



Art in Embassies Exhibition | United States Embassy Kuala Lumpur

Chris Roberts-Antieau *Map of The United States*, 2002

Fabric appliqué and embroidery, 30 x 41 in. (76,2 x 104,1 cm)

Courtesy of the artist and Antieau Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana

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Art in Embassies

Established in 1963, the U.S. Department of State's office of Art in Embassies (AIE) plays a vital role in our nation's public diplomacy through a culturally expansive mission, creating temporary and permanent exhibitions, artist programming, and publications. The Museum of Modern Art first envisioned this global visual arts program a decade earlier. In the early 1960s, President John F. Kennedy formalized it, naming the program's first director. Now with over 200 venues, AIE curates temporary and permanent exhibitions for the representational spaces of all U.S. chanceries, consulates, and embassy residences worldwide, selecting and commissioning contemporary art from the U.S. and the host countries. These exhibitions provide international audiences with a sense of the quality, scope, and diversity of both countries' art and culture, establishing AIE's presence in more countries than any other U.S. foundation or arts organization.

AIE's exhibitions allow citizens, many of whom might never travel to the United States, to personally experience the depth and breadth of our artistic heritage and values, making what has been called a "footprint that can be left where people have no opportunity to see American art."

<https://art.state.gov/>

Welcome

Our exhibition celebrates the classic American road trip. During our thirty years in the Foreign Service, we've spent many summers driving from coast to coast, visiting relatives from Monterey, California, to Washington, D.C., and many places in between. This was how our three children came to understand the United States: through national parks, diners, outdoor concerts, and museums. From Kathleen Frank's *Dead Horse Point II* to Christopher Buoscio's *Entering D.C. at Nightfall*, these artworks chart some of the views we've been lucky enough to see along the way and highlight the diversity of America's landscapes.

Ambassador and Mrs. Brian D. McFeeters

*Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
June 2022*

Peter Andrew

(born 1956)

Peter Andrew's landscapes convey his personal experiences with nature and light-filled moments, fostering visual delight in the natural world through interior spaces and encouraging the viewer to decipher meaning in the design.¹ Rendered in colorful brushstrokes, *Engineer Mountain, Durango, Colorado* depicts the prominent double-coned mountain in the San Juan National Forest. With crisp horizon lines in his composition, Andrew applies simple yet effective techniques, thus conveying an extraordinary sense of immediacy and place.²

Andrew attended the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts School. He is a professor of art at Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas. Previously a Fulbright fellow and a current member of the New York Society of Illustrators, Andrew worked in the Barnstone Studios, Frederick, Maryland. His artwork has been shown in over fifty solo and 200 group exhibitions, including three presidential inaugurations by invitation of the Texas State Society.



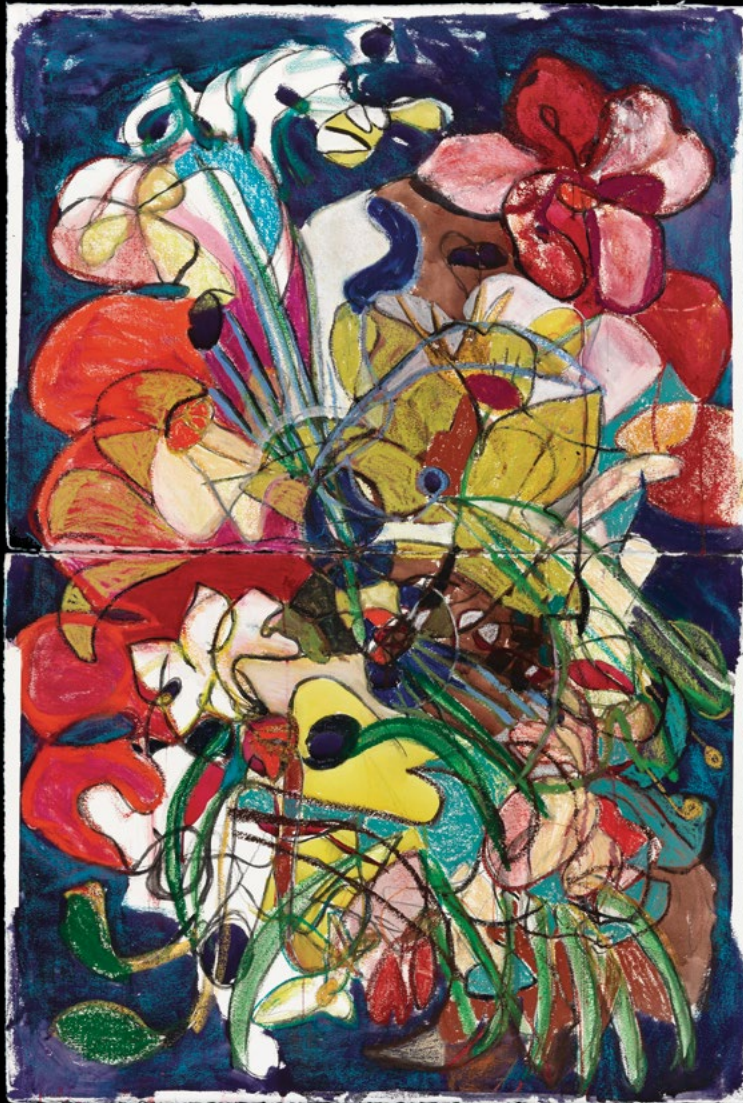
Engineer Mountain, Durango, Colorado, 2021
Watercolor on paper, 22 x 28 in. (55,9 x 71,1 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Nacogdoches, Texas

Stephanie Rose Bird

(born 1960)

Arts educator and mixed-media artist Stephanie Rose Bird infuses her passion for flora and fauna in her works. *Eyes Wide Open* is an ebullient reaction to flowers that, according to Bird, possess “the energy to heal, bring cheer, and suggest love.”³ Inspired by abstract expressionist and cubist styles, the composition is choppy, disrupted, and deconstructed, creating an inner rhythm through mark-making and the intensity of the hue. *Eyes Wide Open* seeks to “open awareness of nature and accelerate the imaginative propensities of the viewer to see beyond [the] ordinary visual experience.”⁴

Bird earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting and drawing from Temple University, Philadelphia, and a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of California, San Diego. She has won many awards, including a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award, studying Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art. Her work has been exhibited at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; Sioux City Art Center, Iowa; and the Rahr-West Museum, Manitowoc, Wisconsin.



Eyes Wide Open, 2017

Oil and water-based mixed media on paper
46 1/8 x 34 3/4 in. (117,2 x 88,3 cm)
Courtesy of the artist, Oak Park, Illinois

Christopher Buoscio

(born 1966)

Christopher Buoscio specializes in painting, drawing, printmaking, and photography. Influenced by film noir cinema, his work “depicts the urban environment and involves the effect of memory, nightfall, and architecture on the viewer.”⁵ *Entering D.C. at Nightfall* is a luminous panorama of Washington, D.C., from the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial to the dotted lights along the Arlington Memorial Bridge. “I consistently use architecture in my works to define the space,” Buoscio says. “The different buildings I feel work together to create a unique environment and a unique impression on the viewer...I am looking for quiet moments. I am looking for sense of calmness and in capturing the sensation of viewing a space as a long pause.”⁶

Buoscio earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Illinois State University, Normal, and a Master of Fine Arts degree in printmaking from Ohio University, Athens. He studied printmaking and painting techniques at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; film at Columbia College, Chicago; and traditional printmaking at La Corte della Miniera, Urbino, Italy. His works have been exhibited across the United States, namely at the Union League Club of Chicago and the Hill Center Galleries, Washington, D.C.



Entering D.C. at Nightfall, 2018

Oil on canvas, 26 x 49 in. (66 x 124,5 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Falls Church, Virginia

Kathleen Frank

(born 1944)

Art teacher and printmaker-turned-painter Kathleen Frank paints the land she encounters—including the verdant farms of Pennsylvania, California’s majestic Sierra Nevada Mountains, and scenes of her Marin County homeland in California. Saturating her artworks with a red orange backdrop, Frank overlays them with the main imagery using distinct, colorful brushstrokes.⁷ Vivid, kaleidoscopic patterns cascade along the canyons in *Dead Horse Point II*, while parts of the red backdrop seep through the monumental rock formations of Moab, Utah’s, Dead Horse State Park like a woodcut.

Originally from Northern California, Frank lives and works in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in fine art and design from San Jose State University, California; a Master of Arts degree in printmaking from Pennsylvania State University, State College; and a teacher’s certificate in art education. Frank was a founding member of the Printmakers Studio Workshop of Central Pennsylvania and of the Farmland Preservation Artists of Central Pennsylvania. Exhibitions include Jane Hamilton Fine Art, Tucson, Arizona, and the Susquehanna Art Museum, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.



Dead Horse Point II, 2018

Oil on linen, 31 ½ x 41 ½ in. (80 x 105,4 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Patricia Gould

(born 1954)

Inspired by her worldwide travels, Patricia Gould's paintings, photographs, and fiber art are dramatic portraits of our planet. The brilliant yellow Aspens in *Pagosa Gold* are set against sheer cliffs and a cloudy sky near Pagosa Springs, Colorado, during the fall. Inspired by pictures she took while camping in a nearby forest, Gould's textured painting brings the rocks, trees, and sky to life, helping "reveal their messages to the world."⁸

Raised in Bellport, New York, Gould was one of several artists in her family. Despite her plans to major in photography at the State University of New York, New Paltz, she took ceramics, painting, printmaking, and sculpture classes. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history, she studied museum curatorship at Syracuse University, New York. Gould completed an art residency in Balatonfüred, Hungary, and was a featured artist and teacher in Tainan, Taiwan, and Beijing, China. Her work can be viewed in New Mexico at the Deming Luna Mimbres Museum and Tijeras City Hall, as part of the New Mexico Arts Division's collection.



Pagosa Gold, 2014

Acrylic on canvas, 31 x 31 in. (78,7 x 78,7 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Jayne Holsinger

(born 1955)

Jayne Holsinger’s photo-based paintings channel her years of exploring America by car. Loosely based on an image taken by her grandfather, an amateur photographer who documented almost every state while visiting national parks, *Untitled 1* was painted in gouache, an opaque watercolor on paper. The scene is reminiscent of Long’s Peak from Bear Lake, located in Estes Park, Colorado. The label on the photo was written by her grandmother: “Trip to Colorado...last 2 weeks July 1971, Nellie—Carl, his Honda motorcycle, Ford truck and camper.” Her grandparents toured “Gunnison to Lake City, Creede & Wagon Wheel Gap—Natural Bridges, Utah—Telluride, and Estes Park.” She concluded her inscription by saying, “A most wonderful two weeks—many of God’s wonders. Met and visited with many interesting folks. Life is wonderful!”⁹

Born in Indiana, Holsinger moved to New York to pursue painting at the New York Studio School. She has received numerous awards, including grants from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and the Joan Mitchell Foundation.



Untitled 1, 2017

Gouache and pencil on paper, 39 x 39 in. (99,1 x 99,1 cm). Courtesy of the artist, New York, New York

Roya Honarvar

(born 1957)

Roya Honarvar's figurative and abstract paintings of villages and historic cities in Northern and Central Iran express her love and appreciation for Iranian architecture, culture, and people. *Orchestra Director* depicts the Iraqi National Symphony Director playing the cello in the streets of Baghdad after an explosion, attempting to alleviate the audience's sorrow and suffering with music. "One finds that it gets harder and harder to stay disaffected by the international affairs that impact our brothers and sisters around the world, and it's bound to enter one's art,"¹⁰ Honarvar says of being a global artist.

Honarvar received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Fine Arts degrees at American University in Washington, D.C., and taught at the Maryland College of Art and Design, Silver Spring. She lectured at the Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.; is a member of the Art League, Alexandria, Virginia, and the Maryland Federation of Art; and has exhibited her work at the Capitol Hill Art League Gallery, Washington, D.C., and the McLean Project for the Arts, Virginia.



Orchestra Director, 2016
Acrylic on canvas, 25 x 31 in. (63,5 x 78,74 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Vienna, Virginia

Tony Khawam

(born 1959)

Influenced by post-war German and American art, Tony Khawam’s urban architecture and heritage paintings are deeply rooted in his Middle Eastern heritage and “focus on socio-cultural issues, specifically social disruption, displacement, and immigration intertwined with American culture.”¹¹ As part of his *American Dream* series, *Connections* was created after stringent quarantine orders were lifted during the COVID-19 pandemic. From above, twisted roads connect in the lower left corner. *Connections* contains dimensionally flat shapes with a joyful color palette, giving viewers the ability to observe the work from all four sides—no matter which way the painting is turned, it presents almost the same visual result.¹²

Born in Aleppo, Syria, Khawam immigrated with his parents to the United States and now lives in Florida. He graduated from the School of Visual Arts, New York, and studied advertising and graphic design at Montclair State University, New Jersey. Khawam received the Individual Artist Award from the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs and was published in the *New York Times* and the *Brooklyn Home Reporter*. He has been operating the Khawam Gallery in Fort Lauderdale since 2015.¹³



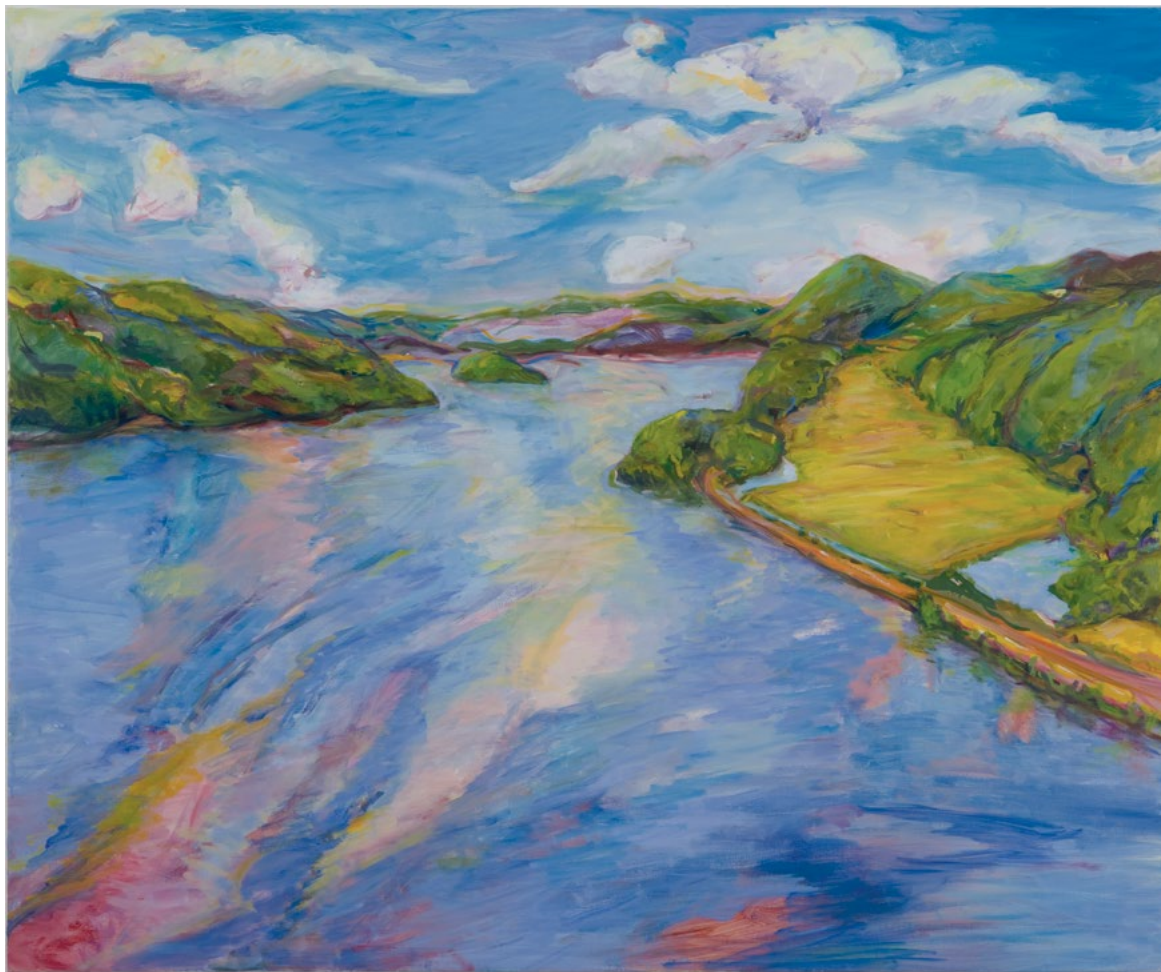
Connections, 2021
Acrylic and gel on canvas
28 x 22 in. (71,1 x 55,9 cm)
Courtesy of the artist,
Pompano Beach, Florida

Diana Kurz

(born 1936)

Representational painter Diana Kurz has worked with oil, watercolor, and pastel since the 1970s. In addition to a sizeable series focused on the Holocaust, her subject matter includes monumental figures, landscapes, still lifes, portraits, and animal imagery.¹⁴ In *The Hudson River from Bear Mountain Bridge, #1*, the aptly named mountain nestles along New York's Hudson River. With heavy and encrusted application of color, the composition exposes the multicolored watery reflections from the sky and mountains.

Born in Vienna, Kurz immigrated to the United States shortly before World War II and now lives in New York. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts, and a Master of Fine Arts degree from Columbia University, New York. Kurz received numerous grants and awards, namely a Fulbright fellowship to France and residency from the American Center in Paris. Her work can be found in permanent collections of the United States Holocaust Museum, Washington, D.C.; the Rose Art Museum, Waltham; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, New York; and the Wien Museum, Vienna.



The Hudson River from Bear Mountain Bridge, #1, 2008
Oil on linen, 42 ½ x 50 ½ in. (108 x 128,3 cm). Courtesy of the artist, New York, New York

Janet Orselli

(born 1954)

Multidisciplinary artist Janet Orselli creates sculpture and assemblages, drawings, and site-specific installations. The wooden toys and games owned by her mother held significance and power as “treasured family relics” during her childhood, and the chess pieces in *Dark Knights of the Triangle Table* reference one of Orselli’s favorite childhood books, Lewis Carroll’s *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. Her whimsical found objects seek to stir the viewer’s imagination and resurrect past artifacts with a future filled with meaning. “If old things can be transformed then so can we,” she says.¹⁵

Orselli earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Fine Arts degree from Clemson University, South Carolina. Previously a fellow at the Pollock-Krasner Foundation and recipient of several North Carolina Regional Artist project grants, Orselli has shown her works at the Gibbes Museum of Art, Charleston, South Carolina; 701 Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, South Carolina; and OK Harris Works of Art, New York.



Dark Knights of the Triangle Table, 2020

Assemblage, 4 x 10 x 10 in. (10,2 x 25,4 x 25,4 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Columbus, North Carolina

Chris Roberts-Antieau

(born 1950)

Self-taught fiber artist Chris Roberts-Antieau explores the “mysterious origin of joy and the wonder of childhood” in her fabric paintings—tapestries composed of fabric applique and intricate embroidery done on a sewing machine.¹⁶ *Map Of The United States* is a cheerfully vibrant replica of a U.S. map denoting each state name and well-known iconography of different regions. The piece stylistically echoes folk art elements, weaving stories of America through fabric.

Roberts-Antieau owns Antieau Gallery, three permanent galleries that display her work: two in New Orleans and one in Santa Fe. Her fiber art was also exhibited at the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the U.S. Capitol, both in Washington, D.C.; the American Visionary Museum, Baltimore, Maryland; and the Pensacola Museum of Art, Florida.



Map Of The United States, 2002

Fabric appliqué and embroidery, 30 x 41 in. (76,2 x 104,1 cm). Courtesy of the artist and Antieau Gallery, New Orleans, Louisiana

Jack Rosenberg

(born 1949)

Although classically trained as a painter, Jack Rosenberg utilizes technology in his artistic practice. To deconstruct the composition into organic pixel shapes, Rosenberg produces his work in Photoshop, then transfers the computerized drawing to canvas or panel using paint. Subject matter and color palette vary in each painting, from traditional and realistic to vibrant and contemporary. *Dinner with the Artist* shows a festive dinner party with Rosenberg and his friends, surrounded by his artwork in the dining room. Completed while the artist was isolated in his studio during the COVID-19 pandemic, this painting serves as a reminder of good times past and future.¹⁷

Rosenberg studied art at the Prince Charles Drawing School, London; the Florence Academy of Art, Italy; and the New York Academy of Art. He is a member of the Connecticut State Arts Council, the After School Art Program, Inc., and the Washington Art Association. His work has been exhibited at the Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, New York; Chautauqua Institution, New York; and the U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C.



Dinner with the Artist, 2020

Oil on aluminum panel (Dibond), 48 x 60 in. (121,9 x 152,4 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Washington Depot, Connecticut

Jim Schlett

(born 1952)

Jim Schlett developed an interest in photography after receiving a Polaroid camera in grade school. He is known for capturing U.S. national parks, cityscapes, and natural environments in many states. In *The Great Falls*, the viewer can almost feel the intense force of waves from the Potomac River as they rush over steep, jagged rocks and flow through Mather Gorge in Great Falls Park in McLean, Virginia.

Schlett earned an Associate of Arts degree in photography and art from Middlesex County College, New Jersey. After working for thirty years as the director and chief staff of the Law Department at the U.S. Postal Service, Schlett returned to his love and passion for photography. He was an artist-in-residence at nine National Park Service locations and has exhibited his work at the Manassas Art Center, Virginia; Phoenix Desert Botanical Gardens; and the Los Angeles Center for Digital Art.¹⁹



The Great Falls, 2014

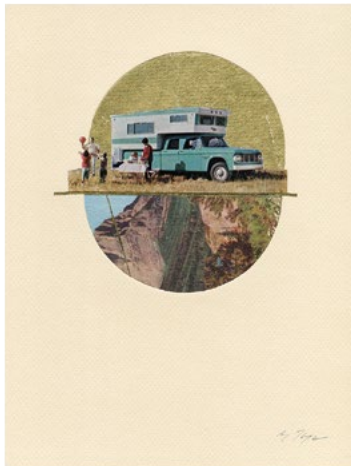
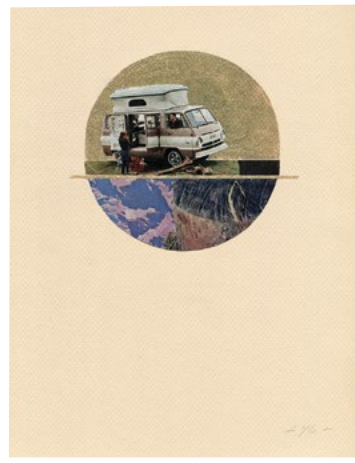
Photograph, 22 x 26 in. (55,9 x 66 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Reston, Virginia

Amy Thompson

(born 1971)

Canadian visual artist Amy Thompson thematically explores memory and the natural world in her drawings, mixed media, and sculpture. By investigating humanity's relationship to the landscape, Thompson places emphasis on protecting the environment and providing space for self-reflection.¹⁹ *Road Trip Series, 2013* is an example of how she recontextualizes imagery through collage. It features six pieces, each circle with a vintage car or recreation vehicle placed beside a mountain or lake.

A recipient of the David L. Stevenson scholarship, Thompson studied fine art at York University, Toronto, and graduated from the Ontario College of Art and Design, Toronto. Her work has been featured across Canada, the United States, and Europe, specifically Purdue University, Indiana, and the Ottawa Art Gallery, Ontario.



Road Trip Series, 2013, 2021

Mixed media on paper, 9 1/2 x 12 in. (24,1 x 30,5 cm) each of six. Courtesy of the artist, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Mimi Williams

(born 1948)

Mimi Williams has worked primarily in printmaking for fifteen years. After drawing an image on paper, Williams transfers it to a linoleum block—first rolled in ink—for carving and then impresses the image by hand with a wooden spoon. She finishes her process by printing colored paper and collaging those pieces onto the initial print.²⁰ The beauty and culture of the Pacific Northwest and West Coast inform her art, specifically *Road Trip*. Resplendent in translucent neon colors, the scene shows a classic mid-century modern motel alongside a beach. While a figure with a sun hat floats on an inner tube, a woman in a yellow swimsuit leaps from the motel sign into the pool.

Raised in Southern California, Williams grew up with art and participated in free summer youth programs at California State University, Long Beach, to enhance her craft. She attended Southern Oregon State College—now Southern Oregon University—in Ashland, studying under California scene painter and teacher Millard Sheets. Previously an artist resident in Obracadobra, Oaxaca, Mexico, Williams now lives and works in Olympia, Washington. Her work can be found in the permanent collections of Olympia City Hall and the Hands On Children’s Museum, Olympia.²¹



Road Trip, 2021

Linoleum cut block print, 20 x 24 in. (50,8 x 61 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Olympia, Washington

Endnotes

- ¹ Peter Andrew, email to author, October 4, 2021.
- ² David Pyle, "The Landscapes of Peter Andrew," Peter Andrew Landscape Colors, accessed October 7, 2021, <https://www.peterandrew.net/Musings.html>.
- ³ Stephanie Rose Bird, email to author, November 5, 2021.
- ⁴ Stephanie Rose Bird.
- ⁵ Christopher Buoscio, email to author, August 12, 2021.
- ⁶ Christopher Buoscio, email to author, October 26, 2021.
- ⁷ Kathleen Frank, email to author, August 10, 2021.
- ⁸ Patricia Gould, email to author, August 14, 2021.
- ⁹ Jayne Holsinger, email to author, October 31, 2021.
- ¹⁰ Roya Honarvar, email to author, August 14, 2021.
- ¹¹ Tony Khawam, email to author, September 19, 2021.
- ¹² Tony Khawam, email to author, October 22, 2021.
- ¹³ "About," Khawam Gallery, accessed October 20, 2021, <https://khawamgallery.com/about/>.
- ¹⁴ "Diana Kurz." Jewish Art Salon, accessed January 20, 2022, <https://jewishartsalon.org/diana-kurz/>.
- ¹⁵ Janet Orselli, email to author, August 18, 2021.
- ¹⁶ Chris Roberts-Antieau, email to author, September 24, 2021.
- ¹⁷ Jack Rosenberg, email to author, August 5, 2021.
- ¹⁸ Jim Schlett, email to author, September 28, 2021.
- ¹⁹ Amy Thompson, email to author, August 6, 2021.
- ²⁰ "About," Mimi Williams, accessed October 1, 2021, <https://www.mimiwilliamsprintmaker.com/about.php>.
- ²¹ Mimi Williams, email to author, August 11, 2021.

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