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Come in...and be captivated...

Artists Featured in This Issue

Linda Bigness

Linda Bigness is an internationally exhibited artist who maintains a gallery/studio in Syracuse, New York. Her work has been exhibited in several prestigious solo and group shows that have involved notable jurors such as art critic Clement Greenberg, Ivan Karp, director of OK Harris Gallery in NYC, and Tom Piche, director of the Daum Museum of Contemporary Art. In addition, Bigness' large scale paintings are often selected and commissioned for corporate and residential clients, including the Turning Stone Resort, Merrill Lynch Corporation, Haylor, Freyer and Coon, and Bausch and Lomb.

She continues to exhibit professionally at several venues with artwork featured frequently at the Nan Miller Gallery in Rochester, NY. Bigness holds a BFA from Syracuse University and an MA in art history.

Presently she is working on her latest book and exhibition about abstract art and the contemporary processes used by working artists today. Part of the research for this



book is taken from the workshops she teaches and her oil painting and mixed media collage experience. For over 30 years, Bigness has used her expertise to share with others the unique beauty and processes of her chosen medium through writing, teaching and professional exhibits.

Her first book *Paint It, Tear It, Create It* offered the reader insight into visual abstract thinking through the process of collage into painting. She continues to explore the abstract through surface manipulation using encaustics and oil and is currently working on a new series, the "Journey Stones Revisited," a reflection upon her extensive travels throughout the United States and Europe. The most recent public acquisition is a large scale oil painting reflecting urban renewal and placed at the Rochester New York Regional Health Center.

<https://www.studio245.net/>

Patti Dietrick

I am a photographer with a very large collection of images. I still use film. I love the sounds and mechanics of using a camera and the wonderful results of the negatives.

I used to tell my students that working in a darkroom brought instant gratification as the chemical swirled around the paper giving rise to a latent image that clarified more and more as it developed...revealing detail and contrast and textural richness until you decided when to pull it. Today, instant gratification comes digitally with smart phones. Beautiful images are being created all over the world at the same moment.



To me, photography celebrates the intricacy and complexity in nature...portraits can be ethereal and dreamlike or sharp, cool and detached—with hidden meanings. I use symbolism to give a magical quality to a piece or character often blending natural elements with human form...a magical realism.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/pattidietrick/>

Claire Perkins

Claire Perkins is an evolving artist who works in mixed media, collage and digital photo manipulation. As a Transformational Arts Coach, she guides her clients in using art and journaling to tune into the voice of the heart in order to live more authentically, heal emotionally and physically, and evolve to their highest potential.

<http://claireperkins.com>



C. Michelle Olson

C. Michelle Olson captures the natural wonder of the various moods of life through her creative eyes, photographing all that is inspirational and beautiful in the world.

San Diego is one of the places that has had a significant impact on her work through its marvelous surroundings. Sometimes exchanging camera for keyboard, she values capturing moments in writing as well, sharing details of her environment and experiences through poetic observation.

Her imagery is regularly featured in *The Write Place at the Write Time*. As a professional photographer, she is always



updating herself on the latest photographic information and techniques to offer cutting-edge photography to publications, clients, and a growing audience of followers through her social media presence.

You can find her on Facebook at C. Michelle Olson Photography Infused With Poetry, and also via Instagram at carlamolson7.

She believes in living life passionately and hopes to inspire others to do the same with her photographic and poetic perspectives.

<https://www.instagram.com/carlamolson7/>

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