

Bringing Artists
Together with
the Community

Message from co-Presidents

Dear WSAC Members and Friends,

We want to thank all the artists who share their creativity with us through our monthly Newsletter.

Their generosity has helped to keep West Side Arts Coalition alive and a vital part of the art community as well as a stimulant for others to keep working, knowing that things will change for the better. There is a brighter light for the future ahead for us as long as we stay strong and work together. The vaccine will slowly bring back some form of normality to the world. We wait with impatience to be able to open our gallery once again and share your visions in-person with all who may enter our space looking to enrich their hearts and minds.

Margo Mead - meadart@gmail.com 212-663-1355
Linda Lessner - herb101@verizon.net 212-666-8135

FOR YOUR REFERENCE...

As we all look to and hope for a future that includes in-person exhibits and a sense of normalcy, we have compiled a short list of some available resources that might be helpful in finding a vaccine appointment if you are currently eligible.

This list is by no means comprehensive, and listings here do not imply an affiliation with the WSAC. Click on the links in blue to be directed to the relevant website for more information.

NYC Vaccine Information: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-vaccines.page>

NYC Vaccine Finder: <https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/>

NYS Vaccine Information: <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov>

NYC Vaccine List (not an official government website, but helpful to find available appointments across multiple platforms through one website): <https://nycvaccinelist.com/>

February Smiling

A Virtual Exhibit

Curated by Linda Lessner & Margo Mead
Photos © Artists



Mildred Borrás

The March of the Clowns

Acrylic on canvas
12" X 16"
\$195

Clowns are for festive gatherings. Clowns bring joy to children and adults. These clowns are marching for the hope of better times. The painting portrays clowns with concern in their faces, but still marching for more joyful and safety times.

privatemildred@gmail.com

Thank You!

We would like to extend a huge
thank you to

Margo Mead

for her generous donation!

FRIENDS OF THE WSAC



Art Care
(pictured left)
offers our
members a
generous
25%
discount!

These "Friends of the WSAC"
extend a 10% discount to our
members. We hope you will
patronize these gracious merchants.

Art Care (25%) 244 W 72nd St
Bob's Frame Shop 2713 Broadway
Global Copy 2578 Broadway
Ivy League Stationers 2955 Broadway
Ivy League Stationers 1201 Amsterdam
Quad Right 242 W 36th St
West Side Stationers 2620 Broadway

Bayan Kalystekova: Save Corals on Our Planet A Solo Exhibit

Curated by & Photos © Berik Kulmamirov
By Anne Rudder



Bayan Kalysbekova, a new member of the WSAC, hails from the country of Kazakhstan. She studied art in the United States where the flora and fauna are very different from her native steppes and is fascinated with the beauty of aquatic life in underwater coral reefs. In this exhibit, Ms. Kalysbekova depicts oceanic inhabitants in detail showing the beauty of a watery hidden world and champions the necessity for respect of this essential life source. She creates realistic, almost perfect images so that viewers deeply respond to her painted marvels floating in her shimmering sea.

She is greatly concerned with the health of coral reefs as harbingers of the health of ocean ecosystems, and therefore, our planet's continuing encouragement of life. From humanity's relentless practice of climatic destruction, she communicates to us the crisis of possible extinction for magnificent coral reefs and creatures and underscores the need for their protection from such killers as rising temperatures, pollution and overfishing. Her goal is to use art as a visual reminder of the earth's natural heritage of cosmic perfection, awakening the viewer's curiosity to the diversity in the oceans as well as to the need for all people to protect them, bringing humanity to wiser decisions. Her sparkling paintings virtually sanctify her quest, instilling an almost brilliant divinity to them from the brushwork. The West Side Arts Coalition is happy and humbled to host this artist in such critical work.



(Pictured Above, Top to Bottom, Left to Right) "Still Life with Big Wine Glass," 40" x 30" Acrylic on Canvas; "Coral Reefs as an Endangered Rainforest," 24" x 30" Acrylic on Canvas; "Reflection," 24" x 30" Acrylic on Canvas; "Still Life with Red Apples," 24" x 30" Acrylic on Canvas

MEMBER NEWS

Joyce Weidenaar's painting, "Honey Jar," is on display at One Brooklyn Bridge Park's "At the Table" exhibit from January 20 - March 19.

Daniel C. & Silvia Soares Boyer have work in the 13th Annual Artist Members Juried Exhibition & Competition at Blue Door Art Center, Yonkers, NY (January 9 - February 6) and "Gamut," Kleinert/James Center for the Arts, Woodstock, NY (January 16 - February 28); and will have work in the 83rd Annual Guild Hall Artist Members Exhibition at Guild Hall in East Hampton, NY (March 6 - April 10).

Daniel also had work in "Less Is More" at Upstream Gallery, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY (January 7-31); has work in "Post: Processing," Unrequited Leisure, Tallahassee, FL (February 1-28); will have work in the 15th Annual Members' Exhibition at Northville Art House, Northville, MI (February 17 - March 13); and "Mail Art," Atelier e Banca del Tessuto di D-Hub, Verona, Italy (April 16 - May 16); and sold an acrylic and gouache over appliance touch-up on canvas board at Kleinert/James Center for the Arts in Woodstock.

By David Elsasser

Clockwork

Every year, come Winter's glitzy arboreal show neighborhood trees glassed over head to toe with ice, each a Sleeping Beauty, waiting to be awakened by Springtime's mint kiss mercury congealing in a hard ball at my thermometer's base, unable to rise to any occasion – my body reels foul.

There is no poetry in a pocketful of used tissues no joy expressible with a frog-croaky voice. I'll spare you all the alliteration of my drippy nose the onomatopoeia of my hard, harsh hacking. All I want from you is a little sympathy, a few words of understanding, but some hot tea would be great. So make life easy, put a reminder on your calendar. It's bound to happen again, this time next year.

Fresh Possibilities

A Virtual Exhibit

Co-Curated by Linda Lessner & Margo Mead
Photos © Artists



Xenia Garamvolgyi

Jeune Femme

Pencil on paper
8" X 5.75"
\$100

Pencil drawing of a seated young woman inspired by the unique style of my favorite figurative painter Schiele.

"Art cannot be modern, art is timeless."

- Egon Schiele

lacrimaerum50@aol.com

Unknown visitors
In my dreams
You can only be my mother...
Is what I see now
Posting the image
I realized
It has a very good percentage of my mother.

In the grave
One of your eyes remained open
To watch and protect me
You never left me.
In dreams you kept
Visiting me
Advising and guiding me
The waves of your protecting prayers
From the grave to my heart
Are deeply felt and touching me

I cried when I lost you
Inside a lake
In a very dark night
Believing, I will never
Physically see you again.
Sadness invaded me
for days, weeks, months and years.
Later I found you disappeared but never
left me.
You are always with me
And will never close your eye
That you kept open
In the grave to watch me
And pray for me.
I will eternally thank you...
And pray for you
To rest in paradise.
My mother
Hothia Wassa Madihary
Rest in peace.



Ba Djibril Ngawa

My mother

Acrylic marker on regular
paper
8½" x 11"
NFS

bbadjibrilngawa@yahoo.com

Fresh Possibilities

(Continued from Previous Page)

Carole Barlowe*A Lovely Scene*

Watercolor on paper
8" X 5"
\$50

Stemless blooms do best
When they make their own
request

carolebarloweart@gmail.com

**Joe Giordano***Turbaned Woman*

Color pencils on Ivory stock
14" X 18"
\$125

Sometimes it starts with a photograph you take. A fairly naturalistic drawing might follow. This is definitely Stage Three, a totally stylized version which becomes more about the artist than the subject.

jgiordano416@gmail.com



Fresh Possibilities

(Continued from Previous Page)

Marzena Lizurej*Life*

Oil on canvas
35" X 29"
\$300

"No one can desire the
love of God without first
knowing human love,"
Paulo Coelho

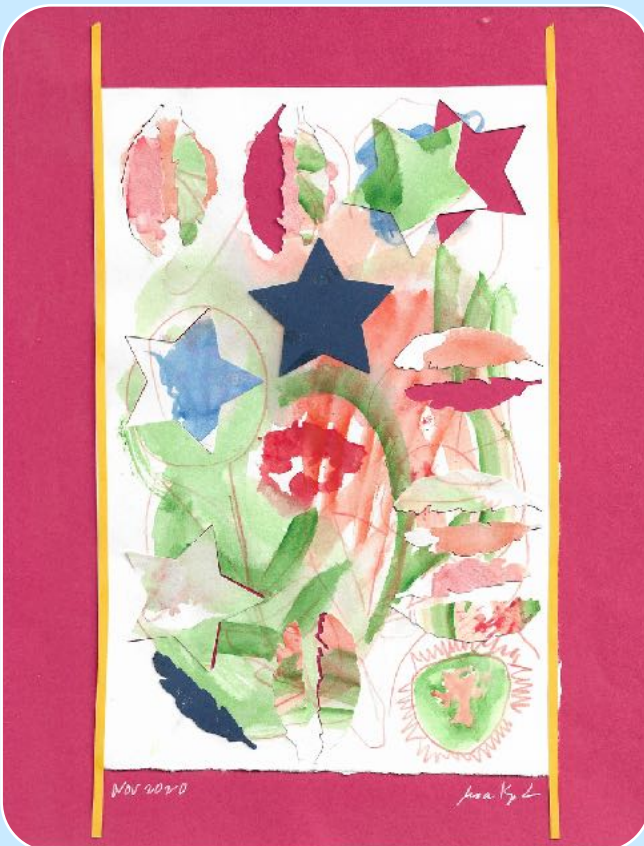
marzenalizurej@yahoo.com

**Lisa Kaplan***Moving Star*

Mixed media
10" X 8"
\$100

This is one of my more light-
hearted works completed last
November, I really hope there
will be more smiles in
February but listening to the
news tells me otherwise!

lkaplanb@gmail.com



Fresh Possibilities

(Continued from Previous Page)

**Barry Friedfertig***VOID*

Mixed media on linen
canvas board
9" x 12"
\$375

The VOID can be
anything brought to
mind or heart. There are
endless possibilities that
can fill it.

retty1938@aol.com

Myrna Harrison-Changar*Winter Repairs*

Virtual Photograph
Digital size

In these strange times, the
construction and building
repair businesses are
thriving on Broadway in the
90's.



Fresh Possibilities

(Continued from Previous Page)

**Margo Mead***Purple Mallow*

Watercolor on multimedia paper
8" X 6" unmatted, unframed
\$100

The last flower before winter closed in on the West Side Community Garden. I was so grateful for them sharing their purple blooms for me to sit beside and paint them. After this it's Central Park, not as intimate, but it still quiets my soul at this terrifying time in America.

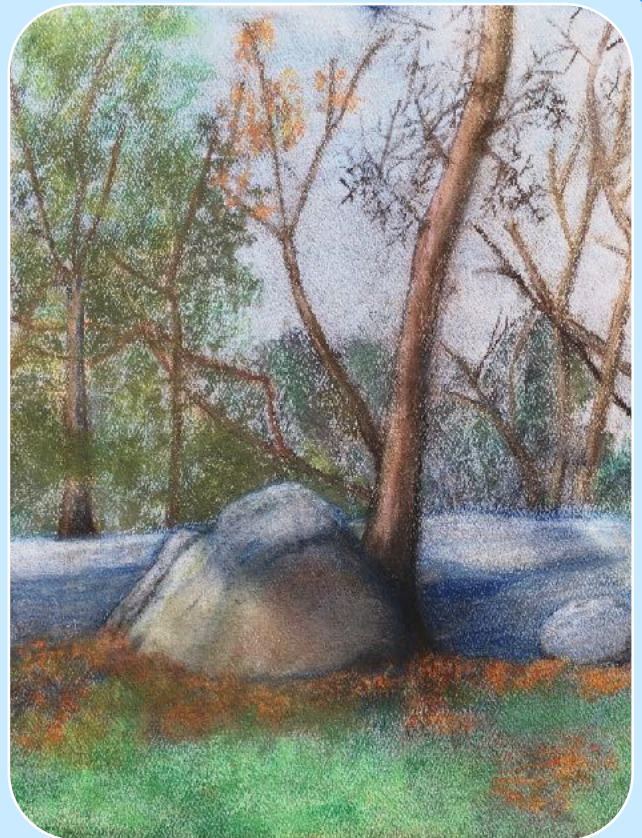
meadart@gmail.com

Linda Lessner*Central Park Rocks and Trees*

Pastel on paper
12" X 9", unframed
\$200

Dec. 22, moderately cold weather, and still a lot of green. What's all this about climate change?

herb101@verizon.net



Fresh Possibilities

(Continued from Previous Page)

Robin Goodstein

#1, 2021

Acrylic on Paper
12" X 16"
\$125

Continuing to explore color during the gray days of winter with hope for a bright spring and a better year.



rob2paris@earthlink.net

Zoe Weissmann*Sava's Garden*

Acrylic paint, fabric petals, knit fabric, foam rubber, loose fibers
36" X 36"
\$1,578



Every February my grandmother, Sava, and I impatiently waited for the new seed catalogs to arrive. For the next two months, we would pour over the wide array of choices. Finally, we would place our order and wait for the precious packets to arrive. Finally the day arrived when the postman delivered them. At this point, grandpa took over to start the seedlings for Sava's garden.

ZBW382@yahoo.com

Fresh Possibilities

(Continued from Previous Page)

**Carol Rickey***Twilight*

Watercolor
12" X 9"
\$175

I was struck by an incredibly vivid sunset at the nearby Juniper Valley Park recently. I rushed home and tried to recreate that mysterious effect with my watercolors.

carolartsy@yahoo.com

By Anne Rudder**Garden Work**

The bullet halts the metric beat-
steel ripped shreds-
red copious.

A child wiped clean from
liquid flesh-
its bursting cries thrown
skyward.

When breath is gone-
it never comes to
breathe again so clearly.

Childhood gardens bloom despite
the dark arms that
sequester-

Tiny buds push
through dirt-
new promise
thrusting upward.

By DeeAnne P. Gorman**Liberty's Vision**

Bearing a torch
Bearing witness
To be or...
Not only the question
But the necessity
To live life, a life, lives
Not lost
Never in vain
The essential right
To land on safe shores
None of us own
But only borrow
For the short time
Humanity is here
Let no one no thing
Block this passage
This right
This journey from birth
The ceaseless struggle
To be, to better
Shelter, strive and flourish
To have and hold
Until we are no more
Until we can rest in peace
Until then...
Welcome

By Jane Lake**At Sea on a Dark Beach**

Churning breakers nearby,
a brisk wind pierces my cheeks.
Birds stand with stick legs wading,
they scope for a crab
stuck in the muck
or in the surging tide

Dark beach.

Grass and foliage like an undersea
exhibit at the History Museum.
Corals, anemones toggle in winter's dry air.
Chapped lips split. I lick warm blood.

At sea, cargo ships are tucked into
their cold, black sheets.
In the horizon golden lanterns create a lull.
"Shhh we are at sea, all asleep.
Wake us tomorrow, we have things to do."

Lit boardwalk, past the rail.
Campfires sputter. Peter.
Is he asleep under blankets piled
high on the bench?

No. Peter pushed his cart elsewhere.
He has a name, and a home.

We all do.
Dark beach.



Cathedral Station, Box 527
New York, NY 10025-0527
212.316.6024
wsacnyc@gmail.com
www.wsacny.org
www.facebook.com/WSACNY
Newsletter published monthly Sept-June
wsacnews@gmail.com

**Broadway Mall
Community Center**
96th Street & Broadway (center isle)
Hours: Wed 6 - 8 pm
Sat & Sun 12 - 6 pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CO-PRESIDENTS Linda Lessner, Margo Mead
VICE PRESIDENT Xenia Garamvolgyi
SECRETARY Carol Rickey (Acting)
TREASURER/FINANCE Silvia Boyer
FINE ARTS Margo Mead
PHOTOGRAPHY Richard Ayala
MUSIC Berik Kulmamirov
CO-POETRY CHAIRS David Elsasser, Carolyn Reus
MEMBERS AT LARGE Carole Barlowe, Carol Rickey
MEMBERSHIP Linda Lessner
PUBLICITY Richard Ayala, Georgianna Grantham

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS
EDITOR Mee Hyun Gerstein
PROOFREADER Linda Lessner
PHOTOGRAPHERS Margo Mead, Georgianna Grantham, Silvia Boyer
WRITERS Carole Barlowe, Anne Rudder, Silvia Boyer, Daniel Boyer, Alice Hunsberger
WEBSITE
WEBMASTER Robyn Gecht

ARE YOU MOVING? Please advise us immediately of any changes in address, phone number, etc..., so we can ensure that you will continue receiving the newsletter in a timely manner. Send this information via mail to the attention of "Membership Chair" or via email to wsacnyc@gmail.com.

EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

(F) = Fine Arts
(P) = Photography
(M) = Craft / MultiMedia

2020

2021

Kudos to our members who have been in WSAC's virtual shows. We are inviting those of you who have not yet participated to join in. We have received appreciative responses from many readers of the Newsletters and this is a great way to keep people aware of your creative efforts. The art pages from virtual shows will continue to be posted on our Facebook page.

IN-PERSON EXHIBITS

November 11-22, 2020
Brian Anderson: Fathers Afloat
Solo Exhibit
Calder Zwicky

VIRTUAL SHOWS

September 1-30, 2020
September Virtual Show
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

December 1-31, 2020
The Gift of Art
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

March 1-31, 2021
March Ahead
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

October 1-31, 2020
October Offerings
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

January 1-31, 2021
Fresh Possibilities
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

April 1-30, 2021
April's Hopeful Tales
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

November 1-30, 2020
Notable November
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

February 1-28, 2021
February Smiling
Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

November 28-29, 2020
**Bayan Kalystekova:
Save Corals on Our Planet**
Solo Exhibit
Berik Kulmamirov

November 29—December 13, 2020
Art from Quarantine
Solo-Exhibit
Calder Zwicky
****Cancelled because of the current Covid-19 surge****

POSTPONED
January Jewels
Group Exhibit
Anne Rudder & Georgianna Grantham

OPPORTUNITIES

POSTPONED
January Jewels
A Fine Arts Exhibition
Co-Curators: Georgianna Grantham & Anne Rudder
****Postponed until further notice due to the current Covid-19 surge****

March Ahead (March) OR April's Hopeful Tales (April)

A Virtual Fine Arts, Photography, and Craft / Multimedia Exhibit
Co-Curators: Linda Lessner & Margo Mead

You must be a current member in order to participate in either virtual exhibit.

Please email a JPG, to Margo Mead at meadart@gmail.com with Your Name, the Title, Medium, Size of work, and a few sentences commenting on your creative endeavor. If you would like, also include your email address and work price. Make sure it's a good photo so it will print well.

If you have any questions, please contact Margo at 212.663.1355. The exhibit fee for all virtual shows will be \$10. Please send your check made out to WSAC to:

Margo Mead
41 W 96th St., #13C
New York, NY 10025

OUTSIDE SHOW

Imagine This II...

A Fine Arts Exhibit
(including sculpture)

April 2021

Show Fee: \$40

Boricua College Gallery
3755 Broadway
4th Fl. (155-156 Sts)
212.694.1000

Curators:
Linda Lessner &

Margo Mead
41 W 96 St, #13C
New York, NY 10025
212.663.1355
meadart@gmail.com

HEALING AND RENEWAL

There is a healing for each of our wounds, but this healing is waiting in the indirect, oblique, and nonanalytic side of our nature. We need to be mindful of where we are damaged, then invite our deeper soul in its night-world to heal this wounded tissue, renew us, and bring us back into unity. If we approach our hurt indirectly and kindly, it will heal. Creative expectation brings healing and renewal. If you could trust your soul, you would receive every blessing you require. Life itself is the great sacrament through which we are wounded and healed. If we live everything, life will be faithful to us.

John O'Donohue - Excerpt from ANAM CARA