

REFRIGERATOR POETRY

FEBRUARY 2022



Visual Art Archive Online Exhibition



**REFRIGERATOR
POETRY
VISUAL ART
ARCHIVE**

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cover art: REGINA WALKER



refrigerator poetry

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EXHIBITION CATALOGUE



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's 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 who is over the age of 18 to submit one image every month to be included in monthly online exhibitions archived in perpetuity.

For more information about all Refrigerator Poetry artists and to learn how our visual art archive works:

www.refrigeratorpoetry.com

or contact Perri Neri at
director@refrigeratorpoetry.com.

About the Exhibition

Refrigerator Poetry's February 2022 Exhibition

features artwork completed within the last year by twelve national and international artists. Refrigerator Poetry can be defined as a multiplicity of voices united by time. This is not a group show in the typical sense but more of a collaborative presentation. Each piece carries a unique personal and social charge, intuitiveness, and emotional authenticity.

The online exhibition, organized by the Archive Director and co-founder Perri Neri, offers a conversation between artists who broadly range in their formal approaches and in the memories they summon. It takes courage to create something. Fearlessness. What compels the artist to go to unknown places? To find that shape or form that says *'this is how it feels to be me in this space, in this time.'*

Artists Nichole Gronvold Roller and Gerri Rachins occupy an elusive realm where illusionism and geometric abstraction merge in a dynamic but uneasy tension. Jo Ann Rothschild records circumstances of pandemic life with fragile and faint hashmarks like a repeating mantra. Mark T. Wright's drawing is a rhythmic arrangement that unfurls subtle variations in pattern and symmetry. Susi Raphael's figurative gestures walk out from her canvas in full command. The materiality of Rita Holcberg's painting is as if she has turned the view from her São Paulo studio window into a liquid landscape. Susan Barrett's pure visual pleasure of color and radiant palette feels nostalgic and re-centers our wanderlust. Mary Zeran and Hollis Hildebrand-Mills use painterly devices - expressive, fresh and vibrant broad strokes while Vian Borchert embraces a decidedly all-over and delicate compositional ethos. Under a framework of steel girders, Regina Walker gifts us with the upward gaze of a vanished time.

The Artists



Susan Barrett - Sleepy Hollow, NY

Vian Borchert - Washington, DC

Hollis Hildebrand-Mills - Atlanta, GA

Rita Holcberg - São Paulo, Brazil

Perri Neri - Tampa, FL

Gerri Rachins - Boston, MA

Susi Raphael - New York City, NY

Nichole Gronvold Roller - Tremont, IL

Jo Ann Rothschild - Boston, MA

Regina Walker - New York, NY

Mark T. Wright - Sugar Grove, NC



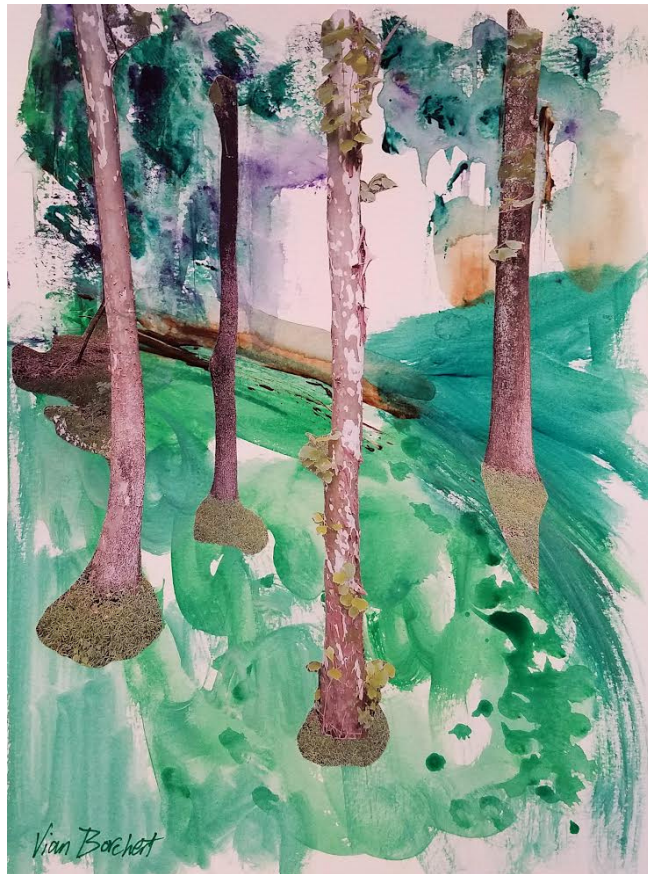
Susan Barrett

***Waiting for the Light*, 2021,**

Acrylic and flashe on canvas, 36 x 36 inches.

Barrett did her undergraduate work at RISD and NYU and received a M.A. in painting from Hunter College. She has exhibited throughout New York City and the Hudson Valley in both solo and group shows. Her work can be found in numerous private collections.

"I have always become fascinated with the structures that become my subjects, often creating a series of re-imaginings of the same place. The ordinary is transported into another domain in my imagination. My relationship with my subject is a refuge from the outside world, isolating me but also creating a shelter. The extraordinary difficulties of the recent past have reminded me of the importance of artistic sanctuary, and the peace one finds there."



Vian Borchert

***Green Absorption*, 2021,**

Mixed media (watercolor and collage on archival watercolor paper), 12 x 9 inches.

Vian Borchert is an award-winning artist who has exhibited in group and solo exhibitions within the US and internationally. Vian is a Notable Alumni from the Corcoran George Washington University, Washington, DC. Borchert exhibits in major world cities such as NYC, LA, DC, London and Berlin. Borchert's art has been featured in press such as The Washington Post, ARTPIL, Vie Magazine. Borchert is an educator teaching fine art classes in the DC area.

"With this artwork, I wanted to highlight the color green and my eyes absorbing the green saturation that engulfs me in my surrounding world, and hence transporting this absorption to the artwork creation. The collaged photos are taken from walks in parks. This work intersects the connectivity of art and the environment emphasizing the importance of green living and its benefits on humans. The artwork is delivered through the artist's abstracted vision and aesthetics."



Nichole Gronvold Roller

Pass Over, 2021,

Acrylic and ink on shaped panel, 25 x 24 inches.

Nichole Gronvold Roller is a painter who received a BFA in Art Education from Minnesota State University of Moorhead, an MA in Art Education from Boston University, and an MA in Painting from Bradley University.

Gronvold Roller is represented by the BoxHeart Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA., and James May Gallery, Milwaukee, WI. Her paintings can also be found with Leslie Tyler Design, Peoria, IL., and The Painting Center (Art File), New York, N.Y.

"My art responds to my immediate environment; I find a connection between fine art and design, architecture, and the landscape. The process of looking and experiencing my surroundings is an essential element for my art-making method. My abstract paintings are built upon a catalog of daily experiences within a framework of looking up, down, and through as I navigate throughout the day."



Hollis Hildebrand-Mills

Sally's Closet, 2021

Colored pencils, Le Pens, Collage on paper, 40 x 30 inches.

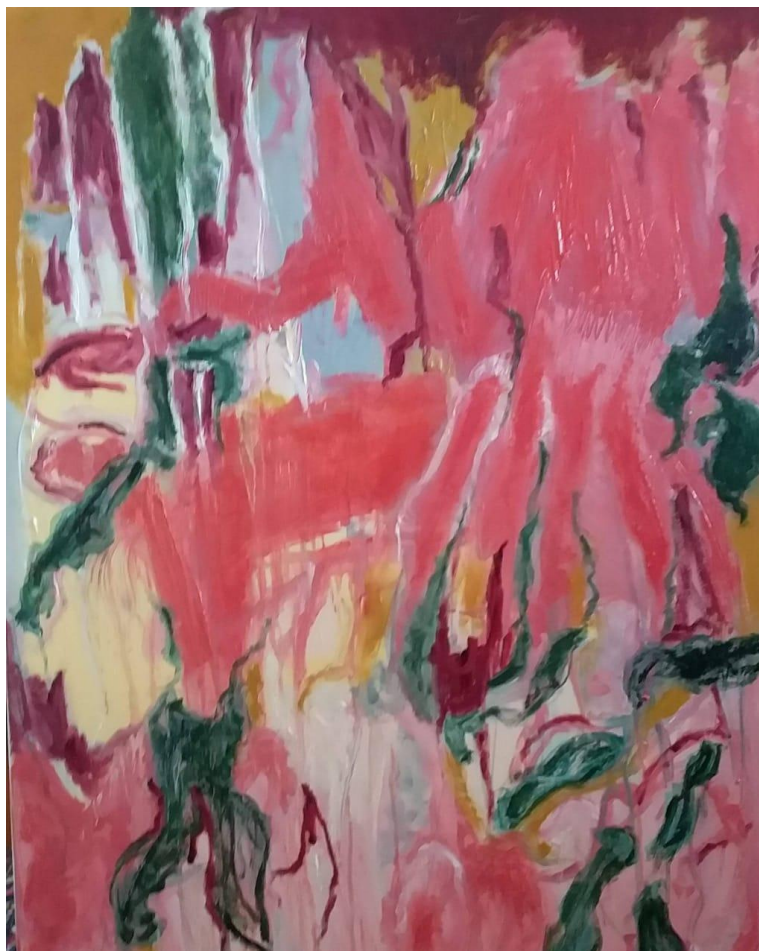
"An artist earns the right to call himself a creator only when he admits to himself that he is but an instrument."- Henry Miller

Hollis Hildebrand-Mills' art is a reflection of what is going on in the world at the time of process. The internal structure of her work is derived from Renaissance paintings. Some symbolism comes from that era also. But these things are conscious. Like Henry Miller says, the subconscious is absorbing the space surrounding the act of creation and puts forth work, apart from what the conscious mind "knows." The mystery of creation.

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 subscribes to a belief that ideas flow through her. She doesn't claim them as something personal after they are executed, metaphysically speaking.

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.

Hollis is represented by Ceres Gallery in New York.



Rita Holcberg

***Symphony in Pink 1*, 2021**

oil on canvas, 40" x 30"

"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."

"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."



Perri Neri

Blue Line, 2021

oil on un-stretched linen, 30 x 30 inches.

Perri 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 has participated in several national and international group exhibitions. Neri is one of the founders and Archive Director of Refrigerator Poetry Visual Art Archive and is currently represented by The Painting Center in New York City.

"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."



Gerri Rachins

Untitled 081, 2021

Flashe paint, acrylic ink on Arches Aquarelle paper,
30 x 22 inches.

Gerri Rachins is an artist and educator from Boston, Massachusetts. Her artworks are part of private and public collections, including Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Danforth Art Museum, Fidelity Investments, and others throughout the United States and abroad. She's been a faculty member for over twenty years at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University. Rachins is represented by Mobilia Gallery in Cambridge and The Painting Center in New York.

"Responding to the ever-changing environment that we live in now, I allow chance to be more present in my studio practice. These new mixed media paintings on paper have a fluid composition, often with contrasting colors, reflecting on the chaos of the past year. With glimmers of hope for the future, these represent how humanity is connected globally throughout this time."



Susi Raphael

***Mighty Warriors*, 2021**

Mixed media, 30 x 30 inches.

"As an artist, my intention is to surprise people with multi-textured, multi-layered paintings and photographs. The layers in my artwork reflect the layers of life— the complexities, textures, and surprises of my life experiences. When I put my brush or palette knife on the canvas, or pick up my old Nikkormat camera, these "tools" become an extension of me and a way to discover the knowing place within me – my inner life.

My passion for creating art centers me and makes me feel alive. As an intrepid traveler and the host of Let's Travel Radio, I am also inspired by the many places I have visited and love worldwide. For me, the meaning of life is to be engaged, and my art is a way to do that...to communicate with people, to touch them and to stimulate them...so they can discover their own sensibilities and experiences through my works of art. Thus, together, we can create Collaborative Artistic Adventures."



Jo Ann Rothschild

Marking Lives Covid, 2021

Walnut ink and Whiteon Kitikata paper, 20 x 16 inches.

Jo Ann Rothschild has been painting for more than 50 years. She is the first recipient of the Maud Morgan Purchase prize of the Boston MFA and a grant in painting from the Mass Cultural Council. Rothschild has exhibited in Boston, New York, Chicago, Berlin and Havana, and has work in Museums, Universities and private collections.

"I am interested in history, in one layer seen through another. Sometimes years pass between layers. I care about touch. I want evidence of the human. I am primarily an abstract artist, but I draw the figure, drew my mother in her last year, and paint myself as I age."

"This drawing is part of an ongoing series that began when artist Elizabeth Awalt suggested (when the country had reached 150,000 Covid deaths) that we honor those lives by drawing. We now approach 1 million."



Regina Walker

Williamsburg Bridge, 2021

Photograph, 29mm f2.2

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.



Mark T. Wright

The Stream, 2021

Graphite and acrylic on paper, 24 x 16 inches.

"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."



Mary Zeran

***Are We Laughing Yet?*, 2021**

Acrylic Dura Lar on cradled panel, 36 x 48 x 3 inches.

Mary Zeran grew up in a family of women artists. Sculpture and painting were their visual language. Abstracted shapes and forms were their words. Each time Zeran picks up a brush or scissors, she immerses herself in the language of her family.

Zeran has exhibited nationally and internationally in New York, Seattle, Kansas City, and Chang Mai, Thailand. She has been reviewed in *The Art Examiner*, *Seattle Post Intelligencer*, and *Artweek*. Museum permanent collections include The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, and Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

Mary Zeran was born in Iowa City, Iowa in 1964. She received her B.F.A. and M.F.A. from University of Iowa. She lives and works in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

"There's a weight in the slog to keeping afloat at times. I structure my world around a system of patterns and habits to create a psychological ecosystem that allows me to transcend my insecurities, and doubts.

So how does one stay afloat? For me, it's spending time in nature marveling at the wonder. It's talking and walking with my husband and dogs.

Art making is where I AM exactly in the moment- my mental location. The paintings are my conscious effort to place myself in blissful distraction. Balance. I am a participant in the collaboration with the material and my atmosphere is airy within dense and transparent layers, focusing on interactions with friends and family."

refrigerator poetry

WHAT DID YOU MAKE TODAY?
SHOW US. WE WILL SHOW THE WORLD!

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www.refrigeratorpoetry.com