



HARBORING CREATIVITY: Launching East Boston Artists at the ICA Watershed

Organized by the East Boston Artists Group

On view at the ICA Watershed

November 18 + 19, 2023

The East Boston Artists Group is excited to present *“Harboring Creativity: Launching East Boston Artists at the ICA Watershed.”* Featuring the work of 40 local artists who live, work, or create in East Boston, this presentation is a wonderful reflection of the creativity and innovation of our neighborhood. The East Boston Artists Group is grateful to all of our sponsors— including our partnership with the Institute of Contemporary Art—for their support of this important presentation, and thanks to all of you who have come out to experience and support the work of our local art community.

Participating Artists

Statements and images provided by participating artists

Atlantic Works Gallery

A Collaborative Space for Art and Ideas

Featuring: B. Amore, Stephanie Arnett, Julie Baer, Maryellen Cahill, Sandrine Colson, Kristen Freitas, John Greiner-Ferris, Leigh Hall, Eric Hess, Charlene Liska



Now in its 21st year, Atlantic Works Gallery is a co-operative contemporary gallery managed and run by its 30 members, with exhibition space located in the historic Atlantic Works Building at 80 Border Street in East Boston right on Boston Harbor. AWG members' artwork embraces the entire range of artistic disciplines, from traditional and abstract painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, and printmaking to performance, digital, sound, and video art, installation, and mixed media. Over the course of 20 years, Atlantic Works Gallery has become a true community of artists who support artmaking and each other, serving East Boston.

Spaces 6 & 7

Audrina Warren & Kristen Martin-Aarnio



For this installation, overconsumption and how to manage waste is the focus. Overwhelmed by how much waste humans produce, both artists have been collecting and using waste products in their art. Audrina wants the companies who create this waste to be held responsible for its disposal via a post-consumer mail-in campaign. Kristen has been upcycling the waste to create new sculptures and deter it from landing in a landfill. They both strive to make companies and people think differently about managing the endpoint of products because we can't keep going the way we are without dire consequences.

Space 15

B. Amore



My current artwork and writing explore memory, the layered nature of existence, and the relationship between human perception and history, both in the near and distant past. I work with what I find on the street combined with found gloves, which I am cold-casting in bronze with patina. I often integrate these with faces printed on silk, which I've photographed on street corners in different cities around the globe. My work celebrates the connections between us. We are one human family. In both the private work and public commissions, my hope is to affirm this spirit.

Space 37

Brian Burke



Brian Burke is a local artist who started experimenting with painting in

the summer of 2021 after having leftover paint from a block party and wood scraps from carpentry jobs. The majority of his abstract art is experimental and improvisational.

Space 12

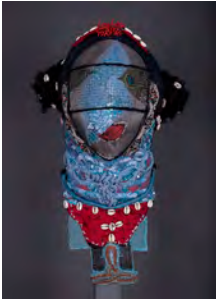
Charlene Liska



What is it like to try to make meaningful art, and live happily too, while suffering from a debilitating condition for many years? It's the need to persevere in the face of social stigma and constraints, and, with a bit of luck, end up landing on one's feet, being happy. I use artistic expression in the form of video, painting, and installation as a way of framing this subject; there's the unmistakable sense of fun and relief in it too, of at last feeling free enough to reveal what had been a dark, long-held secret. In retrospect, this was always the beating heart hidden beneath themes of disaster and sublime transcendence.

Space 28

Colette Brésilla



I am a Haitian-born painter, textile designer, and sculptor. My training includes studies at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and immersion in Haitian art of multiple media. Artmaking is an integral part of my life experience. I believe in the transformative and healing potential of the arts and art production and consider myself a cultural worker. I've had the good fortune to have my work included in exhibitions at museums and galleries internationally, and to collaborate with academics, who have solicited my work to include in literary projects, books, literary journals, and recently a book cover.

Space 24

—

Dave Stein

Dave Stein is a designer living in East Boston. He's just learning about the world of fine art but loves to observe and enjoy the intersection of nature, culture, commerce, human structures, and biodiversity. He studied at Cornell University and Parsons School of Design and is a member of the Atlantic Works Gallery.

Space 4

—

David Ingenthron



Ten drawers, ten panels, and ten days of applying one similar coat of paint to each panel.

Space 10

—

David Riley



"Everyone has an imagination. Imagination is a human emotion. You'll find that imagination is based on human feeling."—David Riley

Riley's acrylic paintings explode with energy and color, drawing the viewer into his vividly rendered and detailed worlds that depict environments both real and imagined.

Inspired by landmarks in his hometown of Boston, classic television, and pop culture, Riley's work invites his audience into an alternative universe that is both comfortably familiar and delightfully psychedelic.

David Riley lives in East Boston.

Space 5

Diane Modica



A lifelong resident of East Boston, I recently retired from practicing law to focus on my art. As a self-taught artist, I've gained significant insights from art classes and workshops at Montserrat College of Art, the MFA Boston, and in New Mexico and Italy. My work has been shown at Atlantic Works Gallery, Clip Art Gallery, Boston East Gallery, Attleboro Museum, and Strand Theater.

My knowledge and experience come from years of engagement; intuition is the gift that guides my artistic expression. My work, both abstract and representational, uses mixed media, acrylic, watercolor, oil, collage, textile, and monotype and reflects a special interest in my Sicilian ancestry.

Space 18

Dominick Takis



My current work explores themes of landscape and ancestry using texture, lichen, and other organic materials with religious imagery.

I paint impasto style to create heavily textured surfaces and mosaic like tesserae using unusual materials like silicone caulking and spray foam, branch and media.

Space 31

Elsa Campbell



I am a mixed-media artist based in East Boston. I have a degree in photography from the Art Institute of Boston and have studied at the School of the Museum of Fine Art and Massachusetts College of Art. My art practice has evolved to include mixed-media work incorporating painting, drawing, and printmaking.

I am inspired by color, line, and shape, using imagery that comes from my imagination or based on events in my life. My art represents an inner landscape, portraying the emotions, reactions, and awareness of what it is to be a feeling person in the world.

Space 27

Ephemeral Jess



Jessica Cruz is a self-taught visual artist born in El Salvador and raised in East Boston since she was 12 years old. She has developed a passion for painting, using acrylic and watercolor as her mediums of choice. Jessica's artistic style is inspired by her cultural heritage and the vibrant colors and textures of the natural world. Her work often features bright, bold hues and intricate patterns, as well as elements of realism and surrealism. Jessica's talent and dedication to her craft has led her to participate in multiple local art exhibitions and markets giving her recognition of her talent as an artist.

Space 8

Eric Hess representing The Biennial Project



The Biennial Project is a collaborative project to explore the nature and understand the perception of biennial exhibits within the art world, and, in so doing, to develop a collective body of work that will be exhibited in as many biennial exhibits as possible , especially the really cool ones.

In this artwork The Biennial Project wants to bring to light that we are losing the soul of Boston to real estate developers and the wealthy. We demonstrated this by borrowing one of the symbols of urban decay of the past century, the Squeegie Bandits.

Space 11

HarborArts

Featuring: HANIMAL, Felipe Ortiz,
Anna Yeroshenko



Transforming the landscape and inspiring lasting change in Boston, HarborArts creates and presents public art as a platform for dialogue. Through the installation of monumental installations and creative activations, we are cultivating community at the intersection of public art and activism.

Space 21, 22, & 23

Ian Babylon



Eat the dream.

Space 30

Janet Knott



Janet Knott is a former Boston Globe staff photographer and winner of many awards for her work on foreign, national, and local assignments. Her professional career spanned three decades, 1980 – 2007. She still pursues photography, but primarily for personal pleasure – she no longer chases news events.

Space 1

Jaye Woodstock



As a maker of jewelry for over 30 years I'm known for my choice of humble materials and simple designs that elevate the easily overlooked to the precious. From handmaking chains in sterling and 18K gold to the selection and setting of beach pebbles, gemstones, and pearls, the act of making sustains me. I have a studio in the Atlantic Works Building and

graduated from the North Bennett Street School in the North End.

Space 25

Jeff Briggs



My paintings of the last few years combine notions and reactions towards and from both the visual and auditory landscape. Since 2006 I have been invested in the way that sound might be represented through intervallic color and rhythmic mark making, creating a visual noise that can be analogous to an auditory counterpoint. White noise is an example we can all relate too. My goal has been to create a resonance that could be likened to the harmonic overtones of a particular instrument, the timbre of a space, or a condensed moment of precognitive experience. Phenomenological shit.

Space 17

Jesus Morales

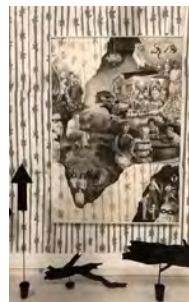


My goal when creating is to not limit what I use or want to show. I express my emotions fully and hopefully make something that can enable others to be themselves.

The world around us deeply inspires me to learn and grow my art. I love to do life drawing, landscape watercolor, portraits, sketching, and drawing. The beach is where my comfort zone is, where I can go and be in the wild because there always something to see, hear, feel, taste. I'm also inspired by anime and graffiti/street art, which is what made me pursue art.

Space 39

Joan Ryan



Joan Ryan is a Boston-based artist exhibiting nationally and internationally. Awards include the Puffin Foundation, George Sugarman Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2011 she was awarded the Lillian Orlowsky and Willian Freed Grant from

the Provincetown Art Association and Museum. She was Artist in Residence at DADA Post, Berlin. In 2017, winning first place in a national exhibition, she was awarded a solo exhibition at the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, Connecticut. In 2022 she received a Massachusetts Cultural Council award for drawing and residencies at MASS MoCA; Santa Fe Museum of Contemporary Art; Byrdcliffe; and Arts, Letters, and Numbers.

Space 16

John Greiner-Ferris



I do not believe that life, and therefore art, is a spectator sport. Pictures are something you engage with. The worst thing I can think could happen to my art is if someone looked at it and then said, "That's nice. Do you want to get some ice cream?" Art should be talked about. It should be fought over.

I value materials and process and spontaneity within the process for what it allows the materials to reveal.

I am inspired and influenced by street art. Decay. Torn wallpaper in an abandoned house. Graffiti on freight cars. Memory, remorse, and anger. And advertising.

Space 2

John Keys



Every living moment is a precise coordinate in a seamless tide of events.

I work to blend digital matter, ancestral/jazz music themes, and light to invent realities based on the everyday light that surrounds many ordinary things, to make forms appear to shimmer with visual storytelling.

My recent digital photo collages assemble a core narrative driven by improvisation.

Coordinating light and corresponding forms inspires breakthroughs that untap possibilities for my visual narratives to grow new.

Space 19

Julie C. Baer



My mixed-media paintings reflect my close attention to the seasonal

trajectory of nature's life cycles: its budding, blooming, fruiting, seeding, dying. Staying true to my abstract sensory impressions of individual plants, shifting light, variegated colors, ceaseless movement, regular yet imperfect shapes—often without an explicit focal point. Art and nature both offer ongoing opportunities for discovery. They can heal, teach, and include. I want my work to inspire viewers to care for themselves and their own biomes.

Space 29

June Krinsky-Rudder



Most of my subject matter is inspired by water, nature, and what I see as “universal structures”, evident in both microorganisms and the overall composition of the planet. My love of play is evident in my work, as is my joy in exploring a range of materials. Much of my art involves bright colors and asymmetrical compositions, though I occasionally enjoy working in black, white, and gray. Most of my pieces begin with a composition and evolve – seemingly of their own volition. Each requires its own approach, as different materials have their own expressive qualities.

Space 13

Katie Kimbrell



I am morphing from an abstract painter inspired by unseen worlds (those known about through science) to part cityscape painter. I have begun to mix my urban landscape, East Boston, with my abstract language. The extent to which sources of inspiration are recognizable ranges. On one end of the spectrum, paintings contain obvious depictions of what I see—clouds, gulls, construction cranes—to those that appear to be all about color, texture, and paint. Even in my seemingly near-purely abstract works there is reference to the historied textures of buildings through re-exposure of layered paint.

Space 33

Kristen Freitas



My art celebrates the fluidity and vibrancy of colors. Fueled by the interplay of hues, I explore the depths

of human psychology, emotions, and interactions. Each mark narrates a fragment of this intricate relationship. I strive to captivate viewers, inviting them to pause and delve into the intricate beauty of abstract colors on the canvas, sparking a profound connection and emotional reflection. Through rhythmic compositions, I seek to spark a meaningful dialogue with the soul, evoking contemplation and stirring emotions.

Space 26

Luz Zambrano



Luz Zambrano is an immigrant from Colombia, mother of two children, and resident of East Boston. She spent most of her professional life in the U.S. developing the leadership and organizing capacity of immigrant individuals, organizations, and movements to overcome social, racial, and economic injustice. Luz is bicultural and bilingual and has extensive experience in social transformative processes and community and economic development processes.

One of Luz's passions since she was very young has been to use the art of photography to capture everything that impacts her daily life, such as nature,

people, animals, places, and memorable moments.

Space 35

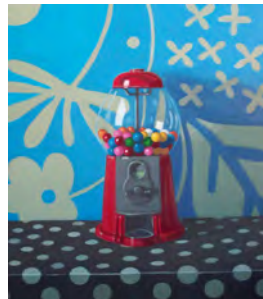
Matt Baynes



Matt Baynes is an emerging East Boston-based artist. He is a recent graduate of Emerson College and creates oil paintings that explore light, architecture, and a sense of beauty in the mundane, ordinary, and everyday. In his work he also explores his own low vision and the blurriness of the world in his eyes. He also specializes in large-scale art, mural making, and scenic painting.

Space 38

Maureen O'Connor



Randi Hopkins, former assistant curator at the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston has called

Maureen O'Connor "a masterful painter of some of our favorite things, like candy." O'Connor's favorite subjects include a pair of ceramic ducks given to her by the Parisian mother of an old roommate and a gumball machine, cookies, candy, and flowers. She often combines her subject with favorite patterned fabrics. Her work has been shown throughout the United States and is in the collections of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Fidelity Investments, Boston Medical Center, and Biogen, Idec among others.

Space 36

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Peter Anthony



Peter Anthony is a teacher, artist, and writer from Boston. He creates robot statues from various found and recycled materials. These statues range from six inches to three feet and are usually adorned with gems and jewels. He also invents mythical animal trophy heads out of papier mâché, such as unicorns, rhinos, and rabbits. His photography and short films have been described as poignant and funny. He enjoys manipulating color and scale. His work can be seen at Studio 213, Harrison Avenue, Boston.

Space 3

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Renato Viganego

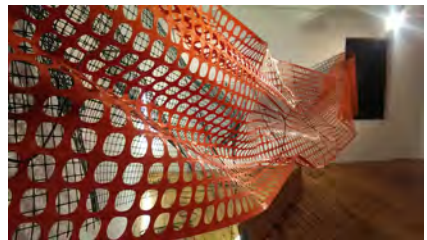


"Renato Viganego is an artist, and this recognition is evident in the way that the artistic language is applied upon his beautifully created paintings, every line defined, always clear and concise, and every plane and every color speaks volumes as to how he has clearly matured artistically. He has created a collection that figuratively speaking is determined to show the viewer how he has grown and become himself as well as offering a beautifully balanced chromatic vision." — art critic Elma Pignalosa

Space 9

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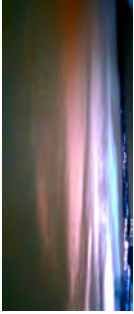
Richard Dorff



Space 34

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Sandra P. Castillo



I am a Colombian-born naive artist who grew up in East Boston. I started as an acrylic painter, and my artistic journey has since been an exploration of abstract art. Venturing beyond traditional canvases I've experimented in the realms of digital art and giclée printing, merging the digital and the material. In my unique approach to space, I use it as a canvas itself, an arena where I investigate the delicate dance of duality. Juxtaposing opposing elements, I seek to create a harmonious sense of wholeness and balance, inviting viewers to ponder the intricate interplay of chaos and order, emotion and reason.

Space 20

Sandrine Colson



A versatile artist working in acrylic and mixed media, I create compositions

that are abstract, referencing natural forms and movement, and filled with bright paint swirls, playful paper cut-outs, and three-dimensional objects, resulting in richly textured abstract canvases with intricate layering. Continuously experimenting with form, color, and medium, my work is a snapshot representation of stories, letting innovation and creativity materialize on the canvas, leaving the viewer's imagination to finish the story I started, making imagination visible. I am a painter of stories. All my pieces have a story to tell. Which one will you find as your own?

Space 14

Sunset Studios Boston



We are Kristen and Richie, two disaster-relief workers who met in 2019 working a wildfire in Paradise, California. After exchanging numbers, we realized we both had Massachusetts area codes. We soon discovered our shared passion for painting and playing music. In 2022, after four years of disaster-response work, we moved back to Massachusetts and created Sunset Studios Boston, based in East Boston, where we continue to paint and play music, inspired by our city.

Space 40

X Bonnie Woods



water media on folded paper. The works are large maplike forms. In recent paintings done outdoors, her work process often includes rainfall and snow. Works range in size from small intimate fragments to her dynamic architectural installation designs. She exhibits her work widely in the U.S. and Germany.

Space 32

X. Bonnie Woods is based in Berlin, Germany, and East Boston/Chelsea, Massachusetts. She uses Sumi, a dense Asian ink, combined with other



Also on view, *The Beautiful Worlds of David Riley*

This 15-minute short film is a collaboration between East Boston artist David Riley and Waltham documentary filmmaker Cathleen O'Connell. Riley is a self-taught artist who was exposed to high levels of lead as a child. He began painting in his 40s, drawing inspiration for his colorful canvases from the streets of Boston as well as pop culture, movies, and television. O'Connell is an independent documentary producer whose work has been broadcast on PBS, Discovery, and the History Channel. The film also features an interview with David's mother and long-time East Boston resident, Fran Riley, who traces her son's journey as an artist. Fran hopes the film will lead to greater awareness about the long-term impact of lead poisoning on both individuals and families.

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Gift Basket Raffle Donation

The Well Coffee House

We'd like to acknowledge the following members of the East Boston Artists Group for their help in organizing and supporting the event:

Coordinators

June Krinsky-Rudder
Diane Modica

Committee

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Sandra Castillo
Matt Pollock

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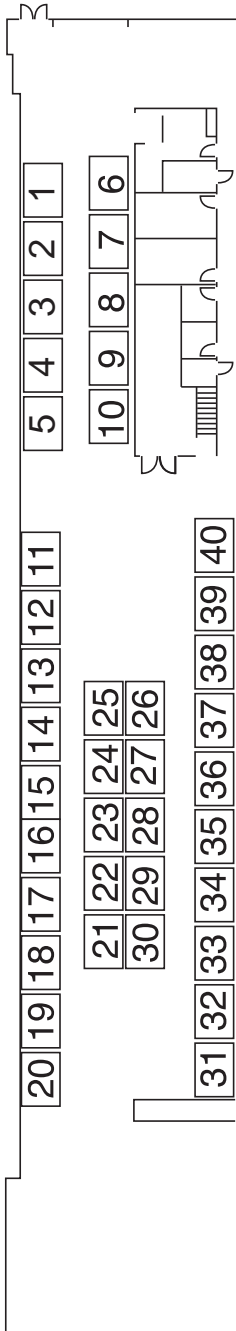
Fiscal Agent

ZUMiX (special thanks to Chrissy Holt)

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Ryan Arnett
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Angela Torchio
Kris Wilton

Entrance



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- Audrina Warren &
Kristen Martin-Aarnio 15
- X. Bonnie Woods 32
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