

REFRIGERATOR POETRY

October 2021



Visual Art Archive Online Exhibition



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Exhibition Catalogue



About The Exhibition

Refrigerator Poetry is pleased to present the **October 2021 Visual Art online group exhibition** organized by archive director, Perri Neri. The exhibition features artists from around the world – Karachi / Singh, Lagos State & Anambra State / Nigeria, Sao Paolo / Brazil, New York City, Baltimore, North Carolina, Atlanta, and Tampa Bay. All work was completed between September 2020 and September 2021.

Refrigerator Poetry can be defined as a multiplicity of voices being created out of the experiences being had in the moment. While we continue to negotiate with a pandemic, we have learned quickly to accept how fragile both our experiment of democracy and our human lives are. This month's exhibition embodies a diverse array of narratives and practices, based in media ranging from photography, painting, textiles, collage, and sculpture. The range of experiences shared by these artists reveal moments when hope and optimism & joy and humanism mingle with death and decay.

The Artists

Zarmeen Akhund (Karachi, Sindh)

Hollis Hildebrand-Mills (Atlanta, Georgia)

Rita Holcberg (Sao Paolo, Brazil)

Perri Neri (Tampa, Florida)

Obilala Nwankwo (Anambra State, Nigeria)

Patrice Pfeiffer (Seminole, Florida)

Randi Reiss-McCormack (Sparks Glencoe, Maryland)

Samuel Vittu (Lagos State, Lagos)

Regina Walker (New York, NY)

Mark T. Wright (Sugar Grove, North Carolina)

About Refrigerator Poetry

Refrigerator Poetry exists to give ALL visual artists exposure and preserve their legacy in art history. We believe passionately that every visual artist should have the opportunity to show their work regardless of history, popularity, prejudice, jury requirements, or economic status. And we also believe that artist's work should be documented and archived as a legacy of diversity and as a reflection of our cultural and society collective memory.

Monthly 'no jury – no prize' online exhibitions showcase the work of visual artists at all stages of their careers. We welcome anyone who identifies as a visual artist and who is over the age of 18 to submit one image every month to be included in monthly online exhibitions which are then archived in perpetuity.

For more information about all Refrigerator Poetry artists and to learn how our visual art archive works, visit www.refrigeratorpoetry.com or contact Perri Neri at director@refrigeratorpoetry.com.



Zarmeen Akhund

999, 2021, Photography / Digital Art, 85" x 50"



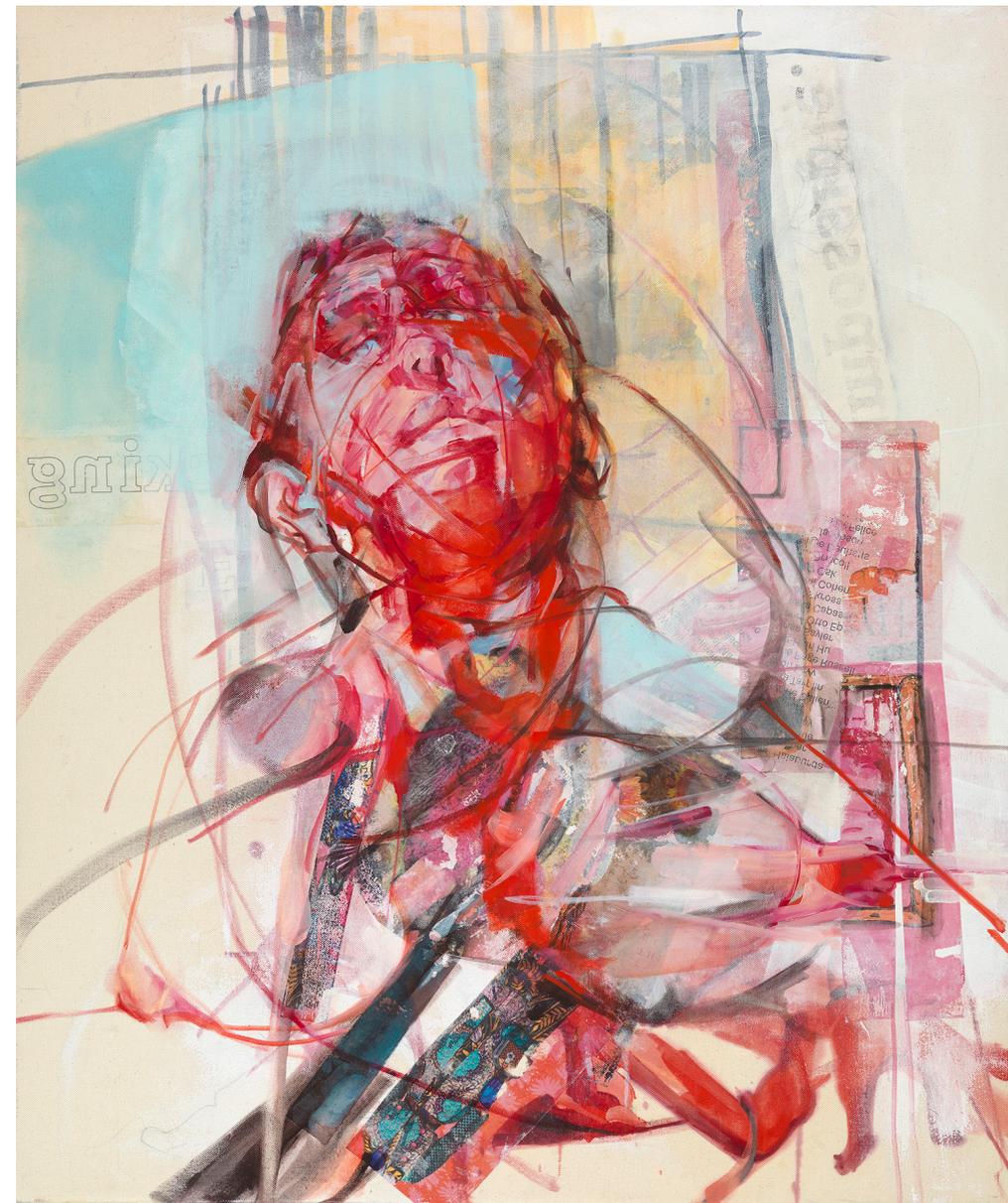
Hollis Hildebrand-Mills

I Would Swim Over The Deepest Ocean To Be By Your Side,
2020, Acrylic, Collage and Oil on Canvas, 48" x 60"



Rita Holcberg

Memory Quilt #4, 2021, Mixed Media on cardboard, 11.5" x 9.25"



Perri Neri

Unravel, 2021, Oil on canvas and paper, 30" x 28"



Obilala Nwankwo

if GOD was a woman, 2021, Acrylic on canvas, 48" x 36"



Randi Reiss-McCormack

Hue 250, 2021, Rug tufting and embroidery, 68" x 58"



Patrice Pfeiffer

Taking Flight, 2021, Digital design, paper, acrylic ink, 12" x 12"



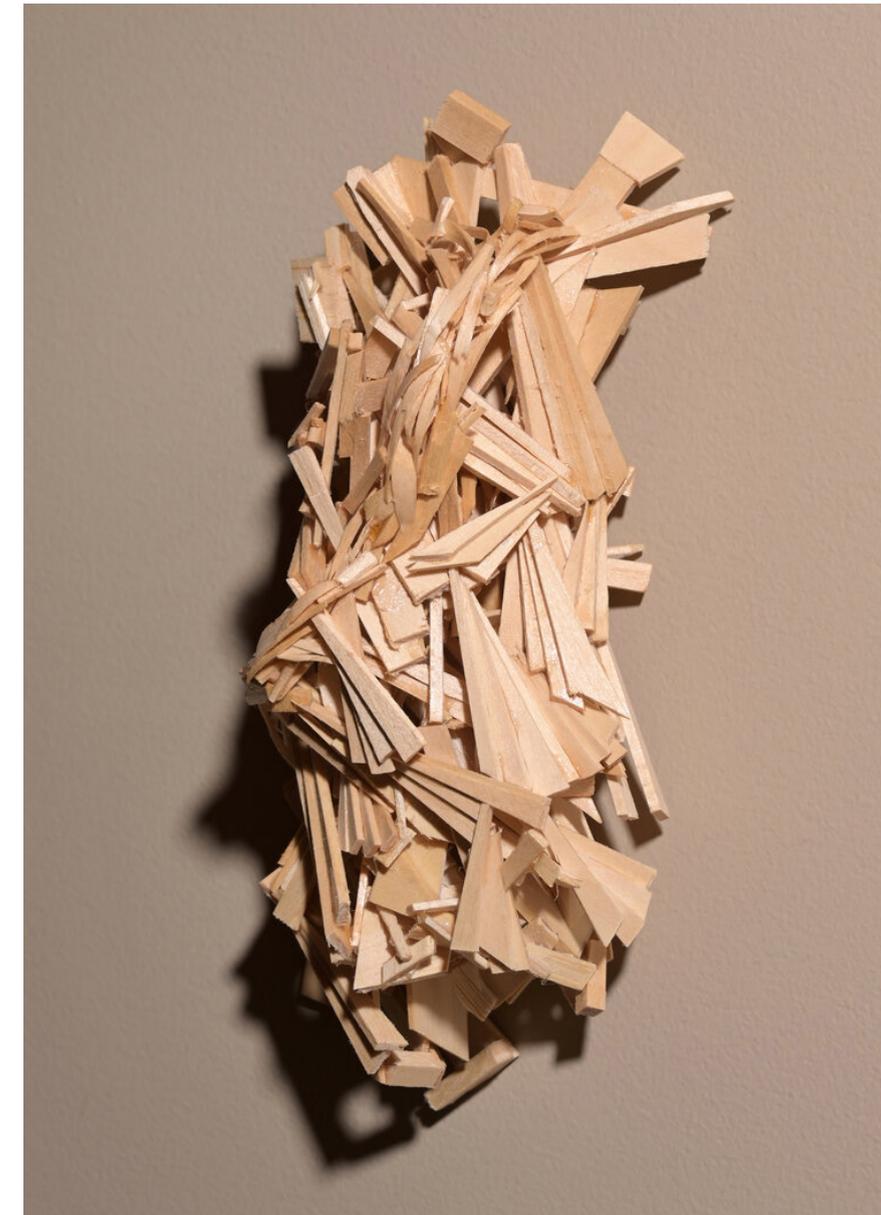
Regina Walker

Sunset Over the Projects, 2021, Photography



Samuel Vittu

Hunga and the echoes from the past, 2021,
Acrylic, oil and ink on canvas, 12" x 12"



Mark Wright

Pieta, 2020, Basswood, 11" x 5"

The Artists

Zarmeen Akhund, *Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan*

Akhund is a self taught digital media artist, born in New York and based in Karachi. Her work focuses on materializing spiritual journeys, and bringing to life all that falls beyond the cosmic curtain. As well as being a platform for her expression, her art creates space for her own form of healing.

“She is the soldier beyond all form. She is Spirit, and she is resolute. My work serves to feed her thirst, to guide her breath, to grow her battlefield in a concrete world. Through each piece, I seek to uncover the expansion which is her voice. Tender and unwavering, Spirit is clear. Life speaks in tongues, holding our silence. Spirit aims to break it.”

Hollis Hildebrand-Mills, *Atlanta, Georgia*

Hollis studied at The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia. She also took post-graduate classes in the degree program at Atlanta College of Art, now known as AIGA SCAD, Atlanta. Hollis received a BFA from Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia. She is a member of Ceres Gallery in NYC and has exhibited in other galleries in NYC and Atlanta.

Collage has attracted Hollis because of her perception that creating the art and the process of viewing the art is a similar experience. By using the trademark “Divine Imagery Is Everywhere”, Hollis subscribes to a belief that ideas flow through her. She doesn’t claim them as something personal after they are executed, metaphysically speaking.

Rita Holcberg, *Sao Paolo, Brazil*

Holcberg is a visual artist working in a variety of materials including oil ,watercolor, collage, photo, and mixed media. Holcberg is a citizen of the world who speaks many different languages and currently living in Brazil. Holcberg’s artworks embrace all of her adventures and curiosity about the world.

“The cultures of the countries I lived in, Argentina, Brazil, Italy and the USA, nurtured and enriched my journey, my creativity and my art. One voice speaking artistically in many different languages. Design, fashion, the studies and the love for the arts are the background where I trained my “eye” developing a sense of color, rhythm, texture and space. Color is my medium. Spontaneous and intuitive brush strokes, motion and action organize and express my inner chaos on the canvas. I thank artists of the past and present for their inspiration: Matisse, De Kooning, Richter and Kiefer are just a few.”

As culturas dos países em que vivi, Argentina, Brasil, Itália e Estados Unidos nutriram e enriqueceram minha jornada, minha criatividade e minha arte. Uma voz falando artisticamente em muitos e diferentes idiomas. Design, moda e o amor pelas artes compõe o background onde treinei meu olhar desenvolvendo um senso de cor, ritmo, textura e espaço. Color is my medium! Pinceladas espontâneas e intuitivas, movimento e ação, organizam e expressam o caos interior sobre a tela. Agradeço a artistas do passado e presente por sua inspiração: Matisse, De Kooning, Richter e Kiefer são alguns deles.

Vivo e trabalho em São Paulo, Brasil

Perri Neri, *Tampa, Florida*

Raised in St. Petersburg, FL, Neri earned a MFA in Painting with Distinction from The Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York. Since that time she has had three solo exhibitions in New York City and St. Petersburg, FL and several group exhibitions. Neri is currently represented by The Painting Center in New York City. She is also one of the founders and Archive Director of Refrigerator Poetry Visual Art Archive.

I am pulled between rival aesthetic approaches—the power of a strong line and the drama of color. Images from magazines and newspapers scatter my floor and often end up on the canvas. They are fragmented and varied, and they feed me, much in the same way news and information are visually consumed.

Obilala Nwankwo, *Anambra State, Nigeria*

Obiora Vincent Nwankwo was born in Lagos State, Nigeria in December 1992, and hails from Anambra State. Holding a higher National degree in fine art, Obilala Nwankwo's practice boards around solving the problems the world of today gives and also promoting the African culture with his stylized masking figurative work. Nwankwo has exhibited in spaces like Vivid Exclusive Art Gallery in Nigeria, Artdax Art Gallery in London, Art Number 23 Art Gallery in London, The Holly Art Gallery, and many more. Nwankwo was the Artdax Art Competition 2020 third runner up.

“In the world surrounded by beauty and chaos I dream to be part of the former, I create my world of beauty without boundary. And also give lives to a dead thought.”

Patrice Pfeiffer, *Seminole, Florida*

Pfeiffer spent most of her life raising a family and working as a nurse. She always found outlets for her creativity: cooking, crafts, beading and playing with polymer clay. Recently she has turned more and more to mixed media and digital art. She has found something that has become a vehicle to share what’s in her heart.

“My first love of color and design probably comes from my grandmother. As a child, I spent many hours tending her flower garden, arranging and exhibiting flowers at the local garden club. Regardless of my choice of media I’m still drawn to colorful, organic forms. Although not formally trained, I am constantly exploring new ways to express myself, taking art classes, reading, videos....all with a purpose: to express what dwells within me, to release the joy found in creating and share that with others.”

Randi Reiss-McCormack, *Sparks Glencoe, Maryland*

Originally from Boston Massachusetts, Randi Reiss-McCormack is an artist working between various processes, namely mixed-media painting, printmaking and textile. After earning an undergraduate degree in Painting and Printmaking at Cornell University, she spent a year working in various Printmaking and Painting Studios in Paris, France until relocating to Baltimore, Maryland to earn a graduate degree at The Maryland Institute, College of Art. Currently, she lives and works as an artist in Maryland, teaching, working in print studios, and as an Artist-in-Residence at the St. Francis Neighborhood Center. She has won a Maryland State Arts Council Award multiple times in different categories, a Trawick Prize, and is published in various publications including twice in New American Paintings. Reiss-McCormack has exhibited widely in solo and group exhibitions across the country and internationally.

“My recent work veers between recognizable to the abstract, derived from life and led by the subconscious. I work in a wide range of images and processes, moving from printmaking, painting and mixed media, using the constraints of each medium to intercede on one another. The structure of collage, across all media, allows for play and multiple points of view in a work, creating a channel to a subconscious narrative. Color and pattern direct these works into woven collaged elements that build on the last layer. Working in a collage sensibility, images coalesce and collapse almost simultaneously. In the compressed space of the canvas, there are many methods employed, including stenciling, printing and layering to create a frenetic, energized sense of movement that flirts with a controlled chaos of events. This approach in painting has branched out into rug tufting, pulp painting and printmaking. The layers of pattern and image mimic the fluidity of thought. Recently, playful interactions between physical media added to paint, has manifested in larger mixed media works, creating pockets of illusion that give momentary resting spots on the journey through the work. Increasingly, mixed media has worked into my paintings blurring the line of what actually constitutes a painting.”

Samuel Vittu, *Lagos State, Lagos*

Born in Badagry, the coastal town of Lagos, Samuel Vittu believes that the face is laced with diverse stories. His work constantly interrogates the exterior of the face as an entry point into larger issues in the society with the use of acrylic, oil and charcoal. He fuses abstraction with portraiture and anthropomorphism employing bulgy eyes as windows and zoom lens into the happenings, experiences, thoughts, and crisis that goes on in the mind of his subjects.

Samuel comes from a family that an uncle studied art and had given him the basic and formidable training during his formative (artistic) years. Those years could be described as one of concerted exposition. As a trained painter and art educator, he holds a Nigerian Certificate in Education from Adeniran Ogunsanya College of Education as well as a Bachelor of Art Education in painting from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. Samuel lives and work in Lagos.

Regina Walker, *New York, NY*

Regina Walker is a Psychotherapist in New York City. She is also a writer and photographer. Her favorite subject is the city where she lives - Manhattan.

"My favorite photographic subject is the city itself."

Mark T. Wright, *North Carolina, US*

"Visual space in exact uncertainty. A space that suggests the potential to be unstable. A promise of incessant change. No pictorial memory to take away from these articulated fields of sensations. No making of societal symbols. A departure from a tradition where image, narrative, design, or process can be codified. Work built on a different premise. Perhaps a visual parallel could be imagined in a Miles Davis composition. It's just us on the stage."

