

Bridget Benton Carwyn

BridgetBentonArt.com



Alexander/Heath Contemporary
109 Campbell Ave SW
Roanoke, VA 24011
Alexander-Heath.com

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

My current work incorporates photographic image transfer and nature print to tell a story. I work to capture a sense of memory, of a very particular sensation, moment, or experience. I am most often combining the human figure or anatomical elements with botanical imagery and other marks and symbols. Hands, hearts, maps, leaves, roots, bottles, typewriters, and text all play a role, but so too does the actual medium I work in.

BIO

Bridget Benton is a mixed media artist based in Asheville, North Carolina. She has been a working artist and teacher for over 20 years. Benton completed her B.A. in Studio Arts, cum laude and with Distinction in Art, from Colorado College and earned a M.S. in Creative Studies from the State University of New York's Buffalo State College campus. Her book on creative process "The Creative Conversation: ArtMaking as Playful Prayer" was awarded the Nautilus Book Awards Gold Medal in the Creative Process Category in 2012 as well as a Silver Medal in the Self-Help Category that same year.

John Clingempeel

Saatchi Art

I am interested in the interplay between light and dark. I attempt to conjure a mood with minimal means. Images are from my mind, and what I may have seen.

John has been working with encaustic medium since the mid-1980's and has had his works shown at the Taubman and Virginia Western Community College in the past.

Giselle Gautreau

GiselleGautreau.com

ABOUT THE WORK / ARTIST STATEMENT

Through my art, I delve into the ideas of memory, landscape, and ecology. Nature is a constant influence in my work, and I strive to capture its impact on color and atmosphere. Using multiple layers of oil or encaustic paints, I create a sense of depth and luminosity in my pieces.

My paintings reflect a deep appreciation for the natural world and a connection to the places I observe. In recent years I've become more aware of the impacts of climate change and the resilience of the environment. I view the landscape as both a source of inspiration and a metaphor for loss, change, and adaptation. Ultimately, my paintings are a reminder of our interconnectedness with the natural world and a celebration of its beauty.

BIO

Giselle Gautreau is an artist who works in oil and encaustic paints. She creates deep, meditative work drawing inspiration from the environment.

Giselle grew up in Massachusetts and Vermont, receiving a BFA in Painting from the Maine College of Art and an MFA in Painting and Printmaking from Virginia Commonwealth University. She's received awards for her work, including a Professional Artist Fellowship from the Virginia Museum of Fine Art, a Fellowship at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and a grant from International Encaustic Artists. Her work is held in public, private and corporate collections. Giselle is a resident artist at the McGuffey Art Center in Charlottesville, VA.

Gail Haile

GailSHaile.com

ARTIST STATEMENT

I use photography in nontraditional ways to go beyond how we normally see our natural world and to invite our awareness back to the often overlooked beauty. My process of creating images gives me a sense of joy, wonder, and delight which, hopefully, translate into the final pieces. Encaustic has been a perfect vehicle for accomplishing these goals.

BIO

Haile now calls Staunton, VA home after a lifetime in the cold Northeast. She has degrees in Social Work, Counseling, and Photography and feels that her current work merges all those interests.

Amanda Jolley

AmandaJolley.com

ARTIST STATEMENT

Inspired by an observation of visual or modal pattern, my works intuitively reflect the color, flow, and rendition of generational/relational connection and dysfunction. The end results are abstractions of a dialogue between extrapolated meaning and the observations embedded in my subconscious. This dialogue comes forth as layer upon layer of encaustic paint is laid. These layers build on each other as the subconscious is allowed a voice. The final revealed layer does not interpret the findings in dialogue, rather it reflects a stopping point in the inner conversation. Hints of the intuitive exchange can often be found by gazing into the paintings.

BIO

Kansas City-based painter, Amanda Jolley, works mainly with encaustic and paper. The inspiration for her work comes from observation of the patterns and story found in everyday life, and how they complement and often mirror the connections in the brain and processing of subconscious thought. She has also noticed a distinct connection between bodily knowing and intuition and has developed a practice of trusting her body to inform her process of abstract painting.

Without formal education in art, Amanda's artistic training has been intentional; finding artists whose work compels her and then studying under them. She also regularly meets and works with other artists to propel process, ideas, and larger artistic vision. She is a member of the Kansas City Artists Coalition, the International Encaustic Artists, and Origami USA. Amanda's paintings are shown internationally both in solo and group exhibits. Her solo exhibits have each involved the combination of origami and encaustic. She has also been juried into many group shows since 2009 extending from Kansas City to Ivry Sur Seine, France. She also has a large-scale (12x6 sq ft) commissioned permanent installation at the University of Kansas Medical Hospital.

Bet Kindley

BetKindley.com/

BIO

Bet Kindley is an artist, writer, educator and beekeeper living in her native city of Asheville, NC.

A national board-certified teacher, she taught digital imaging, website development, and desktop publishing until retirement. She then began her artistic career as a photographer and painter. Her favorite subjects depict her love of the mountains, lakes, and culture of Western North Carolina.

She has exhibited nationally and her artwork and writing have been published in O Magazine, Camera in the Wild, The Laurel of Asheville and Rapid River Magazine. Her work has been acquired for private, corporate and university collections.

Wanting to take her photography to another level, she began incorporating her images into encaustic paintings. "I love the scent of the beeswax, the surprises similar to watercolors, and the many ways I can use images in this ancient medium which is now so popular." Her most recent works are encaustic waterscapes. "I try to express in my waterscape paintings the peace and tranquility I derive from my love of water—whether it be in the mountains of WNC or the coast."

Robert Scott Kitts

ARTIST STATEMENT

As an artist, I work hard to develop paintings that speak to me and learn from the journey between the beginnings to the end. Different mediums allow me to express different ideas.

BIO

I am a self-taught artist creating with the help of incredible fellow artists surrounding my life. Born in West Virginia now living in Virginia for 46 years. I am ways learning to explore the next level in art and life...

Taliaferro Logan

ARTIST STATEMENT – LATITUDE/LONGITUDE

Works in this Latitude/Longitude series were initiated as a response to memories that were once understood to be accurate, expressing a need to fully reclaim specific moments, although the details have been diminished. By exploring retention and the inherent weaknesses of memory, this work examines past experiences relative to the present. This series stems from previous work that focused on creating representational encaustic paintings depicting local events and family members from a novel written by my grandmother covering four generations. The images of people and places started to disappear from this work resulting in purely landscape elements and water atmospheres representing distinctive moments lost.

Gina Louthian-Stanley

<https://www.ginalouthian-stanley.com/>

ARTIST STATEMENT

Long before I considered myself an artist, I made marks on any available surface inside and out, used creek mud to draw lines, textures, patterns, and built an occasional 'structure' with this abundant medium. I collected odd pieces of metal, rocks, insects, feathers of birds, and just about anything in my environment. I have always loved anything organic, natural, or unique. The Earth and the natural world have always been my inspiration. Formal training has brought its rewards, but self-exploration has produced the greatest results.

By taking all of the insights that my mentors have gifted me, I have been able to collect bits and pieces of their inspiration to create my own artistic style. Being able to use my visual "voice" to communicate is the making of the never-ending chapters of my visual autobiography.

BIO

Gina began experimenting with the ancient techniques of Encaustic in 2006 (this medium dates as far back to the 5th Century B.C. and is the most organic and archival of mediums.) Each layer of medium involves fusing together numerous layers of molten beeswax and Damar resin, often with the addition of pigments. The surface is scraped, scratched, or rubbed with pigment to create various effects. Unlike other mediums, encaustic has sculptural, mysterious, and corporeal components to it.

Gina is a Roanoke, Va. native and has been creating for as long as she can remember. In later years she continued her journey having the good fortune of having been mentored and taught by some of the finest of artists. Her recent works are explorations in combining numerous techniques along with the Encaustic and wax mediums to create the atmospheric and textural qualities which are often symbolic to her works. She has assembled bits of her lifelong learning experiences and personal intuition to create her own artistic voice. Louthian-Stanley's works represent physical and emotional sensation that carry the viewer into their own significant narrative.

Gina has received many awards and honors, been featured in many publications, has taught nationally, and internationally, along with many works collected and shown nationally and internationally.

Crystal Marie

CrystalNeubauer.com

BIO

Crystal Marie Neubauer is an artist, author, and creative mentor with a passion for teaching others how to recover their own unique voice. Her process is intuitive, which, she says, is simply the truest, most authentic version of her own voice. Following her intuition has been the foundation of her art career, when in her 30s a happenstance encounter with a stranger handing her an art magazine was all it took to awaken that long forgotten place inside.

Today Crystal has an established career as a professional artist with gallery representation, one book published on the art of collage, and is currently writing a book about the process of working intuitively to overcome blocks in the studio. Crystal has exhibited her work in many fine art exhibitions and solo shows and was the recipient of the 2018 RAM Artist Fellowship. She teaches workshops online and locations across the US. She runs a community for all creatives online called Canary Rising and is part of a small collective of artists who collaborate and show their work together.

Jacki Mechanic

[Esty](#)

BIO

Jacki Mechanic, Educator, Printmaker & Photographer

Growing up in the Appalachian foothills of Southern Ohio, where the forest was her playground, Jacki developed a deep and abiding love of nature. She draws upon that inspiration for her work. Jacki explored a variety of mediums over the years, but found her true passion when she began to explore printmaking. Encaustic monoprints and cyanotypes allow her to incorporate natural elements and, due to a variety of variables, are quite unpredictable. That air of uncertainty is what appeals to Jacki. Working through the processes and experimenting with new techniques, the final product is always a bit of a surprise.

Jacki is an instructional technology specialist at an elementary school in Alexandria, VA, where she lives with her husband. Her weekends and vacations are spent making handmade dyes, mixing chemicals and collecting botanicals for her prints. Her work has been featured in galleries and shops in Virginia, Chicago, and California.

Bridgette Guerzon Mills

[GuerzonMills.com](#)

BIO

Bridgette Guerzon Mills is a multi-media artist. Her work incorporates a variety of materials including photography, paint, encaustic, and textiles, as well as reclaimed materials. Her artwork has been published in magazines and books and her work has been collected in the United States and internationally. She resides in Towson, MD.

As a mixed media artist, encaustic is a versatile medium that allows her to create depth in layers and serves as a means for further exploration in both form and meaning. She combines her photography with encaustic to create a bridge between two worlds, the real and the reconstructed. The canvas becomes a multilayered surface that speaks to both the visual and tactile senses. Her landscapes are an attempt to capture a feeling of wonder, recognition and kinship with the land. She explores landscapes in both oil paint and encaustic.

Her outdoor installations, often created using foraged or recycled materials, focus on environmental issues and seek to engage and educate the public about these concerns.

Fleta Monaghan

[310art.com](#)

BIO

Fleta Monaghan is a lifelong painter and sculptor and the founder of 310 ART Gallery and teaching center for adults in Asheville NC. In 2009 her school began an encaustic program, with well-known artists in the field. She states: "I was able to take classes in encaustic at the studio and while at first I resisted going full speed ahead in the medium, it soon just lured me in with the countless possibilities in both 2D and 3D methods. Since then, I have experimented in many methods, and love the luminous possibilities this medium offers. The pieces you see are small relief sculptures that are built up by countless thin layers of wax and resin, with small, embedded sea objects such as sea glass and pearls and shells. I experimented with mixtures of various waxes and resins to make a strong material that holds up very well in relief sculpture. "

All instructors in encaustic at her school are instructors in the international program, "Painting with Fire", and have participants come from all over the country to study.

Lynda Ray

LyndaRayArt.com

ARTIST STATEMENT

My paintings are containers of time with overlapping transparent layers of color forming a whole. Natural organic and manmade architectural, geometric shapes and space vie for dominance. My process sometimes produces unexpected contours like the curve of the macrocosm, which is bent by mass and energy. Inspiration is found in the everyday beauty of the manmade and the power of the natural world.

BIO

Originally from Massachusetts then to NYC I hold a degree from Massachusetts College of Art and studied with Agnes Martin at Skowhegan School of Art. I am also a past recipient of the Massachusetts Artist Fellowship in Painting and Sculpture and was awarded residencies at Vermont Studio School and Byrdcliffe in Woodstock, NY. My work is included in various publications including The art of Encaustic Painting by Joanne Mattera. I live and work in Richmond, VA. My paintings have been nationally exhibited and are in numerous collections throughout the United States.

Christine Rooney

ChristineRooneyArtist.com

BIO

Christine Rooney was born in Springfield, Ohio and grew up on a small farm. It was here that her love for broad bands of color, horizon lines, and quiet landscapes began. After graduating in fine arts from The Ohio State University in 1970, Ms. Rooney worked as a landscape artist for an architectural design firm in Palo Alto, California. While in California, she also studied art at San Jose State University and Foothill College.

In 1972, she and her husband moved back to the East Coast. She resumed graduate studies at West Chester State University in Pennsylvania and later at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Lynchburg, Virginia. It was during this time that she began working as a freelance artist. She now teaches art classes and workshops in drawing, pastel, and encaustic painting and lectures in those mediums. Christine has won numerous awards nationally and internationally. Her work is in many private and corporate permanent collections.

Ms. Rooney's studio is in Lynchburg, Virginia near the Blue Ridge Mountains. She works in a variety of arts: silverpoint, graphite, encaustics, pastels, and experimental mediums. In November 2010, she moved her studio from the Riverview Artspace in downtown Lynchburg to The Art Box at the corner of 12th and Clay Streets. She lives in Lynchburg with her husband, Michael, two dogs, and occasional cats brought home for visits by their two grown children, their spouses and children.

JK (Karen) Phillips Sewell

KarenSewellFineArt.com

ARTIST STATEMENT

Color and texture are my passion and drive my aesthetic. Inspiration comes from observing the small vignettes in everyday life that touch my soul. Working in various mediums and genres, a special love of portraiture as well as intimate landscapes has developed. Capturing that moment in time is important to me as it is never exactly repeated. I am a Floyd native and one of the founding members of the Floyd Artists Association LLC, now A NEW LEAF GALLERY. The interactive experience of instructing students in portraiture, perspective, value, and composition (PVC), and color theory enrich my work as I endeavor to pass on my love of creating.

Amanda Smith

AmandaSmithArtist.com

ARTIST STATEMENT

Half my heart resides in my chest. The other half is in the water. Since childhood, I have been drawn to the ocean. Coming from a lineage of watermen, I credit molecular memory.

Inspired by Nature and its divine patterns, my work is heavily influenced by the ocean and coastal landscape. Wild and dangerous, peaceful and safe - that juxtaposition is what I tuck inside each of my paintings.

My life and studio is settled into the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, but the coast is always calling. Every chance I get, I run to the water. Whether it's to the Outer Banks of North Carolina or the lush Pacific Northwest, I'm endlessly inspired. Nature keeps me returning to the studio, immersing myself in the memory of place. Each painting, a meandering - an escape to the water, a rocky coastline, a mossy forest, or to the sand.