rock we exist on. Our physical wellness is directly affected by the health of our environment and vice versa.

* Melissa first showed her wonderful collage work with Juniper Rag at ARTISTS on FIRE in May 2022 at The Worcester Center for Crafts. We were happy to see her work submitted to TORRID.



Melissa Parent | Brookfield, MA
Tread
acrylic and gold leaf on canvas
12 x 42 in.
\$750



Monica DeSalvo

ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Monica DeSalvo received her BFA in Visual Design from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. She is a Core Member at Fountain Street Gallery in SoWa Boston and has been featured in Juniper Rag and Artscope magazines. Her work has been shown in galleries throughout New England and is a part of collections across the US and Europe. In 2021 DeSalvo was one of eight artists selected for the Attleboro Arts Museum's annual juried exhibition "8 Visions." In 2022 her three-person show, "Into the Ether" was the winning proposal invited to exhibit at Nearby Gallery in Newton, Massachusetts. She lives and works out of her studio in Arlington.

Energy despite decline. Attraction despite opposing forces. These are two qualities I strive to illustrate in my work that explores shared experiences with my late father at the end of his life as he suffered from dementia. Why, four years post-mortem, am I still driven to make work related to this topic? There seems to be an endless trail of themes I want to examine; I can't look away. From his epic psychedelic hallucinations ("We didn't take the plane...") to his smart-alec responses ("Acceleration"), this subject matter has fortified the layering, color, and compositions of my mixed media collages.

* Monica first showed with Juniper Rag at ORIGIN, at JMAC, February 2022 after being a curated artist in V3 of our magazine, Juniper Rag. She also showed in ELEVATION, our virtual exhibition on juniperrag.com. This is Monica's third show with us and she is always a favorite.



Monica DeSalvo | Arlington, MA
Acceleration
Mixed media with acrylic monotype fragments
on archival felt paper
11 x 11 in.
\$450



Nancy Wright

WESTBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS



Nancy Wright | Westborough, MA
Blue Chaos
photograph on metal
30 x 20 in.
\$625



Seeing the world through a different lens took on a whole new meaning for me, once the pandemic rolled around, especially since I was in Italy two days before they shut down. In 2019, I had shifted my focus to nature and wildlife photography and when the pandemic hit, I took a much closer look at nature in my own backyard and unexplored trails in my area. Always the one to make short nature hikes not so short, I see things others do not. Mother Nature's color, design, and forms seem to scream for my attention; other people simply walk by. Learning became more important, as my world closed in on me. In 2020, nature and macro photography were my go-to escapes and actually led me on the journey to win the National Wildlife Federation 2021 photo contest for my portfolio of bee images from that year.

The world, as it relates to the word torrid, makes me think of heat and friction that cause sparks, burns, radiated energy. In my mind, torrid, much like the pandemic, has a negative connotation associated with darkness, chaos and negativity. As we move further away from the beginning of the global pandemic, the essence of torrid permeates our lives, the veins of our very existence. We feel scorched by the fallout, knowing nothing will ever be the same. And, while we didn't think we needed it to be the same, we long for it to be. Like a torrid love affair with the way things were. We continue to look for a source of light to give us hope among the chaos.

We are happy that Nancy submitted her abstract photograph to this call. It was just perfect for the exhibition. TORRID is Nancy's first time showing work with Juniper Rag.

Honorable Mention

Back in 2001, Patricia took a month-long artist's retreat deep in the woods of British Columbia where she lived in a tent on a mountainside with no electricity or running water. She intended to focus on photography which had been a passion of hers for over a decade, but her camera broke on the first day there. After purchasing some acrylics from the on-site supply shed, she instead spent her days in this primitive paradise painting on found wood and has been painting ever since.

While Patricia now favors oils over acrylics, her medium of choice is encaustic (pigmented beeswax) which allows for endless possibilities creating layered, textured pieces, often with unexpectedly exciting results due the element of serendipity inherent in the fusing process integral to this technique.

A long-standing member of the SoWa Artists Guild and United South End Artists, Patricia has maintained a studio at 450 Harrison Avenue in Boston's South End since 2009. She works with Renjeau Gallery and has two pieces in the U. S. Embassy in Cotonou, Benin as part of the Department of State's Art in Embassies program. In 2023 she will have a solo show at Concord Art Association.

Patricia has had the pleasure of forming relationships with collectors both around Boston and across the globe.

Oh...and when she's not painting, Patricia teaches high school math.

Regarding my submissions to Torrid, I have selected 3 pieces from my studio that, for me, encapsulate this word's meaning. I associate "torrid" with "passionate;" the phrase "torrid love affair" immediately comes to mind. The passion, intensity, and, at times, fury that went into their creation, the bold use of reds, and the energy they continue to evoke when I look at them now made them perfect candidates. My paintings vary greatly in their style, technique and media used; Wild Things, Contessa, and Still were all created from an intense relationship with the materials that happened organically and without calculation, not unlike a love affair.

Patricia Busso

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Patricia Busso | Boston, MA
Wild Things
mixed media on wood
36 x 36 in.
\$3600

Contessa
24 x 24
encaustic and ink on wood
\$1300

Still
12 x 24
oil on wood
\$1300



This is Patricia's first time showing with Juniper Rag and we are so glad she submitted. We love her work and look forward to following her. We accepted all three of her pieces because they all present so well together and the all had to be seen.

Patrick Steele

SOUTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS



Patrick Steele | Southborough, MA
Fireman and Bride
oil on canvas panel
14 x 11 in.
\$325

I'm a painter whose work incorporates geometric forms, human figures, and abstract landscapes to show people interacting with the natural world. My work highlights the emotional states of these interactions, using asynchronous shapes and colors to change the lens. I seek to show how we don't fit perfectly in nature, that ours is an untidy beauty.

We are happy that Patrick submitted his work. It was just perfect for the exhibition. With all this heat, we needed to consider safety first.

TORRID is Patrick's first time showing work with Juniper Rag.



Juror's Choice Winner

Patti Kelly

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS



My journey is one of travel through the world of the hidden—colors, shapes, movement, all indicating the presence of uniqueness of another life form. These paintings are an abstract expression of the hidden—things atmospheric, reflecting motion and mood, multiple layering of color and shade, designed to place a piece of me alongside the subject.

Patti Kelly is an artist with a vibrant and complex core, who uses color and movement in abstraction to effectively and emotively touch her viewers. Sometimes her marks convey metaphorical storms and other times complete serenity. Like a breeze in nature touching the skin, her work intrinsically resonates with the eyes, floating by with an intentional mood and atmosphere you can see with a satisfaction of understanding it.

Patti Kelly is on the faculty of the Worcester Art Museum as well as the Worcester Public Schools and select private schools in Massachusetts. She attended the School of the Worcester Art Museum and holds a Bachelors of Fine Art from Massachusetts College of Art and Masters in Education from Framingham State University.

Patti was a featured artist with Juniper Rag in V1 and has shown with us consistently ever since, in our live exhibitions ORIGIN, ARTISTS on FIRE, and our virtual exhibition DARKNESS. We accepted all three of her pieces because they all present so well together and the all had to been seen. The energy is incredibly striking.

Look for her work in our OUTRAGE issue of Juniper Rag dedicated to Ginger Navickas as a response to the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

Patti Kelly has earned Juror's Choice for 1st place for TORRID.



Patti Kelly | Worcester, MA
Red Night
acrylic mixed media, custom framed
24 X 24 in.
\$500

Desperate Love
acrylic mixed media, custom framed
24 X 24 in.
\$500

Out of Darkness
acrylic mixed media, custom framed
24 X 24 in.
\$500



Rachel Brask

RUMFORD, MASSACHUSETTS



Rachel Brask is a contemporary abstract/impressionist Rhode Island painter. Her current work explores the sensation of looking out through windows during torrential rains. Through these “Abstracted Rainy Moments” paintings, Brask seeks to show people a fresh, hopeful perspective on rainy days. She has exhibited in solo exhibitions, invitational and juried shows around New England and in private collections in the UK and Italy. She has developed her work at artist residencies in Maine, North Carolina, and Cape Cod. Rachel earned a B.A. in art from Houghton College. Brask enjoys working on painting commissions, and sharing her love of art through teaching community classes, workshops, and private art lessons. Rachel Brask Studio, is located in East Providence, Rhode Island.

“Rachel’s Rainy Days”

The nature of my artwork is creating contemporary abstracted landscape envisioned through the window of a rainy day, with an emphasis on runny rain texture, color combinations, and conveying both a sense of place and a sense of placelessness. In today’s increasingly chaotic and unpredictable world, many of our expectations have been upended in the last several years, the aim of my artwork is to provide a contemplative moment of calm for a mental health respite, as well as the reminder to pause that rain often brings — to focus on beauty, despite the raging storm. My process involves creating highly detailed pointillism oil paintings of thick daubs, and then destroying the painting with “rain,” and gradually rebuilding the painting’s visceral layers through fighting gravity, time, and trying to let go, while also trying to regain control of the medium, until I finally come to peace about the painting’s final outcome, because beautiful things come only after we let go.

Rachel’s fiery and fierce colors were perfect for TORRID, her first show with Juniper Rag.

Rachel Brask | Rumford, RI
Fall Rain Falling
oil on canvas
24 x 18 in.
\$846

Sunset Rain II
oil on canvas
12 x 12 in.
\$250

Day 04 - Reverse Rainy Fire Sunset
oil on canvas
10 x 8 in.
\$116



Robin Reynolds

NORTH BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

My garden is my sanctuary. An intuitive approach of playful and energetic mark making begins a process of looking, layering, wiping away and building up of a surface celebrating the exuberance of color and line found within nature. Instead of depicting a time-anchored botanical or geographical exactitude I work in a series of three to seven sittings welcoming weather and the passage of days to transform my viewpoint. The garden serves solely as a guide for my organic process within my outside studio.

I embrace the notion of beauty and create luminous, lush, layered surfaces outside painting plein-air from spring to fall. I paint and find inspiration watching the lifecycle of nature. The flowers and plants act as a catalyst, allowing me to manipulate paint and create a dance between abstraction and representation.

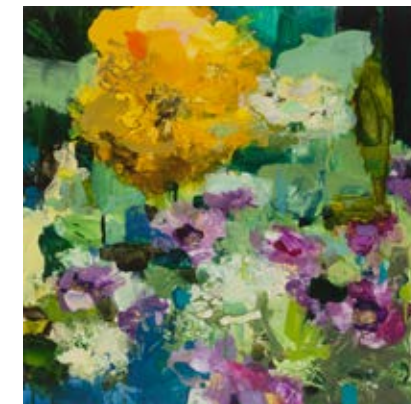
In today’s world, with such a vulnerable environment at the forefront of politics, beauty and spirituality play a pivotal role within my work. In my paintings I strive to capture the essence of a place through its growth, bloom and decay. These natural rhythms of nature create a lyrical energy, a poetic mediation occurs and the end result always has the ability to surprise me, spurring me to create even more.

* Robin was a cover artist and curated in V1 of Juniper Rag, curated by an esteemed anonymous curator. Robin has shown work in ORIGIN. Robin earned a solo show with us hosted by CUSP Gallery in Provincetown, which she shared her stage with Julia C R Gray.

Robin was also recently chosen for our inaugural show with Worcester’s premiere underground jazz venue, Club 321 at Mechanics Hall.



Stand Tall
featured on the cover of
the next artscope
magazine!



Robin Reynolds | North Brookfield, MA
Stand Tall
oil on panel
30 x 30 in.
\$3900

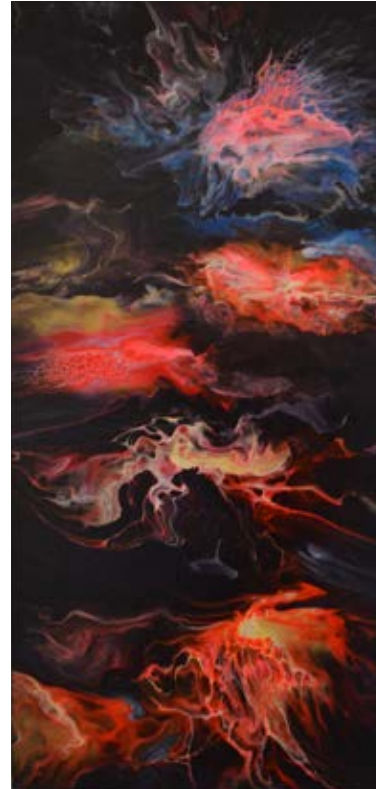
Yellow Zinnia
oil on panel
24 x 24 in.
\$3900

Yellow Lilly
oil on panel
24 x 24 in.
\$3900



Rosemary Mamakos

KINGSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Regarding the word Torrid, I immediately think of hot, as in heat as well as in passion. I think of the colors, red, orange and yellow. A black background makes these colors stand out (Aura Disturbance) and you immediately are drawn to them however the colors on their own make you feel warm.

All of my life I have always been creative in many different mediums but find fluid art to be exhilarating. I am a self-taught artist. I love bright and vibrant colors and constructing movement in my paintings. My favorite tool is the Catalyst wedge which assists in forming lines that float across the canvas. I am inspired by the bright colors found in nature and exaggerating them. I truly believe that I am merely a vessel for the paint to reveal its beauty of color. I hope you find my work inspirational and therapeutic.



● Rosemary Mamakos | Kingston, MA
Aura Disturbance
fluid acrylic
12 x 24 in.
\$750



Scott Niemi

FITZWILLIAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Much of my work deals with speed. Speed runs rampant throughout our society. I react to this by taking a static surface (the substrate) and through the use of expressive, ardent, explosive brushwork and bold color, use it as a reflection of contemporary culture as well as the global communication network. Images flash before us at an exhausting rate. We see things in such an abbreviated fashion. Using paint as a way to represent this fast-moving world is my challenge. I could use other mediums seemingly more suited to doing that such as video, however, I choose to use paint as my medium because I believe it makes a different statement than the electronic media that we're so accustomed to seeing and hearing. A painting's appeal in comparison to many other art forms is based on the fact that it can be viewed on many levels unlike video and other electronic media which are linear in their design and not that different visually from the everyday images that we are bombarded with via TV, computer and movie screens. A painting can be seen all at once or viewed little by little-the viewer controls the pace.

Scott Niemi is an award-winning fine artist/illustrator who was born in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. He completed his formal education at Florida Atlantic University where he earned a M.F.A. in Visual Art with a concentration in painting. Currently, he is a Teaching Professor in the BSDT program at Clark University. In the past he has worked as a professor of Interactive Media/Design at Becker College, as a part-time art lecturer at Franklin Pierce University, at Florida Atlantic University as an adjunct art professor, and as an art handler/installer for the Palm Beach Institute of Contemporary Art.



Scott Niemi | Fitzwilliam, NH
Hot Stuff
mixed media
24 x 24 in.
\$600



Tara Sellios

SOUTH BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Tara Sellios is a multidisciplinary artist working mainly in large format photography and also in drawing, sculpture and installation. She graduated from The Art Institute of Boston in 2010 with a BFA in photography and art history. Recent solo exhibitions include *Infernalis* at Gallery Kayafas (Boston, MA), *Sinuous* at C. Grimaldis Gallery (Baltimore, MD) and *Testimony* at Blue Sky Gallery (Portland, OR). Her work has been included in several group exhibitions locally and internationally, the most recent being inclusion in *Photo Brussels Festival* (Brussels, Belgium). She is a multiple Massachusetts Cultural Council Award Fellow and has appeared on the cover of *Photograph* magazine and *Art New England*, amongst others. Her work is part of several permanent collections, including The Museum of Fine Arts Boston, The Danforth Museum and the RISD Museum.

She currently lives and works in her South Boston studio, where she is preparing for her next solo exhibition at Fitchburg Art Museum in 2024, as well as several across Italy. My paintings are now owned across the world and have been on the cover of *Somerset Studio Magazine* & *Juniper Rag* visual art and lifestyle magazine.

Tara Sellios | South Boston, MA
No. 2 (from the series *The Seven Woes*)
large format inkjet photograph
mounted to dibond
50 x 22 in. each panel
\$4850



Susan Swinand

SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS



Painting is a silent language able to communicate emotions too specific for words, using only visual elements like line shape color and texture. I try to put my emotions, energy, thoughts and intentions into my materials and hope that expressive form is the result.

I like forms that are ambiguous, leaving the door open for each individual viewer to develop their own responses and so share in the joy of the creative process. I like shapes that are loaded with possible meanings. A little humor is always welcome.

“In collaboration with ArtsWorcester, the Worcester Art Museum presents works by Susan Swinand, the Sally R. Bishop Prize Winner of the 2019 ArtsWorcester Biennial to show the following year and into 2021. Primarily a painter with a preference for water-based media and abstraction, Swinand has long found the natural world a source of inspiration. *Nature Imagined* explores Swinand’s creative process and her drive to find balance between opposing forces in nature. By allowing the materials to take on a form of their own, Swinand taps into her subconscious to make meaning out of biomorphic shapes and fluid gestures. In so doing, Swinand creates imaginative worlds, full of contradictions, and enchantment.

A graduate of Moore College of Art in Philadelphia, Swinand was a recipient of a Sartain Fellowship, which allowed her to travel and study in Europe. When she returned, she attended the Barnes Foundation for two years, where she studied the Philosophy and Appreciation of Art. A longtime faculty member at the Worcester Art Museum’s studio program, Swinand’s work has been shown widely throughout central New England for many years.” --WAM website

Sue showed her work in our virtual ELEVATION exhibition. *TORRID* is Sue’s second showing with *Juniper Rag* and she will be in V4 of the magazine, curated by Curtis Speer of CUSP Gallery. Her masterful watercolors speak volumes to emerging artists that seek skill and total control of a medium. Sue makes her materials sing for her, like a great jazz improv.

Susan Swinand | Shrewsbury, MA
Amaryllis of Gaudalupe
mixed media on wood
14 x 13 in.
\$600

Fiesta (Liberated Forms)
24 x 24in. encaustic and ink on wood
\$450

Phantoms of the Night
14 x 13 in.
oil on wood
\$1200



Tim Gannon

SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Juror's Choice Winner



Tim Gannon is a New England-based artist that layers linear paint strokes and large washes of color to form shapes over recognizable airbrushed faces, but without all of the visual information seen in traditional portraiture. He adds the abstract and whimsical quality that draws viewers in from across the room. The artist relies on skillful renderings and his process to celebrate the image, often obscuring parts or all of the faces and builds colorful chaos over the images. Working in a space between the representational and expressive, Tim is able to focus on humor and emotion through abstraction so that the viewer can form their own narratives through each gesture and colorful brush stroke.

Tim Gannon has earned Juror's Choice for 3rd place for TORRID.



Tim Gannon | Shrewsbury, MA
Sharon
airbrush, with mixed media
on canvas
60 x 50 in.
\$1500

Joey
airbrush, with acrylic on canvas
60 x 48 in.
\$1500

Untitled
acrylic on canvas
36 x 30 in.
\$800



Scott Boilard

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Scott Boilard was born sketching. As a young child, into his adulthood, his sketchbooks are a solace in the chaotic and frenzied world. His drawings and studies lead to deep contemplation about his painting. Scott is steadfast in his subject matter and holds true to his vision as an artist when painting his large works, even as a living artist in one of the most conservative and puritanical areas of New England he battles against the Freudian interpretations and needs to exist and think outside of pop-culture commentaries.

Being born into a conservative area of the country, Scott's paintings get a visceral response and many seek understanding of what they see in his layers of body parts, creatures and forms. Surrealists "celebrate absurdity, with outlandish perplexing ideas, the illogical and irrational look at the world."

Like most artists, a deep artistic vision drives the work. Boilard's unrelenting mind is a vast labyrinth of subconscious creativity with photographic precision often being expressed by drawing from pure memory. His work is often misunderstood by the common gaze of viewers that do not understand his subject matter in depth that is proposed by bizarre imagery and unjulating and unsettling juxtapositions, as well pure fantastical art, not unlike Bacon. Despite the existentialist and seemingly bleak outlook, Boilard is wildly charismatic, with in-depth knowledge of art and world history that drives his often obsessive care in his work.

Boilard is truly a master of his domain, a celebrator of vision and avant-garde art, the likes few have seen up close and personal. He is able to transcribe his dreams and visions into works of art, with impressionistic renderings of transparent layers and brilliant light. He is the real deal.

"I am a painter in a surrealist representational vein. I work in different series although most often figurative. I experiment with concepts that balance my love of rendering expressionist art. Within representation, I deal with abstract concepts through fantastic subject matter. My paintings are for pure expression, to express what I can't explain with words—

"Boilard describes his work as figurative surrealism, but will himself add that there is a heavy focus on the surrealism aspect. With realistic figures and forms, occasionally dark imagery, strong tone and visual appeal. Boilard is in a class of his own." --Josh Lyford

* Scott was a featured artist with Juniper Rag in V2 and has shown with us consistently ever since, in our live exhibitions ORIGIN, ARTISTS on FIRE selling 8 of his 9 paintings entered, and our virtual exhibition DARKNESS. TORRID is Scott's third show with Juniper Rag.



Scott Boilard | Worcester, MA
Nightmares of Time
oil on canvas, framed
50 X 32 in.
\$4500



Payal Thiffault

NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Payal Thiffault is a visual artist and Co-Founder of Atelier ID Global and Juniper Rag magazine based in Massachusetts. Payal graduated from Clark University, Worcester with a degree in Studio Art and Economics. Her work celebrates nature, personal growth and emotions. Payal works primarily in watercolor, building layers and texture with acrylics and gold leaf. Over the last year, she has shown in galleries in Newton, Boston and Worcester and curated shows in Worcester, Newton and on juniperrag.com.

Payal Thiffault | Netwon, MA
Spring Glow
watercolor & gold leaf
on paper, framed
13 x 16 in.
\$450

Gilded Bloom
watercolor, acrylic
& cold wax on paper, framed
60 x 48 in.
\$300



Michelle May

PAXTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Michelle May is a visual artist and Co-Founder of Atelier ID Global and Juniper Rag magazine based in Massachusetts.



Nature, history and intuitive attraction to objects and people are huge inspirations from which I draw. They hold surprises and mystery that reflect our humanity in vignettes everywhere. Forms emerge through my abstract world, providing reference points and context for me personally, and allows the viewer to create their own, I think. For me, my paintings are metaphors for our collective experience.

Wondering always, if I could just research and “see” beyond the veil of the visible, I’d find the meaning I am seeking, reaching beyond conformity. My artwork accommodates that need in me to discover. The process and rigorous motion provides a way to sort through chaos and decide what resonates. It empowers me as much as it is meditative and comforting. My subject matter is often something that resonates with me, like this painting called “The Bight” that celebrates the vibrancy of the disappearing coral reefs in the British Virgin Islands and around the world. Travelers revel above the water, while below, the environment dies.

Layers, colors, marks and sometimes hidden symbols are alive in the images. With my exploration, mistakes get made, courses change, and I have to be aware as the story unfolds to catch the clues and nuances of what reveals itself. It’s a peaceful practice of distillation and choosing what is essential, potent and meaningful, and letting go of the rest. My work goes between abstract and representational.



Michelle May | Paxton, MA
The Bight
mixed media on Belgian linen
canvas
72 x 72 in.
\$4750

Drift
mixed media on canvas
24 x 48 in.
NFS

Nymphs
mixed media on canvas
24 x 30 in.
\$1000



JUNIPER RAG

JUNIPER RAG, an independent art + lifestyle magazine for artists and collectors.

We are hell-bent on elevating artists and creative businesses + connecting them with collectors.

MAGAZINE . EXHIBITIONS . ART MARKET

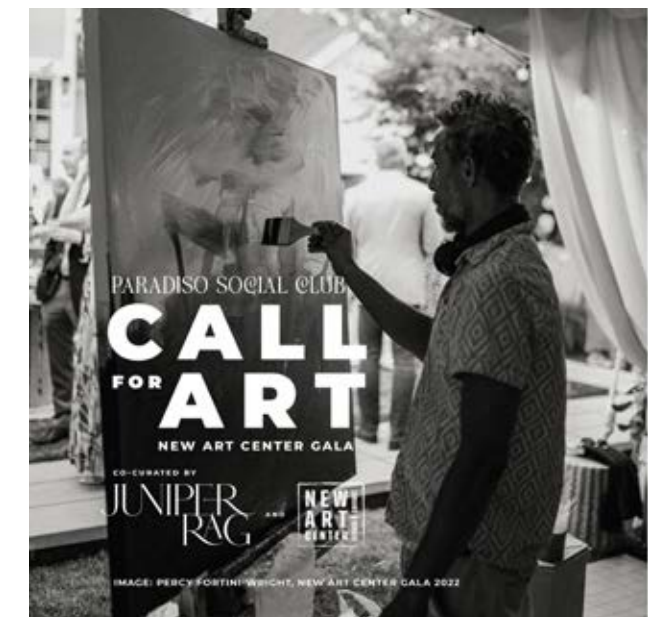
Art Visibility + Accessibility

juniperrag.com



We collaborate to create opportunities.

Join our artist community by entering a call for art and open yourself up to other growth opportunities, like these artists have.



We work hard to offer collaborations to benefit artists that are ready for it. See our website to view all of our 2022 collaborations and opportunities!

juniperrag.com



ART IN YOUR HOME

We believe at Juniper Rag, that to create a vibrant and authentic home environment, original artwork brings your personality and story to your space.

Your home is where you live, may work, and gather — made more vibrant with touches of handmade objects and pieces of art collected over time. Research shows that children that grow up learning about and making art have more appreciation for culture and creativity, growing into strong critical thinkers with a more connected feeling about community.

We know that art brings so much value to *our* lives — it generates an emotional response, sparks interesting conversations, and represents a memory. It may eventually serve as a smart investment or a treasured heirloom. Whatever the reason, original art is available at all price levels, genres and for all tastes.

Discover beautiful art in your community, across the nation and the world by following Juniper Rag.



image above : willie cole for roughan interiors
both images, courtesy of roughan interiors | roughaninteriors.com

“When I speak with clients, I describe our process and let them know how critical art and special curiosities are, as they reflect their lifestyle. These items have meaning and need to be placed on visible surfaces, areas that enhance the vision of the homeowner.”

— *Christina Roughan, Roughan Interiors & Home*

Thank you

FOR VISITING TORRID | ABSTRACT IMPRESSIONS



Juniper Rag was founded by Michelle May and Payal Thiffault.

As passionate artists ourselves, as well as having a marketing agency and being collectors of contemporary art, we are dedicated supporters of emerging and middle career artists in the global art scene.

In the city they met, Worcester, MA, they attended art shows and cultural events spotted around the city, which left them with a need to learn more about these artists and to share this culture that they loved with others. In 2007 Michelle founded Cirque du Noir to do just that. Cirque is an award-winning fundraiser, an all black attire masquerade that exposed the arts and artists of Worcester to new people. It happened only once a year. it was not enough.

In December of 2021, after the long pandemic, without the opportunity for art shows, they turned their talents for marketing on to the artists that needed a platform, pivoting and promoting them through print and virtually-- Juniper Rag was formed to celebrate established and emerging artists from around the world, as well as local New England creatives.

We focus JUNIPER RAG's storytelling on the most compelling, interesting and socially relevant artists and topics that we can find. Our intent is to help elevate awareness of talented visual artists with our experience as designers and marketers.

We get fired up with ideas of creativity, including technology, edgy concepts and future focused content. If a story has creative or cultural merit, we want to learn everything about it. We are not art experts, nor do we claim to be. We have critical eyes and a whole lot of experience in design and marketing and throwing some great art exhibitions — and we are just really connectors, who love to share great art.

ATELIER^{ID}
GLOBAL

