

January 21 - February 25, 2022



43rd Annual Valley Visual Art Show

The Valley Visual Art Show (VVAS) is one of the longest-standing community art shows committed to showing the work of local artists. It began in 1980 as a venue for local artists to share their artwork with the public.

The VVAS still provides this opportunity, especially for artists new to the area and budding artists, but the show has also become both a salute to the wide variety of artistic talents in our area and a time to bring the artist community together.

Participating artists in 2022 include:

Charles Andrade, Fred Annes, Maria Beam, Alice Beauchamp, Katie Browne, Raleigh Burleigh, Evelyn Cabrera, Liz Caris, Emily Chaplin, Becky Chase, Suzanne Clarke, Kay Clarke, Brian Colley, Russ Criswell, Larry Day, Staci Dickerson, Joslyn Doerge, MaryLou Felton, Clarissa Fortier, Judy Fox-Perry, Marcia Fusaro, Susan Graves, Doug Graybeal, Chet Haring, Jim Harris, Chris Hassig, George Hendrix, Hunter Hogan, Kathy Honea, Christie Interlante, Suzanne Jackson, Jeremy Joseph, Valery Kelly, Wewer Keohane, Michael Kinsley, Savanna LaBauve, George Lilly, Linda Loeschen, Michael McConnell, Roberta McGowan, Jocelyn Murray, Sally Nicholson, Mary Noone, Judith Nordhagen, David Notor, Ali O'Neal, Brenda Peters, Katherine Rickenbaugh Rich, Andrew & Annette Roberts-Gray, Sarah Rosenthal, Mila Rossi, Jill Sabella, Mark Simpkins, Jeffrey Stevens, Hannah Stoll, Richard Sundeen, Melanie Test, Liz Thele, Nicolette Toussaint, Paul Valentine, Rob Wardell, Greg Watts, Carolyn Williams, and Nina Zale

At the Carbondale Arts R2 Gallery
in The Launchpad (76 S 4th Street)
carbondalearts.com | 970-963-1680
Open weekdays 10am - 5pm & Saturdays 10am - 2pm



Know Your Artist, Know Your Art

Carbondale Arts believes in the power of art and we know you do, too. There is a deep connection that happens when you purchase a piece of art, and getting to know the artist makes that connection even deeper. Carbondale Arts hosts over 10 art exhibitions every year. Find some art you love and dive in.

We have launched a “Know Your Artist, Know Your Art” campaign, as Carbondale Arts works to build relationships between artists and patrons. Inspired by the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model of Investing in local food, this Community Supported Art movement promotes the investment of local artists making a living in and around the newly established Carbondale Creative District, where Carbondale Arts makes its home.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Matt Vickers and Michael Stout for gallery preparation, to Laura Stover for gallery layout, and Kirk Robinson, Dave Durrance, and Savanna LaBauve for gallery installation assistance.

R2 Gallery Committee Members

Staff: Brian Colley, Staci Dickerson, Amy Kimberly

Non-staff: Savanna LaBauve (chair), Vanessa Porras, Laura Stover, David Thickman, and Matt Vickers

These committee members work with the Gallery Manager to choose exhibitions each year. Interested in learning more? Email brian@carbondalearts.com.

People’s Choice Awards

Also unique to the VVAS are the coveted **People’s Choice Awards**. Visitors to the R2 Gallery are invited to vote (only once!) for their favorite artwork. Winners announced in February!



43rd Annual Valley Visual Art Show 2022

**Artist Biographies
& Artist Statements**

CHARLES ANDRADE
Carbondale, CO

Charles Andrade paints in the colorist style that has evolved from his initial training in painting and art therapy, which he studied in England at Tobias School of Art & Therapy. With an in-depth understanding of color as defined by Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe, and elaborated on by the painter Liane Collot d'Herbois. His artwork utilizes many washes of translucent color glaze that express the dynamic movement of light, color and darkness. Charles was also schooled in the art of Lazure, a unique wall treatment that creates soul-nourishing interior environments.

Andrade's canvas work makes use of the same translucent glazes of color that characterize his Lazure wall work. He became interested in landscape painting several years ago when he took a break from the large, fluid painting format to investigate the art of chalk pastel painting while living in France. In Paris, he discovered the unique pastels made by Henri Roche and used by the great French impressionist painters, Matisse and Bonnard among others.

Charles Andrade currently lives and maintains a studio in the Roaring Fork Valley, Colorado. His artwork is represented by Galerie DeVore in Aspen, Colorado and 78th Street Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. His paintings can be found in private collections in North America, Europe and New Zealand.

Andrade has owned and operated Lazure Custom Wall Designs for over 25 years - a mural and decorative painting business, specializing in a European glazing finish called Lazure. Charles lectures, teaches fine art classes and offers Lazure workshops worldwide.

www.lazure.com
970.309.5559

FRED ANNES
Carbondale, CO

Fred Annes received his BA with Honors from Northwestern University (Fine Arts major, Art History minor). He apprenticed with Mychajlo Urban, taught sculpture at the Evanston Arts Center, and has been an artist-in-residence at the Anderson Ranch Art Center and at the Golden Foundation for the Arts. He has had numerous one person shows and his work has been exhibited in juried shows nationwide. Annes' work is in the collection of the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento, CA, and numerous corporate and private collections, including the Target Corporation in Minneapolis, MN.

STATEMENT

Perception, the ability to see light, color, reflection and materials, the direct connection between the visual cortex and the brain is the driving force of my work. Perception is not static. It is ever-changing, existing in multiple states at the same time, similar to the Heisenberg Principle in quantum physics. Strongly influenced by the Constructivist and Minimalist movements I strive to create work on a grand scale visually from as little as possible focusing on the beauty of simplicity. Work that is ordered and concise, yet focused on its human and aesthetic qualities.

Why black? In light black is the absence of all light. In color mixing black is the combination of all colors. So black is both everything and nothing at the same time depending on one's perspective.

Though it never moves, my art constantly changes, behaving like a motionless mobile, dependent on the relationship of the viewer to the art, the passage of time or variations in lighting. On certain meditative or introspective levels, this perpetual progression references the continuous nature of life itself.

MARIA BEAM
Glenwood Springs, CO

Maria is a traditionally trained mixed-media painter from Baltimore, Maryland, whose love of the mountains called her to the Roaring Fork Valley nearly a decade ago. Her creations are inspired by this special place and the spiritual awakening facilitated by her time spent in the wilderness. Much of her artwork features vibrant nightscapes. These expressive starry skies and colorful palettes explore the beauty we find when we venture into the dark and unknown, and the treasures unearthed when we are willing to know and embrace our shadow.

“Wonderland” is intended to capture that sense of being a part of the divine whole, a vibration that can be reached when we open our higher-mind and commune with nature.

The saturated palette and oversized elements illustrate the magic and sense of wonder we feel at the world when we are able to step outside of our incarnated form. These experiences bring the quiet stillness of the world into our own inner space, and allow us to feel and express gratitude for this human experience. The bright colors of the mushrooms are reflected in a surreal night sky, a reminder that all above is reflected below.

ALICE BEAUCHAMP
Silt, CO

Spending time in my studio is a retreat of sorts. Focusing on the process of creating a painting is a challenge that stimulates my mind and keeps me grounded in the moment. My work is often a reflection of my memories of growing up and living in Colorado.

I work with oil paint and cold wax medium. My process is a layering of color using brushes, brayers, stamping and stenciling, which creates a background for my negative shape painting.

KATIE BROWNE
Carbondale, CO

Carbondale based textile artist Katie Browne has been playing with fabric for many years. She is a seamstress, printmaker, and dyer and works primarily with natural fibers and secondhand fabrics. Inspired by the thrifted materials she sources for her line of handmade bags and soft goods, Katie is passionate about reducing waste and rejuvenating unwanted, old, or boring textiles and giving them a colorful new life.

And here's my artist statement:

In my piece "So It Seems" I've chosen to highlight the lowly sewing thread, a material that's often expected to blend in with its surroundings and hide behind the seams. However, thread is incredibly important in sewing as it's quite literally the thing that holds materials together.

Using black thread on a scrap of linen fabric I embroidered a geometric design by creating simple shapes with a basic sewing stitch. The simplicity of the straightforward, hand stitched design is a palette cleanser from my other works which are super colorful, more complex, and often sewn on a machine.

www.box-eleven.com

RALEIGH BURLEIGH
Cooperton, CO

Raleigh has made a career out of communication. As a newsman working in both print and broadcast media, his focus remains the local, intimate happenings, personalities and dynamics that inform a place. As a child, Raleigh's interests were primarily art and story. In this vein, he continues to draw, paint and etch.

"Saturn Squares Uranus" tells the story of a prevailing astrological alignment in 2021. A square is a conflictual relationship, and three times Uranus in Taurus (the revolutionary in the sign of nature, pleasure, security) squared-off with Saturn in Aquarius (the limiting planet of maturation in the sign of liberty and futurism). Planets Jupiter and Pluto also make an appearance in this oil painting overlaid with pastel and ink.

EVELYN CABRERA
Carbondale, CO

Evelyn is an Acrylics and Oil-based painter based in Carbondale, Colorado. Originally from Concepcion, Chile. She started taking painting classes at the age of eleven with artist Robinson Delgado. It was then that she discovered her passion for Impressionism. Over the past twenty years, Evelyn has trained in several private art academies throughout Chile and the United States, most recently at the Art Instruction School in Minneapolis, MN, Anderson Ranch in Snowmass, CO and Colorado Mountain College in Aspen, CO.

Evelyn finds her inspiration in the beauty of nature, especially in the essence of people and their expressions. Evelyn's style has changed over the years from painting nature as she sees it, expressing her inner voice representing life in a much deeper way than it appears. As she reflects on the stages she has gone through in her life, her goal as an artist is to continue to simplify the details of reality into color, shape, texture, light and shadows.

LIZ CARIS**Glenwood Springs, CO**

Liz Caris taught art for more than 30 years. Originally a painter, she stumbled onto the possibilities of the tile while working on a fundraiser for her school. "I was intrigued with the mystery of the end result." Working with tile humbles and surprises you at the same time." The imagery is drawn, then transferred onto the tiles using the Cuerda Seca technique. With this technique the outline is drawn on with wax and allowed to cure onto the tile. Next, they are glazed and fired. They can be placed in frames, set into tables, inset into floors, or set onto walls.

lizcaristilemurals.com

EMILY CHAPLIN
Aspen, CO

Originally from North Carolina where she attended UNC Chapel Hill, Emily Chaplin has called the Roaring Fork Valley home for the past decade. An oil painter working in expressive color, Emily is currently a Resident Artist at the Red BrickCenter for the Arts in Aspen. Her work is represented by Elliott Yeary Gallery of Aspen.

With her work largely centering around landscape painting, Emily strives to capture the beauty and inspiration she finds in diverse subjects ranging from mountain scenery of her beloved backyard, to industrial water towers of Manhattan and expansive vistas experienced above the clouds from an airplane.

emilychaplinart.com
[@emilychaplin](#)

BECKY CHASE
Carbondale, CO

I enjoy playing with stained glass. The colors and textures of glass are incredibly rich and varied. I love all aspects of the process of creating both foiled stained glass pieces and mosaics – from the first spark of an idea to perfecting the cartoon (pattern), choosing the colors and textures of glass, and the craft work of creating the piece. Simply said - stained glass makes me smile! Its vibrant colors perk up any room and it blends with any décor. I never tire of it.

KAY CLARKE
Carbondale, CO

The title of this piece is *Spirit Dancer*. Watching this talented young woman perform at the Convergent Circus last September, I was moved to a place of peace, strength and hope. What a lovely way to find balance in these uncertain times.

Background: B.A. in English, Art and Spanish at Cal State Northridge. Briefly studied art at University of Guadalajara, Mexico and Otis Art Institute, Los Angeles. Studied painting (realism) for 18 months in Montana with Willie Brickzin, a Potawatomi Native American. In prior years I exhibited hand-painted B&W photography at United Artists Co-op Gallery in Aspen and Arttracts Co-op Gallery in Carbondale.

SUZANNE CLARKE
Carbondale, CO

Suzanne, a transplanted easterner, has long lived in the Roaring Fork Valley.

Using the medium of ceramics for the last 25 years to express thoughts, feelings and ideas, she has mainly worked at the CMC/Aspen campus studio, through the ongoing classes offered there. Her sculptures have appeared in shows at the various valley galleries/venues that feature local artists.

BRIAN COLLEY
Carbondale, CO

Brian has worked as an independent artist and illustrator in the Roaring Fork Valley since 2010. He holds a BA in fine art and supplements his time creating paintings, illustrations, engraved prints, and graphic design. He's been a resident at Studio for Arts + Works (SAW) in Carbondale since 2013 and has worked at Carbondale Arts as the R2 Gallery Manager since 2014. Brian also co-founded the Roaring Fork Drawing Club in the fall of 2017, and always has a sketchbook when he travels.

The watercolor of an old Ford truck titled "Good Old Days" featured in this exhibition was originally created as part of a group show last fall in partnership with the Aspen Valley Land Trust (AVLT). The truck lives on the Coffman Ranch along Catherine Store Road, and this property was just purchased by AVLT to protect the wildlife and ecosystem by the Roaring Fork River. It will also become an educational facility for students learning about conserving this diverse riparian habitat.

@brian.colley
briancolley.myportfolio.com

RUSS CRISWELL
Carbondale, CO

Russ Criswell age 75 born in Roswell NM just two weeks after "visitation".
Long time valley resident, since 1967. Retired ski patroller, mediator, plumber
into wood stuff, fishing and gardening, maybe a little too much gardening.

LARRY DAY
Carbondale, CO

Day is the illustrator of over 20 children's picture books, winner of numerous awards including the prestigious Golden Kite Award, A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard, and three Society of Illustrators Gold Medals.

Winner of the 2021 Mountain Fair poster and illustrator/cartoonist for The Sopris Sun. Included in many fine art exhibits, Day has continually painted in watercolor and oils. "There was always something I found to draw growing up in the small rural town of central Illinois. I had to do something in order to escape my chaotic household. At the time I had no idea that I was establishing drawing skills. I went on from there to work a long and winding career in illustration from drawing farm machinery parts manuals, to arcade games, to storyboards for TV commercials, drawing a cartoon strip, to illustrating picture books. All the while painting like a madman. I slept a full night a few years ago but I don't remember exactly when that was." -Larry Day

Larrydayillustration.com

STACI DICKERSON
Carbondale, CO

Staci is a long-time Carbondale local, painter and nature lover. She has been the Creative Salesperson at Carbondale Arts since 2015; managing the Artique Gift Shop and rentals at The Launchpad. Staci also has a beautiful family cabin where she can be found working on puzzles, pondering life, painting and putzing around.

JOSLYN DOERGE
Basalt, CO

I call this the Lung Tree. I was studying anatomy at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, when I became interested in fractals. The universe is an ever increasing fractal. Plants are ever increasing fractals. Animals have ever decreasing fractals within them. I was struck by how much the braccioli of the lungs mirror that of a tree's branches. With this in mind, I began collecting different branch-like materials to create this work in honor of the elegant design that is the natural universe.

MARYLOU FELTON
Basalt, CO

A professional artist for more than 50 years, Marylou Felton enjoys painting the spectacular scenery around her home in Basalt, Colorado, where she has lived for 21 years. She also enjoys painting figures, portraits and animal life in an impressionistic style in oils, acrylics, and pastels. "I strive to portray atmosphere and light and attempt to render my subjects in a loose style. Easily bored, I paint in different styles and media on sometimes three paintings at a time."

Her interest in art began at age eight and continued through college, studying at the Maryland Institute of Art and the University of Virginia. More recently she has studied with internationally known artists such as Burton Silverman, Kim English, Robert Abbot, Doug Dawson, and Quang Ho. She is always learning, and as a registered copyist at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, for 15 years, she has their permission to follow a time-honored tradition of learning by painting reproductions of Monet, Renoir, Cassatt, Van Gogh, and Degas.

Marylou is a "Top 200" winner in the National Arts for the Parks competition, and she also holds many national, state, and local awards. She has taught oils, acrylics, pastels, and interior design on the East Coast and pastels at the Aspen Museum. Her work has appeared in The Artist's Magazine and the Pastel Journal, has been shown in the Capitol Building in Washington, DC, and resides in private and corporate collections across the country.

CLARISSA FORTIER
Carbondale, CO

Born in New York City, Fortier is drawn to places that are in direct contrast to her native urban environment. After attending Oberlin College, where she studied studio art and environmental studies, she fell in love with the varied landscapes of southwestern Colorado. She is an avid rock climber, and her adventures in the vertical terrain serve as inspiration for paintings, while also fueling a desire to express the importance of conserving wild lands.

Fortier lives in Carbondale, Colorado, where she is working on a series of landscape paintings inspired by the Grizzly Creek fire of August 2020.

JUDY FOX-PERRY
Carbondale, CO

Born and raised in Denver, I have lived my adult life on a ranch near Carbondale, CO. I spent the majority of my working career as a librarian and art teacher at the Colorado Rocky Mountain School. Interacting with nature and the outdoors has always been my grounding and my inspiration for art. I enjoy a strong spatial perception of the world and sculpture is a natural means for me to express this.

I began carving marble many years ago at the Marble/ marble symposium in Marble, Colorado. Working with the native stone, Colorado Yule marble, has been my favored medium for sculpture. I sculpt light and shadows, textures, positive and negative spaces. Marble is labor intensive, cool and sensual to touch, and sparkles like fresh snow. I currently carve stone at Pinon Forge Studios, Carbondale.

This piece "Reconnecting" is a reflection on coming out of a year and a half of Covid isolation and reconnecting with family, friends, and community. Last summer it felt like we were making progress with vaccinations and case numbers dropping. People were feeling hopeful and able to see their extended family and friends again. The marble symposium was able to reconvene after being shuttered for a year. It was so wonderful to safely see old and new friends from distant parts of the country. I wanted my first sculpture coming out of Covid to reflect how good it felt to connect and reconnect with the human landscape.

We are once again having to regroup and take safety measures due to the Covid Omicron outbreak. We will do all we can to weather this. Stay safe and stay healthy. We all want to reconnect after this is over.

MARCIA FUSARO
Old Snowmass, CO

Marcia is a fourth generation artist who traces her family history back to English Master J.M.W. Turner-- or so family legend has it. Her youth was spent in New Jersey painting in the studios of her mother and aunt. After college at Northwestern she went on to study classical painting at the Art Students League in New York City. Eventually she found herself in Aspen where she married and raised two daughters. She has been a professional artist in the valley for forty plus years, dividing her time between commissions and works headed to shows and galleries. Over the past eleven years she has faced serious health issues which have caused sporadic rifts of time in the studio, but today she is back full time. She paints a wide variety of subject matter, but the amazing landscapes so near to home will always be the heart of her work.

I look at the Western landscape with new and open eyes, experimenting, designing, and finding expressive colors and rhythms, always searching for that elusive space between representation and abstraction.

SUSAN GRAVES
Redstone, CO

Susan Graves lives and paints in the historic village of Redstone, Colorado. She takes her inspiration from the natural world; the majestic cliffs and mountains of Snowmass Maroon Bells Wilderness and the iconic Crystal River just outside her door. She paints in watercolor using the Alla Prima technique of painting wet color on wet paper, letting the colors blend and take shape right on the painting. It is a thrilling and beautiful way to work, as the artist never knows exactly what will happen each time the brush touches the paper - every painting is a new experience, which perfectly suits Susan's adventuresome spirit. When not painting, she is a family therapist in the Roaring Fork Valley, and also loves exploring the trails and rivers of Colorado by foot, bicycle, and paddleboard.

DOUG GRAYBEAL
Carbondale, CO

After graduating from college with a degree in Architecture, Doug Graybeal came to Aspen, Colorado to ski for a winter and never left. He was a principal in a local award winning and nationally recognized architectural firm for 25 years before starting his own distinguished practice focused on sustainable design. Late in his professional career he became fascinated with watercolors and began to explore the medium. Interest in pastels followed with the combining of the two media.

While he has no formal artistic training he has taken pastel workshops from nationally recognized artists Albert Handell, Richard McKinley and Barbara Jaenicke. Doug has participated in numerous Plein Art Events throughout the state including the Aspen Plein Air Festival and was awarded the Grand Prize at the 2017 Colorado National Monument Association Plein Air.

He continues to pursue his interest in painting Colorado landscapes. He serves as a curator at the Aspen Chapel Gallery and his art is on display at the Toklat Gallery in Basalt, Colorado.

His website is www.douggraybeal.com

CHET HARING
Carbondale, CO

Chet has been making art all his life. He decided to study art at Lockhaven University of Pennsylvania in 1998 and received a BA in 3-Dimensional Design and sculpture in 2001. He moved to the rocky mountains in 2003. Along with pursuing his own ambitions as an artist, he has worked for and with various other public artists around the county. He discovered the Crystal river valley in 2007 when he attended the Marble/marble stone carving symposium in Marble Co, where he is still a staff member.

Since then he has moved to Carbondale, CO and put down roots. His work over the last decade has been influenced by his explorations of the mountains and ruins of the industrial age found in the region.

Look for more of Chet's work on his website:
haringworks.wixsite.com/chetharing/sculpture-gallery
[@ChetHaringART](#)

JIM HARRIS
Glenwood Springs, CO

Biography

Jim Harris worked as a ski photographer and writer until he was paralyzed while snowkiting in Patagonia. It took over a week to reach definitive care in the States where five of his nine broken vertebrae were fused. "I feel lucky that the doctor never told me I'd never walk again," says Harris, "There wasn't much reason to think I would, and I might have believed him." After his spine fusion he began to wiggle a toe. Within a few months, muscles in both legs began firing. In the five years since that accident Harris has transitioned from wheelchair to walker to trike to mountain bike and continues to challenge the limitations of his disability.

Artist Statement

"I guess I'll have more time for art now," I tried joking as paramedics lifted the backboard. For a decade I'd been making my living in the mountains, first as a hawk biologist, then teaching wilderness skills, then traveling the world documenting expeditions. But now I was on the way to a hospital in Chilean Patagonia and I couldn't feel or move anything below my sternum. My vertebra had been crushed and I was paralyzed.

In the five years since that accident I've experienced an improbable rebound. I progressed from hospital bed to wheelchair to walker to crutches to cane. As recovery slowed, my focus shifted from regaining mobility to rebuilding a sense of identity and purpose. Where my attention once pointed outward towards incredible places and the people, I've had to learn to turn that observation inward. That inner terrain is convoluted, rugged as any place stamped in my passport.

Topography of the Self is almost inscrutable. Weather builds and breaks, casting shadows over the range. Storms in the psyche give the landscape scale and depth as shadows slide over folded terrain.

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@perpetualweekend
@gorgeousstorm

CHRIS HASSIG
Carbondale, CO

I began this drawing a couple of years ago, but like much of my work these days it endured heavy revision and often hung in limbo as I searched for a satisfying final composition and inched closer from abstraction towards recognizable landscape. When the Grizzly Creek fire overtook Glenwood Canyon, the fiery walls of this drawing took on the feeling of a premonition and helped me push it to conclusion. This body of work was originally inspired by geologic strata but my inspiration has slowly evolved from earth to sky. Taken as a whole one can see a continuum moving from the solid, yet often abstracted sources of wealth we've dug from underground towards the hazier, less predictable, occasionally violent, and painfully real climate effects of that digging. I feel that the color and spirit of this drawing also has some parallels, particularly in color, with the work of Carbondale painter Andy Taylor, who has been an important mentor and inspiration to me in my artistic journey.

chrishassig.com

GEORGE HENDRIX
Carbondale, CO

I'm a retired journalist/photographer who, happily freed of editors and deadlines, now takes pleasure in snapping photos for the simple fun of it. I particularly enjoy capturing the people, landscapes and events near my Carbondale home and in and near the Roaring Fork Valley.

KATHY HONEA
Basalt, CO

Create crazy, collectable, capricious, carefree, classy, colorful, clever, charismatic ART!
If the adage “we are what we don’t throw away” is true my studio says it all!
My imagination roams around on its own tirelessly capturing my attention to repurpose my supply of unrelated items into some quirky thing or another.

Just as important as the artists that make brilliant, deep societal and political statements are those of us making art to give you a moment of levity.

I don’t run deep; I make art for the sheer fun of it. What I would wish to convey, if anything, is life is unpredictable so have a good time, laugh often and make lots of ART!

HUNTER HOGAN
Glenwood Springs, CO

Using printed material from design magazines, I cut and arrange shapes to make studies for paintings. This process allows for experimentation with structure and color before beginning to paint. My work is about transformation and how things go together.

Meaning and content develop with the brushwork, the energy, the relationship of colors and allowing the process to change and evolve.

Structure, texture and color harmony are integral to my work.

I was a tapestry weaver for 10 years, and returned to painting in 1989. My work has been in the National Museum of Women in the Arts with the “ Significant Colorado Artists of the 20th Century” show. I have had work in House Beautiful, Santa Barbara, and Colorado Homes and Lifestyles Magazines. I live and work in the Roaring Fork Valley of Colorado near Aspen.

CHRISTIE INTERLANTE
Carbondale, CO

Growing up in the Roaring Fork Valley is a privilege that I have never taken for granted. The exceptional fortune of being raised by ski bums in Aspen in the good ole days cannot be measured. However, I always wanted to experience the bigger world, so I spent two wonderful years in London at The City and Guild College of Art. After three more years of studying art and music in northern California and doing a multitude of menial jobs, I was determined to find a way to do what I loved (ART) and make a living at it.

When I discovered that I could be paid to create and paint designs for printed fabric, I quickly moved to NYC where I had a successful business for many years, designing prints for apparel, sheets, towels, wallpaper and home furnishing fabrics.

My love of pattern, line and color informs all my work. I am always interested in depicting 3-dimensions in two dimensional abstractions. Multiple shapes and images are layered to bring the viewer into the piece. My foremost concern is to provide pleasure to the viewer which is transmitted through my direct joy in the experience of making art.

During the pandemic, I booked 4 murals in a row and I was hooked on the bliss of painting outside in the warm weather. The abstract basis of the outdoor work was inspired by the 100th anniversary of the Bauhaus- the legendary Art and Design school. I have loved Kandinsky always and done abstracts always, but my interest was renewed when I started attending the Roaring Fork Drawing Club. We all get together and doodle away, sometimes outside, sometimes in a bar or restaurant. Often, the life of a maker is isolated and the drawing club allows creatives to hang-out with a focus.

My intent with Map to Bliss was to combine playful elements that include many of the things that make me happy, as well as concerns about social and environmental injustice. One continuous line connects the elements like a chain reaction machine, as I see all of life being connected. The design was created as a sketch for a mural that will, one day, live on a wall. I decided to make it on a panel since painting outside is no fun in the winter.

www.christie-interlante.com

SUZANNE JACKSON
Basalt, CO

Suzanne Jackson has been wandering the backcountry of the Roaring Fork valley and environs for the last thirty years. She strives to capture the magic of wild landscapes and their inhabitants, with pencil, pastel and watercolor.

The Sagebrush Steppe is a special environment at lower elevations in our valley and in the West. This fragile ecosystem supports an abundance of flora and fauna, including the iconic Sage-grouse that is an Indicator species. Yet human modifications have strongly impacted Sagebrush habitat, resulting in an estimated 80% decline in Sage-grouse populations range-wide since 1965. Although the Sage-grouse is listed as a sensitive species, historically protection efforts have been jeopardized.

There's an opportunity to help! In November 2021, the BLM announced a public comment period to review renewed Greater Sage-grouse protection plans. Read more at <https://www.blm.gov/programs/fish-and-wildlife/sage-grouse> and comment by February 7, 2022.

“Creating my art promotes an Earthwise awareness and intensifies my connection with nature. I hope it brings inspiration to you and furthers all our conservation efforts.”

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Website: www.40BWORKS.com

JEREMY JOSEPH
Glenwood Springs, CO

There are emotions deep within my soul provoked only through a connection with the natural landscape. These feelings inspire spiritual journeys that have shaped the direction of my life. The search for pastoral bliss where tranquility and chaos collide, creating a sensation of peace in my heart. Blind faith becomes feasible in an age of scientific reason. It is spiritual nourishment the reason why I wander in open spaces, a chance to touch the heart of the land, and discover its sublime character. I wait, and receive weather and light falling as gifts from above.

@jeremyjoseph_photography

VALERY MOORE KELLY
Carbondale, CO

Rivers amaze me. How does water flow on and on and on? Where does the water originate?
From what source does it spring forth?

Birds are equally wondrous. I found fun facts: Starlings sing notes too high for humans to hear. Warblers can imitate many different bird songs. Terns can fly for years without landing on water or land.

The words in this painting are from "A Vision," a cherished poem by Wendell Berry:
"The river will run clear, as we will never know it, and over it, birdsong like a canopy."
I see songbirds in the branches over the river, divine proportion suspended in space. Flowing water follows the wood grain of the panel beneath the paint.

Imagine the freedom of the river. Wonder at the ability of birds. What wisdom exists that human beings do not yet know?

valeryblythe@gmail.com
970-948-0263

WEWER KEOHANE
Carbondale, CO

My work is metaphor. My contemplative process begins by using found objects, recycled ephemera, words, color, metals, as the metaphor awakens into a story. When I fully understand the metaphor, I move to another, which most often presents itself to me through my dreams, meditation and interactions with others. This is a slow process as I am rarely ready to "art" the metaphors/dreams/visions without processing their meaning in my life, which can take days or decades. This process of art making is my individual and indisputable connection to the divine. Because I am, the work is eclectic by nature. To me, it tells the story of my growth and the evolution of my authenticity....my quest to make the invisible visible.

The continuing theme within this series, Breakfast in Japan, is self-discovery through exploration of dreams.

www.wewerart.com

MICHAEL KINSLEY
Old Snowmass, CO

Coming off his remarkably successful December show at the Art Base in Basalt, Michael offers this desert scene for this year's Valley Visual. It's one of his recent "fluid landscapes," which are a synthesis of his abstracts and traditional landscapes.

Michael's primary subjects are Western Colorado and Utah-desert scenes. He paints his smaller pieces on site. Larger landscapes are based on his outside sketches, abstracts on interesting textures and potent shapes in Nature.

Many who own his paintings say they instill peace and joy. He hopes they offer a brief refuge from our increasingly disturbing political situation.

Michael has shown all over the valley in galleries and community venues. Also, he does commissioned work.

"We each recall our reluctance to leave a magnificent place — of stopping and turning back for a long look. Those are the places I paint and sketch — moments that give me a deep sense of joy and peace."

...Michael Kinsley

A resident of Old Snowmass, Michael is also a facilitator and mediator, was a county commissioner from '75 to '85, and worked for Rocky Mountain Institute from '83 to 2016.

www.KinsleyPaintings.com

SAVANNA LABAUVE
Carbondale, CO

Savanna is a southern gal from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she grew up behind the counter of her parents' retail store filled with local art, imported furniture, home decor, and more. After finishing her BFA in Ceramics and Painting from Louisiana State University, she moved from cajun country to the Rocky Mountains of Carbondale, CO where she was an Artist in Residence at the Carbondale Clay Center 2017-2019. Transitioning from Artist in Residence to Marketing & Communications Manager, Savanna spent 3 years working with Carbondale Clay Center in efforts to expand the organization's reach, programs, and impact on the local and ceramic communities. Currently, she is focused on her studio practice at Studio for Arts & Works in Carbondale, CO where she continues to investigate the power of multiples, explore material combinations, and develop a language of mark-making.

@savannalabauve

www.savannalabauve.com

LINDA LOESCHEN
Basalt, CO

I'm so happy to have this opportunity to show my whimsical and magical interpretation of Milkweeds. They grow so profusely in the fields around my house and inspire me to let my intuition take over. Most of the invitational shows ,where I exhibit my work, want a more realistic western subject for, which I'm known.

From afar the flowers look like giant puff balls which will blow away. Close up shows a more geometric construction. For this painting, I concentrated more on the movement of their stems and leaves. They twist and turn as if in a dance with skirts swirling around them.

For more interpretations, please see my website, www.LindaLoeschen.com.
Local galleries: Main Street Framers and Gallery, Redstone Art Gallery

MICHAEL MCCONNELL
Carbondale, CO

ARTIST STATEMENT

I reside and practice art in the heart of the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. Diversity of landform, contour, valley, peak, plateau, granite, sandstone, secret hideouts and sweeping vistas...how can one not be inspired to tap their creative impulse within the magnificence of this setting?

As part of my graduate school program in landscape architecture, I began an exploration of drawing, painting, and collage as a vehicle for conveying and interpreting design concepts. Further explorations into image-making led to mixed-media painting, assemblage, printmaking and alternative process photography as vehicles for self expression.

My experimental mission is to fuse ideas to material to process and create an alchemical space where elements of architecture, cartography, landscape, cinema, symbol, surface, contour and horizon line all may co-exist. Thus my image-making draws from a wide-ranging mix of interests: from botany to technology, science to science fiction, camera obscura to cinema, typography to asemic drawing.

About the current piece submitted to the VVA Show: Tardigrade Moon

“Immutable imprints and inert technological detritus are cast like indestructible tardigrades across a foreign landscape under the depthless void.”

Email: pinyongreen@gmail.com

Web: www.pinyongreen.com

IG: [@pinyongreenarts](https://www.instagram.com/pinyongreenarts)

ROBERTA MCGOWAN
Carbondale, CO

Biography

From her earliest years with a point and shoot camera to newspaper photographer to corporate photojournalist to western photographer, Roberta has carried with her the joy of preserving whispers of time in images. She is a horsewoman as well as a documentary artist who combines both passions to create Visual West Art with her dynamic style.

Roberta has been honored by the Calgary Stampede Photo Competition, the Black and White Spider Photo Competition, the New Jersey Press Association, the New York Institute of Photography, and was named Photographer of the Year by the Philadelphia Chapter of Women in Communications.

Artist's Statement

"It's not about the technology; it's about the fragile whispers we see and feel. Those images that are here and then gone in an instant; The eye that sees them; The visions of the artist; The stories to be told; This is Fine Art.

The images I create are dynamic and thought provoking. Strong colors and tones reflect the tough and gritty lives of the horses, cowboys, cowgirls and the West where they live and work. My art is created from the perspective of the subjects."

www.VisualWestArt.com

JOCELYN MURRAY
Basalt, CO

ARTIST STATEMENT

I have a desire for simplicity and calm—to balance chaos and order, spontaneity and control, and to see the beauty that occurs between these counterpoints.

My paintings reflect a sort of quiet expressionism—quiet on the surface with noise underneath. Applying layers or transparent veils of white on top, the vibrant story now lies beneath, inviting closer inspection. Conveying a sense of calm, with the colorful messiness of real life underneath.

An ongoing dialogue with the piece, to see what is there and how it works together—abstract art has a rebelliousness, an unpredictableness that my alter ego craves.

I want to spark connections through abstraction—to encourage seeing in a new way, invoke a feeling, and inspire healing. Beginning with a healing intention, my energy-infused art can be the catalyst for this change.

“Not an Inch of Emptiness” inspires letting go and moving forward.

SALLY NICHOLSON
Carbondale, CO

I am a painter interested in the natural world. Painting grounds me and keeps me connected with Mother Nature. My tools are brush, paint and canvas, with the occasional use of a pallet knife for texture and depth. My paintings, First Tracks and Columbine Rapids invite the viewer to reflect on their own relationship with the natural world through imagery both real and fantastic. The use of texture conveys the heft of landform while the photo transfers create a visual seesaw. In the Roaring Fork, beautiful, natural images both near and far stimulate the imagination. By tweaking and taking liberties with reality, I give the viewer the opportunity to take a second look at nature. Different perspectives impel the viewer to look past the obvious in a manner similar to Ai Weiwei.

MARY NOONE
Glenwood Springs, CO

A love of life and a passion for the language of color are two of the inspirations that I rely on in this time of covid. color can alter your perception of the world and make the ordinary extraordinary. This is what I love to do!

I have been living and painting in the roaring fork valley for 40 years. I currently live in Glenwood Springs.

The Roaring Fork Valley and the West have been my primary subject for the past 25 years. I study and paint on location in one of the most beautiful plein air settings the Rocky Mountains has to offer. The vast open spaces of the West are gradually disappearing in the path of rampant development. Through my colorful landscape paintings, I strive to capture these vanishing open spaces and preserve them on canvas for future generations.

Mary was born in St. Louis, Missouri, grew up in a rural environment but attended city schools. She earned a BA in American studies/Fine Arts from Georgetown University and worked as a Graphic Artist in Sacramento before moving to The Roaring Fork Valley (Carbondale) in 1982. In 1985, she and her Husband Bob founded the Glenwood Springs Summer of Jazz and have produced over 175 concerts. She says, "I have evolved from a graphic artist. . .house painter. . . silk painter. . . to a full-time Colorado Art painter in 1988."

"I initially became a painter to stay home with my children to whom I give credit for teaching me the bold use of color. I have painted with and taught children for years and have always admired their open pallet, daring use of pigment and joyful approach to painting. For me painting is joyous! The natural colorful landscape paintings are powerful and vibrant. . . so should be the colors. Painting is a vital and deeply fulfilling passion for me. I often paint in the company of my dogs, children or friends. I seek to translate the mood and feel of the moment. Juxtaposition and shape are foremost in my artistic view. With each brush stroke, I strive to celebrate nature in a riot of subtle yet vibrant color. What you see on the canvas is the embodiment of my artistic vision."

Mary's work is included in many permanent collections throughout Colorado and the west. Main Street Gallery is proud to have Mary as one of our most popular artists. Her spirit and enthusiasm toward painting and life in general is compelling and an inspiration to those who know her and love her work.

JUDY NORDHAGEN
Snowmass Village, CO

Judy's studio work is based on her plein air sketches. It is characterized by attention to light and shadow patterns, notes of strong colors, and an optimistic ascending structure. She currently paints watercolor with AlaPrima Group of Carbondale.

Her work can currently be seen at the Aspen Emporium and Flying Circus on Main Street in Aspen, 3rd Street Center in Carbondale, and The Villas at the Snowmass Club. She also shows at The Village Smithy and the Red Brick Center for the Arts, among other local venues.

Judy has resided in Snowmass Village since 1968, where she and her husband Martin raised their two children.

DAVID NOTOR
Carbondale, CO

As a forty-year resident of the Roaring Fork Valley in North Central Colorado, I am a representational artist painting in an impressionist style specializing in the landscapes of Colorado and the Southwest in pastel and oil.

I began studying art at the Colorado Institute of Art in the early '70s. I then let art slip away from me for a long time. Thus, "the missing years," until the mid '90s.

Around that time, my wife took me to Santa Fe, New Mexico. We visited all the great galleries in town, focusing on Canyon Road and all the wonderful pastel landscape artists. I had told her when we first met that I had studied art, but she had never seen evidence of that.

During that trip, I said to her "I can paint like that!" So we went straight to the art supply store and bought a pastel set and some paper and I spent the rest of my time in our hotel, painting!

I stayed on the art path this time, taking master classes in pastel and oil. I also learned how to paint in the outdoors, en plein air. The first pastels I had seen and fallen in love with on the Santa Fe trip were the works of Albert Handell. Unbeknownst to me at the time, he was, and is, the most renowned pastelist in the country. Over the years I have been fortunate to study with him, as well as several other masters.

I have had many works accepted into the National Exhibits of Colorado, New Mexico, and throughout the country. I have won many awards, sold hundreds of paintings and have many collectors. My work has continued to grow and evolve over time into a new realm of landscapes. I now also enjoy using brushes and pallet knives to create those works.

Locally, I maintained a studio at the Red Brick Center for the Arts in Aspen, Colorado for over 10 years. Currently, I have a studio at my home in Carbondale, Colorado where I show my work throughout the year. I also show my paintings at different venues and events in the valley. I also teach a few art classes throughout the valley, including the Art Base in Basalt.

www.notorietyfineart.com
970-379-4991

ALI O'NEAL
Carbondale, CO

Ali grew up in Stevens Point, Wisconsin spending her days meandering through the Christmas tree forests and catching bluegill in the pond. She attended Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, Minnesota, where she graduated with a degree in Environmental Studies and Spanish. After nearly a decade working as an Environmental Educator, she transitioned into creating full-time.

Her first creative forays began in elementary school, where she painted portraits of her second cousin's ephemeral partners. While in the Peace Corps in Ecuador, she melded her affinity for creativity and the environment, and painted a series of environmentally themed community murals. Ali is a screen printer, designer and seamstress, and is currently pursuing creative endeavors through her brand, Thimble Fox. She uses her work in serigraphy and textiles as a platform for social and political commentary, and to educate about the inequities of the textile fast fashion industry.

BRENDA J. PETERS
Carbondale, CO

Brenda J. Peters is an artist from Carbondale, CO, with a unique gift for expressing light, shape and color. Her early works lean to the abstract-contemporary and her recent works, while still abstract, exhibit some impressionistic styling. She is inspired by the changes brought about in nature, the weather, and changing moods and colors it brings. Brenda's ability to mix and layer color and infuse light and shadow is extraordinary. She starts with a hand stretched canvas and uses wash form acrylics to apply color layers into abstract designs and scenery primarily using a small stick to paint with. Only recently has she started using a brush to blend the color edges on some of her paintings. "My work comes from my heart and soul," says Brenda, and her passion shines through in her paintings.

Brenda was born and raised in Leamington Spa, England, and moved to London as a young woman. She enrolled in a textile design class where her raw talent was exposed. She completed her coursework at Ealing Art School and went on to earn a diploma in Fine Arts from Portsmouth Polytechnic, where she graduated with highest honors. Working from a studio in Canterbury following Art school, she continued painting for several years. It was here that she shared her space for one year with an artist from Boulder CO, and thought about moving to the United States. In 1976, she had an opportunity to earn a Masters in Fine Art degree at Eastern Illinois University. After this, she settled in Boulder and eventually met and married her husband, Greg Peters.

She continued painting until 1985, when she started a family, and this took priority over painting. Greg, a successful custom builder, saw great opportunity for growth on Colorado's Western Slope so they moved to Carbondale, CO in 1990. They purchased land where Greg built them a home. Surrounded by nature and abundant beauty from every window, Brenda was inspired to begin painting again in 2010.

One of Brenda's early teachers commented that all marks are a form of art that do not have to be a representation of something recognized. This simple remark opened her imagination to a world of shape and color. Her early work started with drawings using marks that evolved into areas of color to express mood and light. Paintings done in England were mostly somber; reflecting the colors of the weather and the mood of her life. "Once I stepped into the sunshine and vivid life in Mid-America, color exploded onto my canvases.", Brenda says. These works show softer shapes and intense, bright colors. Her most recent paintings have evolved, exhibiting colorful layered shapes and scenes, with less controlled lines and more nature inspired hues.

Brenda paints from her studio on the grounds of her home which is perched high on a hill above Carbondale, CO overlooking the Roaring Fork Valley, with majestic Mt. Sopris in the background. Truly, an ideal place for artistic inspiration.

KATHERINE RICKENBAUGH RICH
Carbondale, CO

Katherine (Kat) Rich is a mixed media artist based out of Carbondale, Colorado. Her artistic life began about 15 years ago, and she has had the pleasure of learning from some of the best contemporary artists in the country. Much of her training has been at Anderson Ranch in Snowmass Colorado, along with courses at Colorado Mountain College, Carbondale Arts, and The Art Base. Katherine has taken part in the January Studio Intensive at Anderson Ranch in 2013, 2014, 2017, and 2019.

Katherine's work has shown at The R2 Gallery at Carbondale Arts, The Aspen Chapel Gallery, The Colorado Mountain College Gallery, The Colorado State Capitol, and The Glenwood Springs Arts Council. In 2016 she curated "It's New to Me: Contemporary Works of The Roaring Fork Valley", at The Aspen Chapel Gallery. Katherine is also an amateur burlesque comedienne who has produced and performed in shows with the Viva La Woman Burlesque troupe in Carbondale.

In 2016, Katherine received a Master's in Arts Development and Program Administration from the University of Denver and served as Director of Education for Carbondale Arts from 2017-2021. During that time, she helped to develop The Rosybelles Mobile Maker Bus Program which offers free and accessible arts programming for underserved rural populations. This work made it possible for her to use both artistic and administrative skills to bring creative opportunity to the community.

Katherine has spent the past few years exploring the elements of both color and design. She finds the study of basic shape and line quite enjoyable, and strangely comforting. Simplicity is pleasing to her as is the grace and complexity of the curve.

ANDREW & ANNETTE ROBERTS-GRAY
Carbondale, CO

Andrew Roberts-Gray is an artist whose layered work references a number of discreet cultural traditions including science fiction, the history of the painted landscape, and the development of the thinking machine. His studio is located at SAW, (Studio for Arts and Works) in Carbondale, Colorado. He enjoys the art mentoring process as well as collaborating with other artists. His studio work involves practicing brushwork, material experimentation, printmaking, the metamorphosis of mistakes, and research. Mr. Roberts-Gray is represented by Michael Warren Contemporary in Denver, Colorado. He lives with artist Annette Roberts-Gray in Carbondale, Colorado.

Annette Roberts-Gray has made art in various forms for very many years. She has shown her work in many venues throughout the Roaring Fork Valley, Colorado, and beyond. Although most of her current work involves watercolor, she is spending an inordinate amount of time watching and studying the current spread of COVID-19. She lives in Carbondale with husband and fellow artist Andrew Roberts-Gray.

SARAH ROSENTHAL
Carbondale, CO

“Stone Stack Cove”

Statement:

Hollowing out - points of contact - defining and accentuating raw surface - appendages form
Separation is suggested - the whole is explicit - textures converse - Stone on stone on stone

Bio:

Sarah is an artist currently splitting her time between Colorado and New Mexico. She has been carving stone for the past four years and works for the MARBLEmarble carving symposium every summer in Marble, CO. Her abstract process-based sculpture has been shown in Carbondale, Marble, and Taos, NM. Previous multimedia work has been shown more widely in Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Peru.

Sarah holds a Bachelor of Fine Art and has experience in many avenues of the art world including gallery management, exhibition installation, and working on large scale public artworks. When she is not creating art, she can be found in the mountains.

See more at sarahrosenthal.com and follow on Instagram @evoke_yugen

MILA ROSSI
Carbondale, CO

I'm a mixed media artist living in Carbondale, Colorado. I photograph textures in nature—lichen and moss growing on rocks, for example—and transfer my photographs to canvas and build on the images with heavy body acrylic paint.

I find my inspiration in nature. My artistic process begins by looking for interesting textures, colors and patterns. I capture a magnified image and, up close, the familiar becomes new, abstract and magical. Lichen or moss transforms into an aerial view of a forest or appears like an underwater landscape. With the richness of paint, the images come alive with tactile layers and amplified colors.

Visit me at my studio at SAW (Studio For Arts + Works) or at artbymilarossi.com.

JILL SABELLA
Old Snowmass, CO

My work as a fine artist really began when I moved back to the Roaring Fork Valley and settled into my home in Old Snowmass in the year 2000. For the previous twenty years I had lived in Seattle where I worked as a photographer doing fine art work and exhibiting in galleries there. My hand-colored and black and white work was placed in various collections in the city. I also did commercial work and portraiture. But it was here in the Roaring Fork Valley that I began in earnest to develop the skills and discipline - and vision - as a painter. I give heart-felt credit to my teacher/mentor Liz Frazier, who passed on last fall, for her inspiration. She would say you need to love what you are painting, and I always took that approach to every painting I did.

I've always loved the land, as a photographer and a painter, and though I try to break away from that landscape vision, somehow it always finds its way in - always more and more abstract - but it's still there. I work with a limited palette of color and strive to create a mood to hold the image together - using colors that relate naturally and graciously with each other - maybe kind of dreamy. I hope to create an entry into the painting that is felt by the viewer - to move into and around the inside of the world of the painting.

MARK SIMPKINS
Carbondale, CO

Mark has been living in, painting, and photographing the Carbondale area for the past 12 years.

JEFF STEVENS
Carbondale, CO

Jeff is a Colorado based fine artist, art director and designer. At the age of 19 he began to cut his teeth in Los Angeles doing street art and playing in rock bands. After earning a BFA in art and design from Woodbury University in 2007 he entered into a career in entertainment advertising. Some of his print work has been the force behind major entertainment marketing campaigns including Star Wars, The Hunger Games and The Marvel Cinematic Universe.

With origins in design and advertising and a spirit for free and abstract collage, Jeff's art work is a combination of both foundations. By deconstructing found imagery, original photography and painted elements the work seeks to re-define the language of design into new stories and content.

HANNAH STOLL
Carbondale, CO

Hannah Stoll is an artist based at SAW (Studio for Arts and Works) in Carbondale, CO. She works primarily in oil painting, making forays into printmaking and multimedia. Portraiture, human spaces, and natural beauty are her most frequent subjects.

In 2020, Stoll received a BA in Organismal Biology and Ecology from Colorado College and moved to the Roaring Fork Valley shortly thereafter. She continues to use concepts and inspiration from her scientific study in her artwork. Patterns found in nature, whether visual or ecological, fascinate her in how they complement and inform the human condition. Stoll's work returns again and again to these themes and to the unprecedented contemporary ways we feel about our world and ourselves.

She has exhibited locally at Anderson Ranch Arts Center, The Arvada Center, and in Denver's RiNo district.

RICHARD SUNDEEN
Carbondale, CO

I've been studying photography and making photographs for nearly five decades, including the vast emptiness of Death Valley, wide open oceans, and even the South Pole. Recently, required social distancing has led me back to the high country deserts I love. There, light, rock and sand are often all there is with which to work. With camera in hand, add opportunity and a little imagination and that suits me just fine.



“Studies show that people who allow art into their lives can substantially reduce their dependency on selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors.”

MELLIE TEST
Redstone, CO

Magic is the art of doing nothing outside your own nature. Your brightness flows from your naturalness," says Richard Rudd. A creative with many talents, Mellie Test calls herself magical because she embodies the purity of authentic expression. In an age when false constructs are so prevalent, she aims to amplify what's still pure and true through her work. Mellie refuses to focus on "just one thing," because she believes life is too short to exclude new experiences in favor of specialization. She's found that continual curiosity and creativity keep her young.

LIZ THELE
Carbondale, CO

Liz Thele is a full-time professional artist primarily known for painting landscapes “en plein air.” She graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Her early interests moved from traditional to more abstract in subject matter. She moved to Chicago Illinois and there she continued to paint while working in video transferring, editing and duplication for four years. In 1982 she moved to Arizona and got married. At this time she was creating mostly portraits but after exploring the Arizona backcountry her love of nature was re-kindled and she began painting landscapes.

In 1989 she and her family moved to Colorado and Liz balanced her family life and her painting. She started painting en plein air, or painting from life outdoors. This led to her exhibiting in shows and galleries around Colorado. Liz has participated and has won numerous awards from shows around Colorado. She has also participated in Plein Air Tucson, Estes Plein Air, Oil Painters of America/national and regional shows. She has taught workshops and classes through the local community college, although she has cut back on teaching to focus on painting.

“To me, direct painting is my expression of the beauty in life whether it be landscape, figure, floral or still life. In this intimate experience I use the medium as a dialogue to record light, texture and mood. Oil paint is my primary medium although I am always working on improvement with drawing and using other mediums like Sumi ink. Whatever the inspiration, my art is a celebration of my relationship with life in the moment.”

Liz Thele is represented by Keating Gallery in Basalt Colorado.
Website lizthelestudio.com

NICOLETTE TOUSSAINT
Carbondale, CO

Nicolette Toussaint is a painterly realist who works in oils, watercolor and drawing media. A Colorado native, Toussaint's frequent subjects include wildlife, animals, and Rocky Mountain scenes. She teaches drawing and painting classes in the Roaring Fork Valley, and her work has been exhibited in numerous local shows at Carbondale's Launchpad, the Snowmass Chapel, the Aspen Chapel Gallery, the Basalt and Carbondale Libraries and the Ravenheart and Colori Galleries.

Toussaint has participated in the Rockies West National Watercolor show for three years, and she won the Meininger Prize at the 2017 show. Toussaint holds a Masters degree from Chicago's Illinois Institute of Design and graduated from CU Boulder with Bachelor's Degrees in English and Journalism.

A Colorado native, Nicolette lives in Carbondale, and in addition to painting, writes monthly columns for the Sopris Sun and the Post Independent newspapers.

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NicoletteArts.com

NicoletteArts@Gmail.com

ROB WARDELL
Carbondale, CO

Rob Wardell is a Boulder and Carbondale mixed media artist. Rob received his Masters' degree in studio arts from the Univ. of Colorado in the late seventies and was represented by galleries in Denver, Sedona, Taos, and Boulder. His art career was sidetracked with the arrival of his two children. Rob became the primary caregiver, as his wife, Kathryn, traveled much of the year with her work. Painting and raising two small children at the same time was not a recipe for success with either endeavor. Since the kids were, obviously, time-sensitive, he ceased painting until the children were off to college.

Back at it for the last 15 years, Rob has participated in New York Art Expo and focuses on showing his work at numerous art fairs throughout the West, as well as the nationally renowned Creative Framing and Gallery.

All of Rob's work is on canvas. He incorporates thick layers of gesso, hardboard, sand, gel mediums, pine needles, watercolor paper, cardboard, twine, tree wrap, drywall tape, etc. into his paintings to produce depth, texture, and subtle shadows. Color and the tactile quality of his work are key to his painting. Rob's most recent series explores one of the most basic, ubiquitous geometric shapes, the circle. In simple terms, all circles are the same shape and each point of the circle is the same distance from the center of the circle. From that one point, Rob's work departs from a geometric symmetry and launches into an intuitive exploration of asymmetry and abstraction.

If you wish to see more of his work, you can find a collection of Rob's artwork on his website <http://www.robwardellfineart.com>.

GREG WATTS
Carbondale, CO

Greg Watts moved to the Roaring Fork Valley in 1997. Mr. Watts studied architecture at the Southern California Institute of Architecture (SCI-ARC) from 1979 - 1985. The curriculum at SCI-ARC encouraged the use of photography as both a communicative and artistic way of representing a concept or idea. His own photography expresses thoughts or feelings in a visual way, connecting with our physical world.

His work can be viewed on Instagram [@gregwattsphotography](#)

CAROLYN WILLIAMS
Carbondale, CO

I have enjoyed art since I can remember. Growing up in the rural mountains of New Hampshire, miles from any town of significance, art was how my mother entertained us. From making small people out of pinecones to knitting to drawing, we engaged in creativity on a daily basis. Now, as an adult, I still find myself enjoying the creative process. After spending hours hiking and skiing in the Elk Mountains, I return to my house eager to create my impressions on a canvas. It is difficult to live in Colorado and not be struck by its raw and rugged beauty.

My art is a way for me to digest, reflect upon, and fully appreciate our natural landscapes. Oil, encaustic, acrylic, and watercolors have consumed me in recent years. Marcel Kahak in Carbondale has helped to foster my creativity and push me as an artist, as have Art Base and online courses. I paint for the pure peace and joy that the process delivers, and am still unfolding as a creative spirit.

NINA ZALE
Aspen, CO

Originally from Chicago, I live in Aspen, CO. I have a BFA with honors, from the University of Illinois, majoring in sculpture with a minor in photography. Between schooling, workshops and real life, I have 50 years of photography experience.

I have been published numerous times, won awards and have written and produced a documentary film, *Beyond The Boundaries*. My art, no matter what the medium, is meant to inspire others. I am a recent convert to digital photography, having shot mostly black and white film. This new technology has offered the opportunity to explore color, and I have found my horizons have widened as well. I shoot a range of subjects, but try to focus on what I call abstract landscapes. I focus on sculptural form, shadow and contrast. During the last year's lockdown, I found myself shooting birds and wildlife.

My perpetual curiosity has led to many photographic adventures around the world. I intend to always continue my pursuit of inspiration, education and expression.