



Fantasy

National Juried Exhibition
Arc Gallery & Studios – San Francisco, CA

Catalog cover designed by Stephen C. Wagner
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FANTASY

National Juried Exhibition
May 11—June 8, 2024
at Arc Gallery & Studios
1246 Folsom Street, San Francisco, CA



About *Fantasy*

“Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living, it's a way of looking at life through the wrong end of a telescope.”

- Dr. Seuss

Fantasy can be described as a free play of creative imagination, a forming of mental images, wondrous or strange. Fantasy is vital for the human mind. Psychoanalysis and counseling have their place, but the most important tool we as humans have in order to tackle reality, is the creation of fantasies. The juror approached his selections by considering what constitutes fantasy art and exploring the narrative behind the imagery and imagination.

About Arc

Founded in 2011, Arc Studios & Gallery features ten artist studios, a 1,000 square foot art gallery, two smaller galleries and an art education center, along with the Kearny Street Workshop office, the San Francisco Artist Network office and Cafe Suspiro Coffee Shop. Arc is located at 1246 Folsom Street between 8th and 9th Streets in San Francisco's South of Market neighborhood. Arc supports the making of quality art in all media, provides a nurturing environment for artists to create their work, builds a community of artists to encourage exploration of art, provides resources for the professional development of visual artists, and promotes appreciation of the visual arts in the City of San Francisco.

www.arc-sf.com

@arcgallerysf



Juror's Statement

Fantasy is grounded in our ancient oral traditions and mythologies and in the history of art to the present day. The exhibition, *Fantasy*, at Arc Studios, is a seminal contemporary exploration of the subject with extraordinary visual depictions by contemporary artists in an expansive breadth of media: painting and drawing, collage and mixed media, photography, sculpture, and more. As a juror, I was entranced by the artwork the artists presented – alternately strange and wondrous, and humorous and terrifying, often at the same time. This exhibition invites the viewer to come in close, explore the fantasy worlds created by these artists, and to set their own imagination free.

Just as in our ancient mythologies, unexplained natural phenomena witnessed in the present age can inspire the creation of new deities and elaborate creation myths. In the oil painting on canvas, *Stardust Journey*, high fantasy ascends into a universe where a heroic female figure arrayed in futuristic body armor suspends a pennant of DNA, and stands on an elemental orb encasing a recumbent figure. Fantasies about space have informed this artist's work since childhood after witnessing a dramatic UFO event with their brother over the Wullenweber on the Lummi Reservation in Washington State.

Fantasy creatures have been incorporated as gargoyles into the facades of Gothic cathedrals but have also inhabited children's books and illustrations, where they speak and wear clothes and do all manner of fantastical things. Seen one way, fantasy creatures in art can be benevolent and humorous. Yet the same depictions can also be the stuff of nightmares. In a work of glazed ceramic art, *Gremlin Bowl*, a head of a fantasy creature is presented with large ears and a protruding forked tongue. The artist asks the viewer to consider, "Will the fantasy be a terror, or will it be a delight? Is it a monster, or is it a miracle?"

In another work on view, *Mistress of the Robes* from the series *Angels, Ghosts and Fairies*, the artist combines painting and photography to explore themes of the esoteric and the initiate from a feminist perspective. While being a juror for this exhibition, I found that fantasy in art is not limited as a specific genre or stylistic approach. Fantasy also has the power to inform and express ideas as a vehicle for narrative in the very best of contemporary art.

- Philip Bewley
Principal, Philip Bewley Art Advisory
President, Visual Art Council, Vita Brevis Club
PhilipBewleyArtAdvisory.com

Philip Bewley is a Curator and Art Advisor with over twenty-five years of experience in the curation of fine art and in the production of exhibitions. He is the President of the Visual Arts Council for Vita Brevis Club (VBC). Philip has led the Council in awarding significant funding for the VBC fellowship artists and support and promotion for VBC member artists. Prior to VBC, he was Director and Curator at DZINE Gallery, producing exhibitions featuring Bay Area artists. Philip was also previously Gallery Director for Therien & Co, Inc. His design for the San Francisco Decorators Showcase presenting artist Elina Frumerman was featured in *Architectural Digest* and other publications. As a Fine Art Advisor, he has placed significant works of art from international galleries with private collectors. Philip has volunteered for arts organizations including participating as a juror and panelist for ArtSpan, as a juror for SFWA, and with artist portfolio reviews at Arc Gallery.



PHILIP BEWLEY DESIGN

FEATURING ARTISTS:

Laura Abrams
Ric Ambrose
Peter Bartczak
Annette Batchelor
Jen Blalock
Collette Brooks-Hops
Trung Cao
Zoe Caron
Steven Carpenter
Ted Chin
Kordula Coleman
John Comisky
Edward M. Corpus
Susan Costes
Preston Craig
Sarah Curtiss
Anthony Demartini
Kees den Breejen
Katie Dever
Natasha Dikareva
Julien Dourlen
Corinne Farago

Theresa Felice
Kristen Fissell
Pilar Gagliasso Barnes
Lance Glasser
Ken Gold
Eric Hamlin
Angela Han
Trish Harding
Tessa Harrison
Peter Hassen
Karen Hochman Brown
Tori Hong
Jeanne Ichnowski
Mythili Kattupalli
Jaki Katz
Eric Kelly
Katlyn Koester
Joseph Kosdrosky
Melissa Lackman
Christopher Lane
Donnalyne Lefever
Jessica McCoy

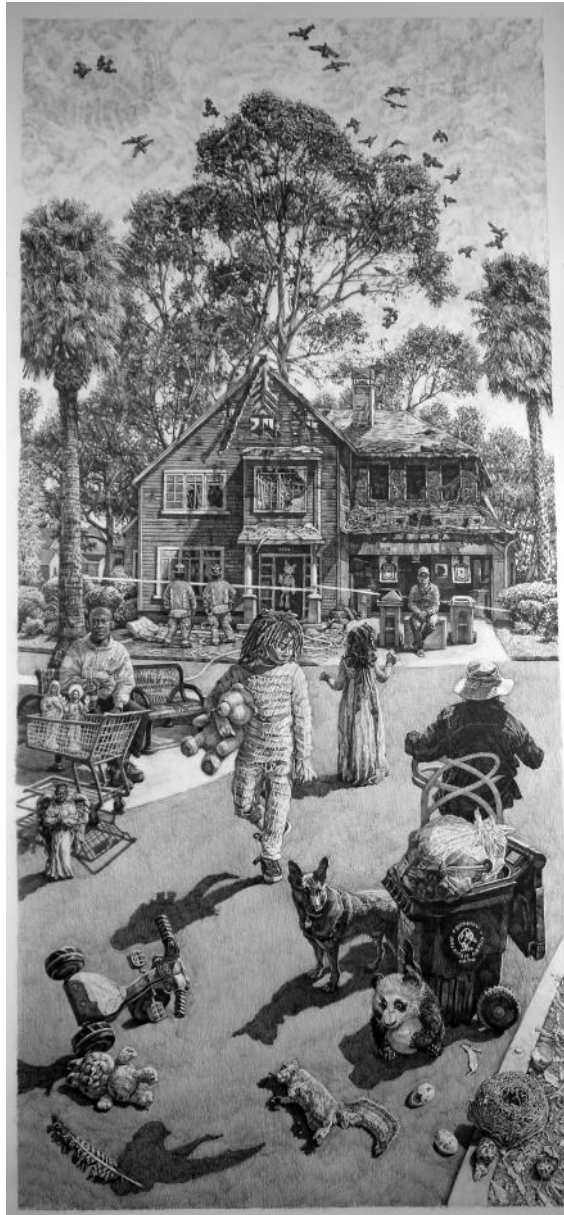
Ethan Mertz
Cynthia Miller
Christopher Mooney
Ina Morava
Amber Odell
Craig Odle
Victoria Hendrix
Oppenheimer
Dominique Pfahl
Silvia Poloto
Heather Renaux
Liese Ricketts
Jennifer Robertson
Randy Rocchi
William Salit
Sterling Sam
Gary Schwartz
Pauline C. Scott
Marsha Shaw
Steve Trettel
Yuting Wang
Josh Wright

Laura Abrams



Underwater Drama, 2023, Foil, paper, found images, lace, glitter, straw, 12 x 12 inches *online

Ric Ambrose



The Day After, 2023, Graphite on arches paper, 79 x 37.5 inches *gallery

Peter Bartczak



Octo-Go-Round, 2015, 1/2" MDO wood panel, 48 x 75 inches *online

Annette Batchelor



Sweet Dreams I, 2024, Oil on canvas, 8 x 10 inches *online

Jen Blalock



Waterbear Parade, 2023, Analog collage, 14 x 14 inches *online

Collette Brooks-Hops



Transubstance, 2022, Acrylic on canvas wrap, 24 x 36 inches *online

Trung Cao



Warriors of Serpent Island, 2021, Gouache and acrylic on canvas, 48 x 36 inches *gallery

Zoe Caron



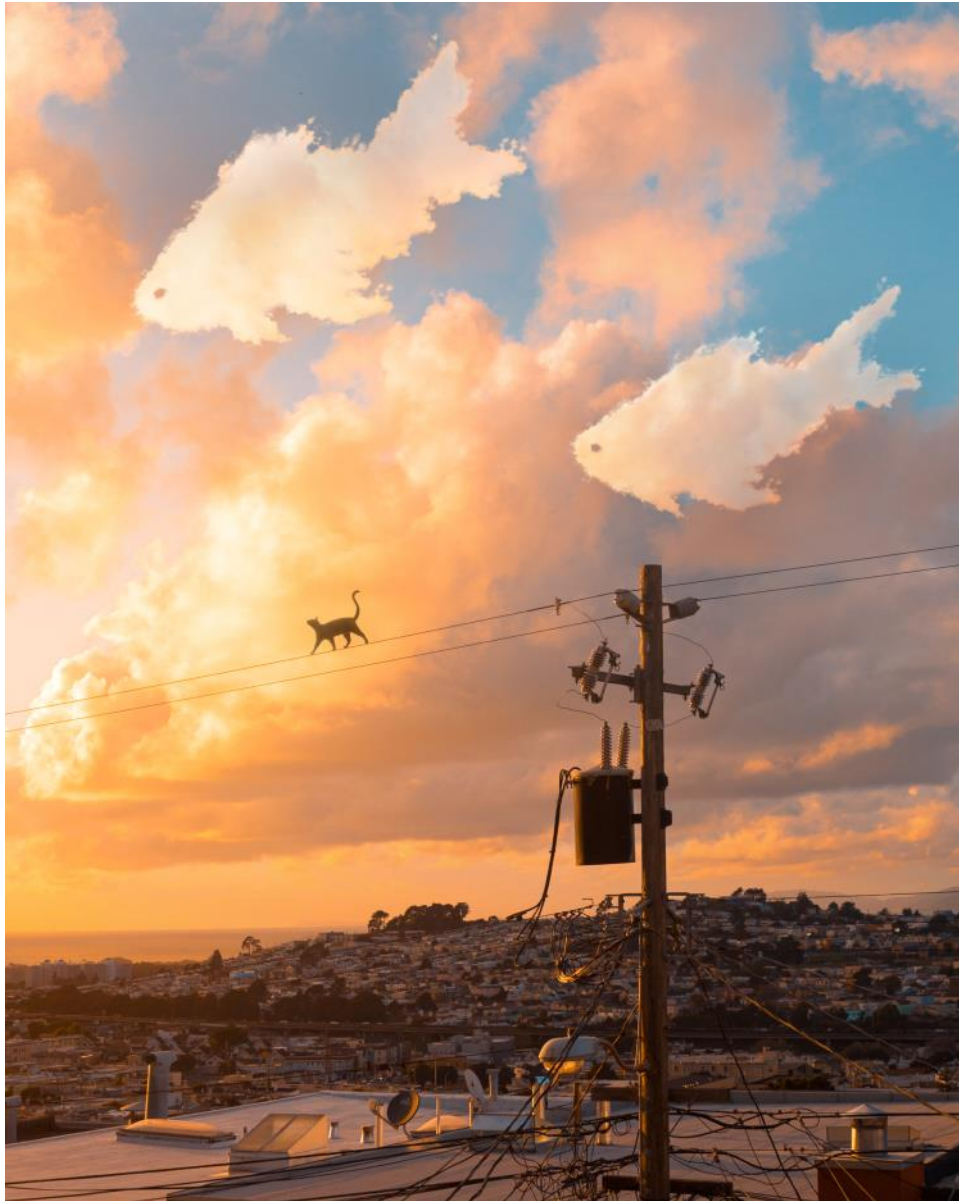
Battle in the Black Forest, 2024, Paper and alcohol markers, 12 x 18 inches *gallery

Steven Carpenter



Morpheus, Bringer of Dreams, 2020, Bronze, 13 x 10 x 6 inches *gallery

Ted Chin



A Cat's Adventure, 2019, Metal print, 30 x 24 inches *online

Kordula Coleman



The Snow Queen, 2023, Raku fired earthenware with glazes and underglazes, 19.5 x 6.5 x 5.5 inches *gallery

John Comisky



Mustard Bubbles, 2024, Printed on polished metal, 30 x 25 inches *online

Edward M. Corpus



The Witch (Star Jasmine), 2023, Acrylic paint on canvas, 48 x 36 inches *gallery

Susan Costes



*Let's Get This Party Started, 2024, Oil on canvas, 18 x 24 inches *online*

Preston Craig



Waiting for the Hatchlings, 2018, Acrylic on wood panel, 14 x 11 inches *online

Sarah Curtiss



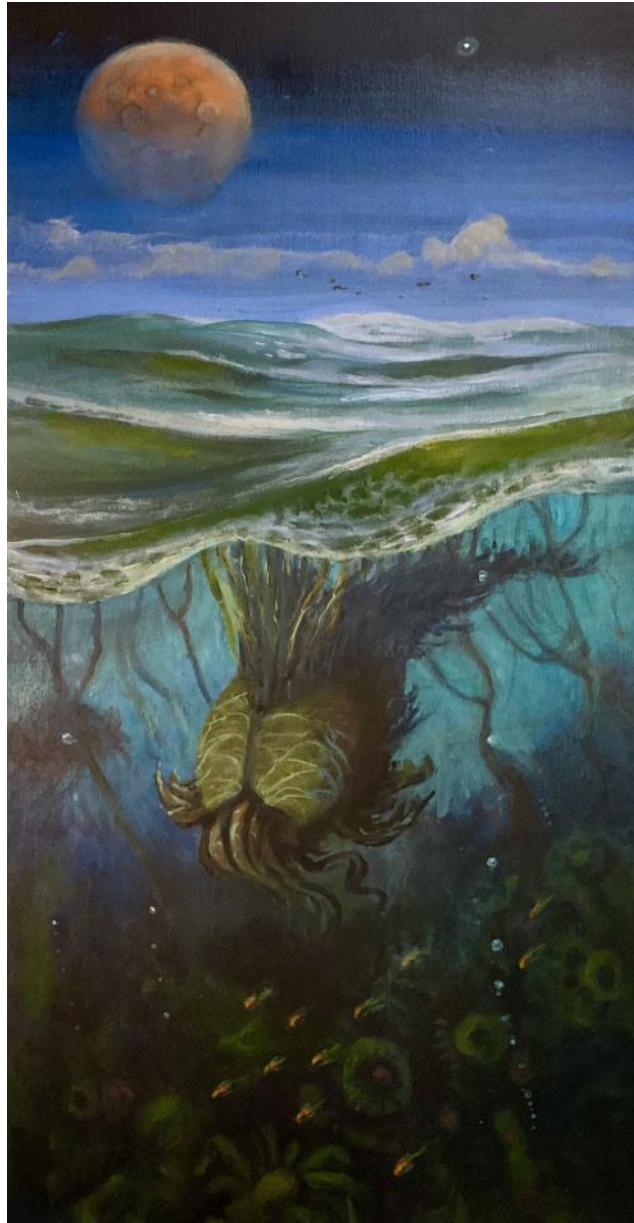
BeeSpoke Season 1, 2024, Book on magazine quality paper, 11 x 8.5 inches *gallery

Anthony Demartini



Tree 2.0, 2023, Redwood, oak, walnut, plywood, 18 x 12 x 20 inches *gallery

Kees den Breejen



Elsewhere, 2024, Acrylic on canvas, 30 x 15 inches *gallery

Katie Dever



Hold Together, 2020, Print on glossy paper, 30 x 24 inches (framed), *gallery

Katie Dever



Descent, 2023, Print on paper, 24 x 20 inches *online

Natasha Dikareva



*Every Woman Should Have a Snake, 2023, Stoneware, stains, glazes, 17 x 8 x 5 inches *gallery*

Julien Dourlen



*Red Oni and Space Tiger, 2021, Canson paper colored and painted,
tissue paper for the night sky, 12 x 16 inches *online*

Corinne Farago



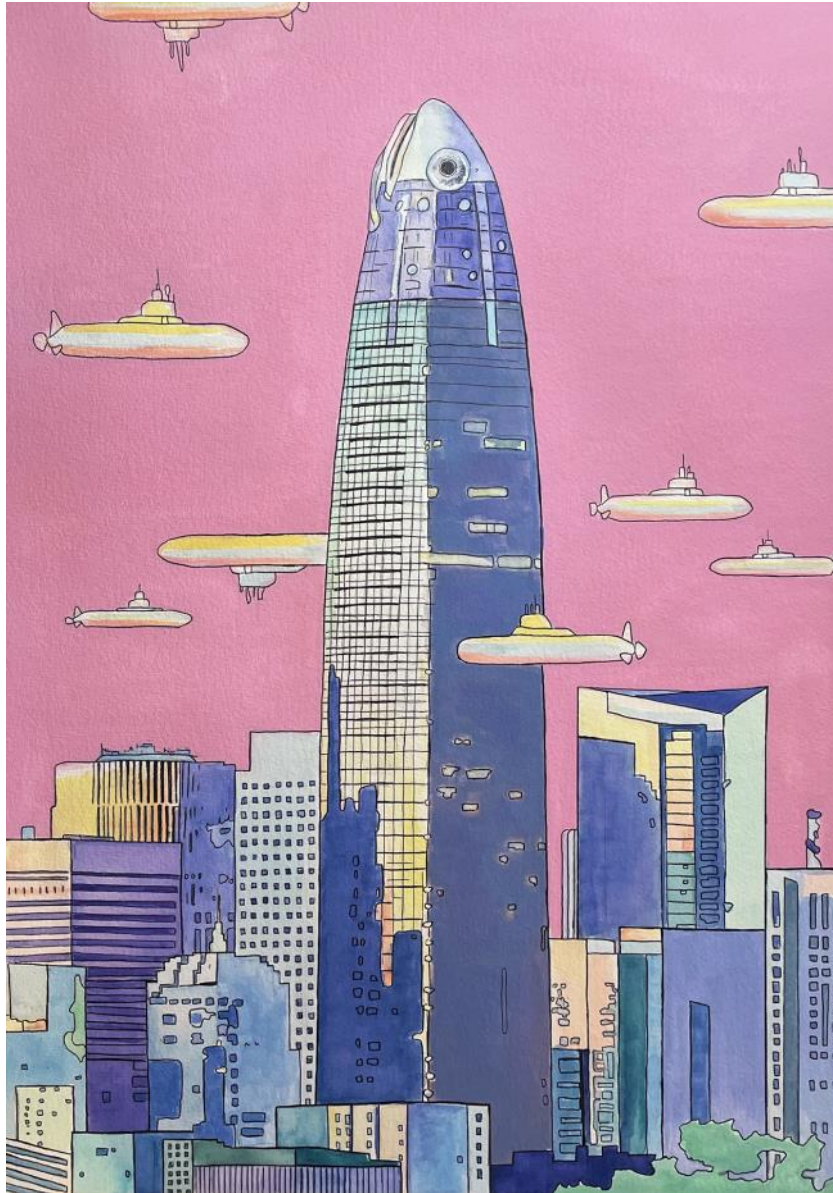
Lucy's World, 2018, Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 18 inches *online

Theresa Felice



Juniper, 2024, Glazed ceramic, 8 x 5 x 5 inches *online

Kristen Fissell



Salesfish Tower, 2023, 300lb hot pressed paper, 26.5 x18.5 inches *online

Pilar Gagliasso Barnes



Properly Buried, Properly Kept, 2023, Ink, beer, wine, and watercolor
on watercolor paper, 18 x 14 inches *gallery

Lance Glasser



Enlightenment, 2007, Bronze, 15 x 11 x 6 inches *gallery

Ken Gold



I See You, 2023, Pigmented encaustic wax paint, damar resin, wire, mesh, paper, sculpted clay legs, 12 x 14 x 10 inches *online

Eric Hamlin



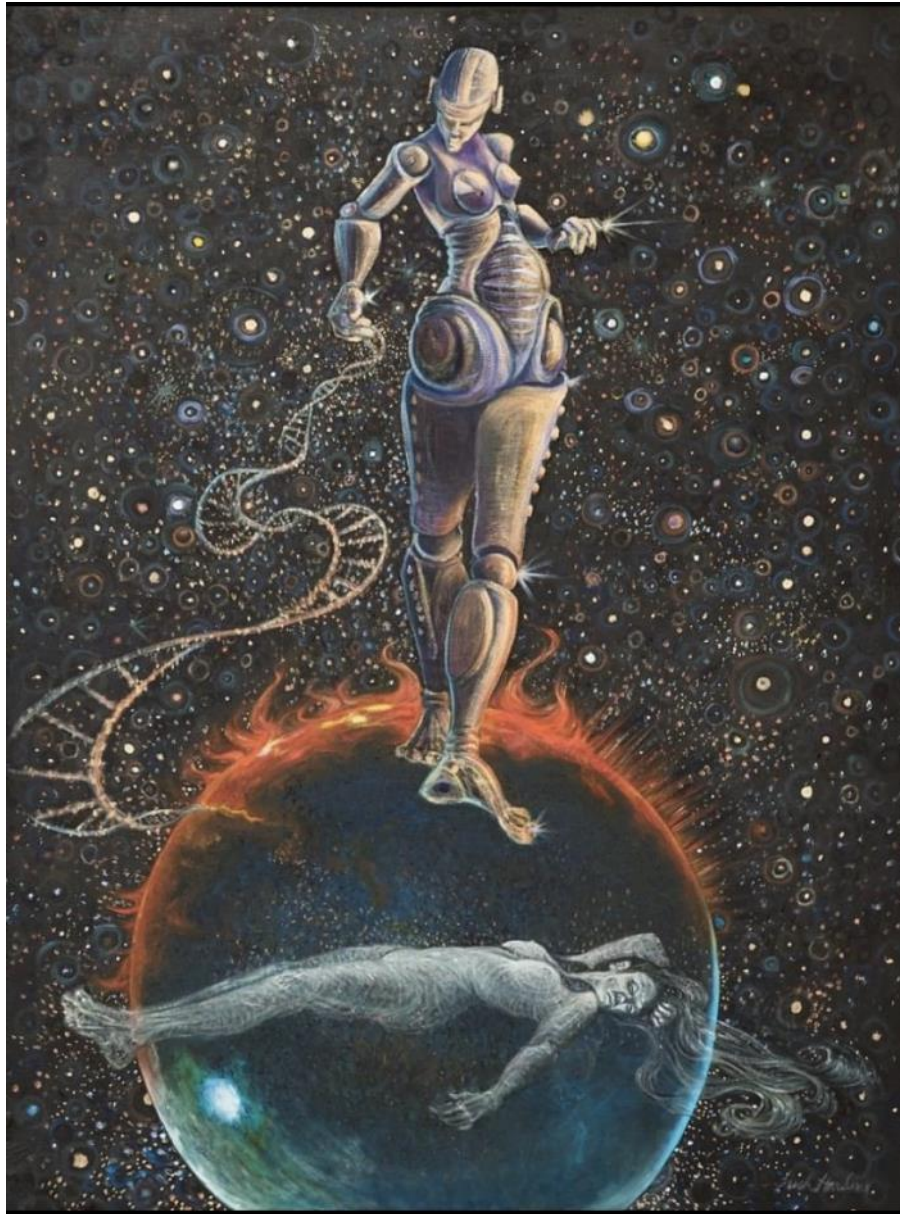
#shamCosmology2025, 2023, Acrylic on mounted canvas, 24 x 20 inches *gallery

Angela Han



Serpents of Khaos II, 2024, Oil and acrylic on gessobord, 24 x 36 inches *online

Trish Harding



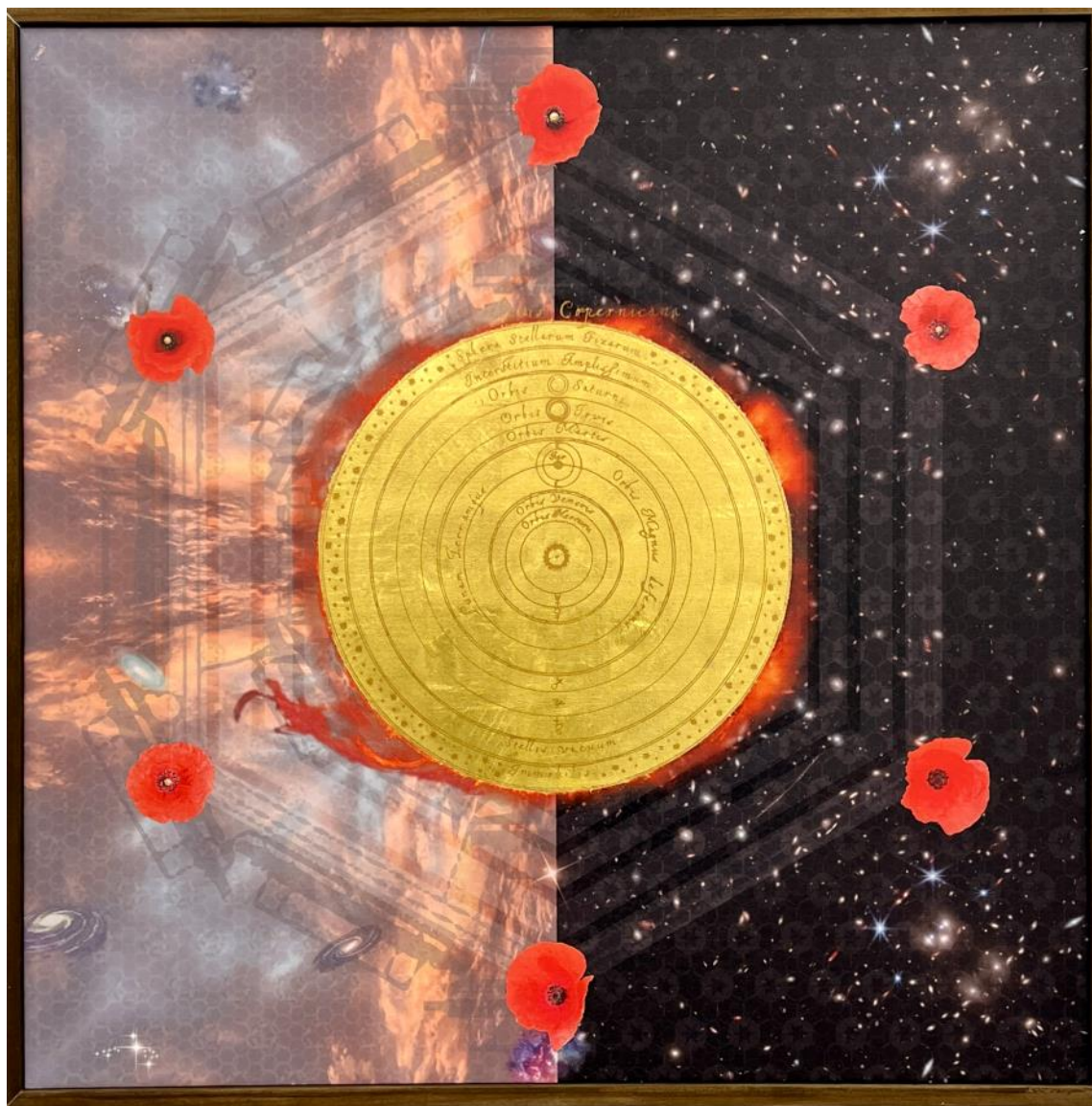
Stardust Journey, 2017, Oil on canvas, 72 x 48 inches *award

Tessa Harrison



Neon Idyll, 2022, Acrylic on Kozo paper, mounted on cradled wood panel, 24 x 36 inches *online

Peter Hassen



Heavenly Spheres 2 Sol, 2023, Digital collage direct printed acrylic paint with metal leaf and oil based metallic silkscreen ink, 38 x 38 inches *online

Karen Hochman Brown



BANANAS, 2021, Print on wood, 13.8 x 22 inches *gallery

Tori Hong



Kumiho's Heart, 2024, Glass seed beads, synthetic fabric, and cotton embroidery floss on cotton muslin, 23 x 19 inches *online

Jeanne Ichnowski



Flight: Red Doors, 2023, Inkjet print on archival paper, edition of 50, 16 x 16 inches, 25 x 25 inches framed, *online

Mythili Kattupalli



Trapped, 2021, Acrylic, 30 x 24 inches *gallery

Jaki Katz



Doe, Guardian Queen Of The Forest, 2024, Sculpture, fiber, acrylic paint, found objects, 16 x 16 x 14 inches *gallery

Jaki Katz



An Ofrenda For The Gulf, 2012, Acrylic on canvas, 60 x 48 inches *online

Eric Kelly



The Exaltation, 2022, Digital print on pearlescent paper mounted on cradled wooden panel with resin, 12 x 18 inches *online

Katlyn Koester



Doorway to the Fae, 2024, Handspun wool and mixed fiber yarn, metallic thread, needle felted wool, glass beads, cotton, 51 x 26 x 2 inches *gallery

Joseph Kosdrosky



Fun with Patchwork Boating, 2023, Acrylic on canvas, 12 x 12 inches *online

Melissa Lackman



Faerie Circles, 2023, Encaustic and oil, 20 x 16 inches *online

Christopher Lane



Ode to Bees, 2020, Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 20 inches *gallery

Christopher Lane



Blessed are the Peacemakers, 2022, Acrylic on canvas, 60 x 48 inches *online

Christopher Lane



We Reap What We Sow, 2019, Oil on canvas, 36 x 60 inches *online

Donnalyne Lefever



The Queen, 2024, Oil, 20 x 24 inches *gallery

Jessica McCoy



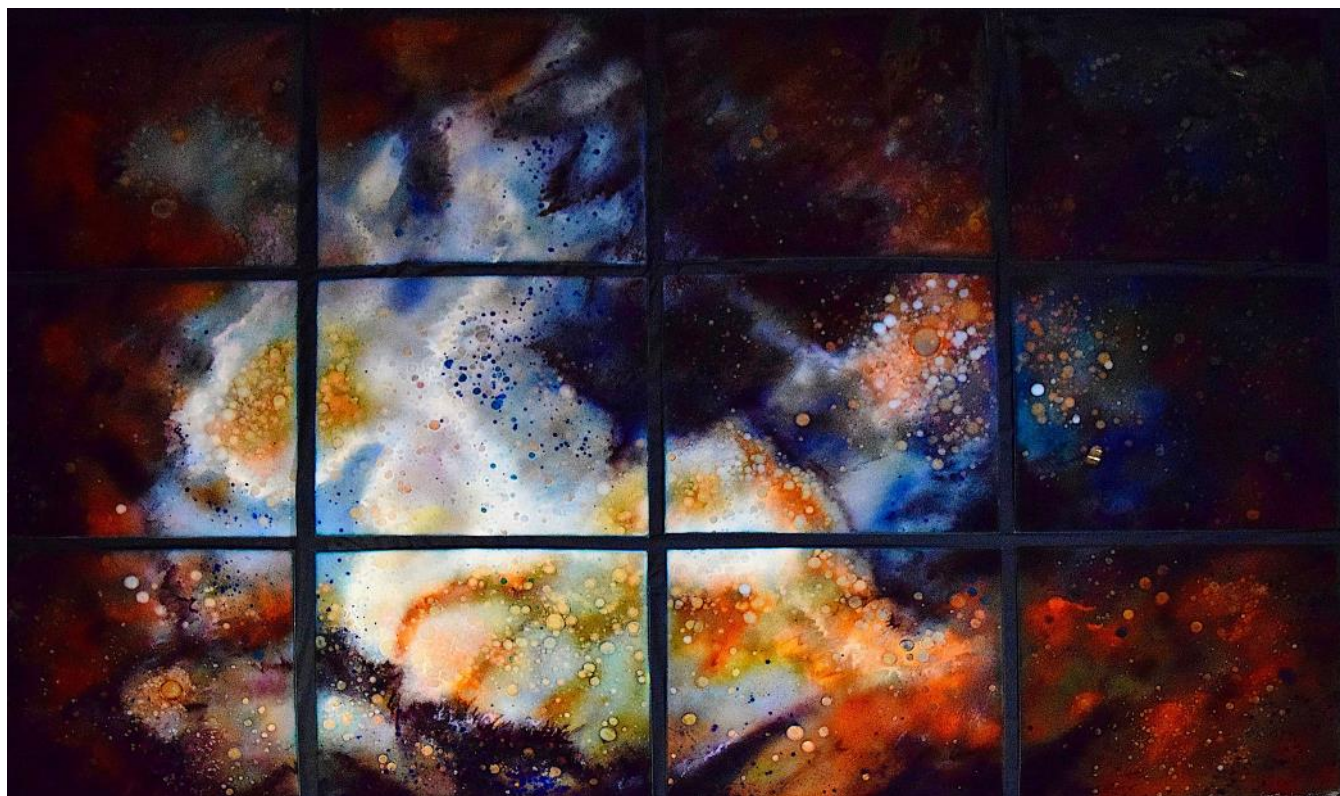
*Thos Are Legs That Were Their Legs, 2023, Water-soluble oil, 36 x 60 inches *online*

Ethan Mertz



*Fall of the Goddess Monro, 2024, Oil on canvas, 30 x 24 inches *online*

Cynthia Miller



Scintillating New Star, 2017, Vitreous enamel glass and 'jewels' kiln
fired onto burnished copper, 44 x 66 inches *online

Christopher Mooney



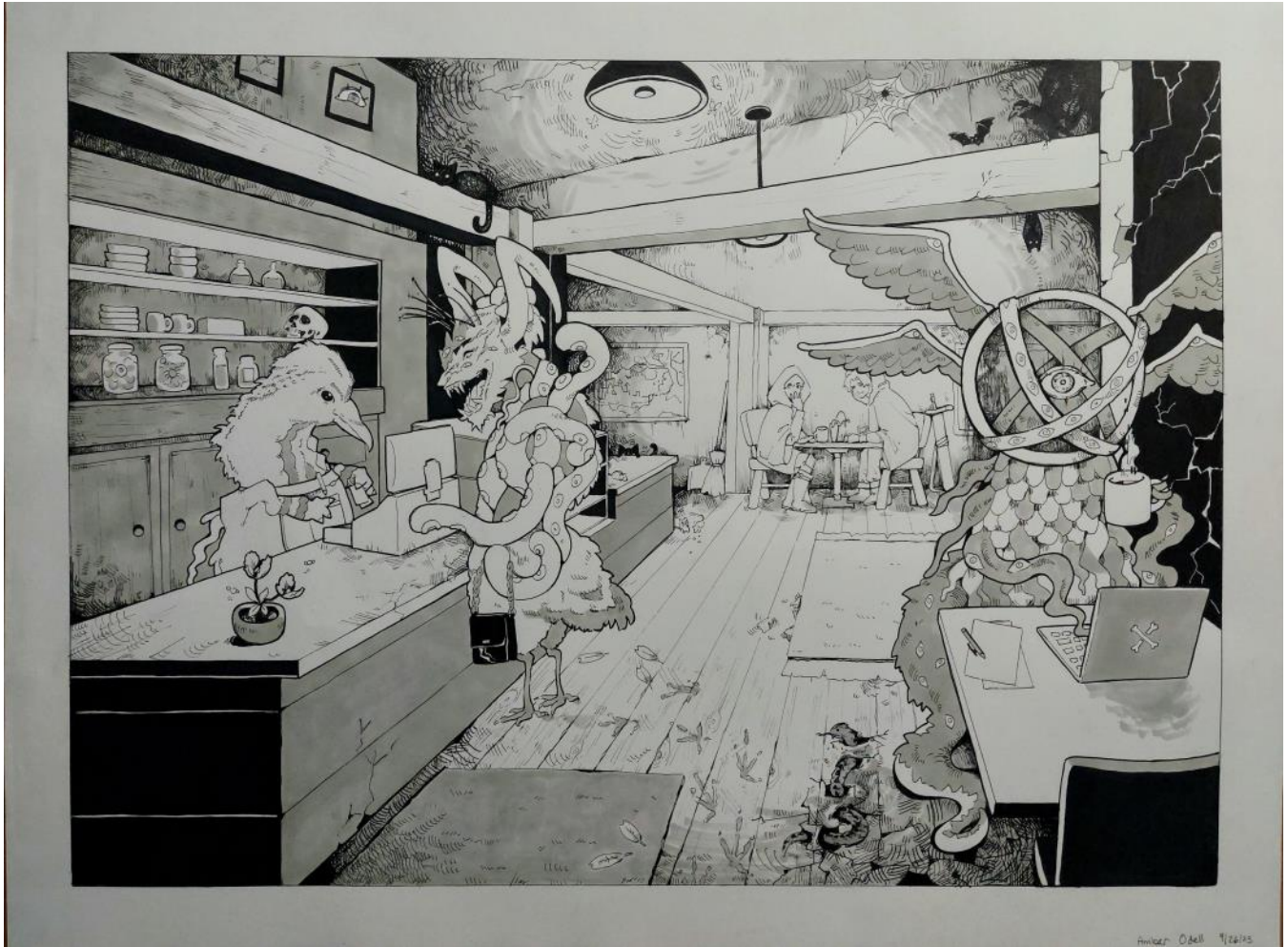
Elf, 2020, Oil on canvas, 40 x 30 inches *gallery

Ina Morava



The Fairy Tail, 2019, Fresco, egg-tempera on gesso-board, 23 x 18 inches *gallery

Amber Odell



Unwelcome Guests, 2023, Ink on paper, 18 x 24 inches *gallery

Craig Odle



Sleepy Time, 2024, Acrylic on canvas, 16 x 11 inches *online

Victoria Hendrix Oppenheimer



Gremlin Bowl, 2023, Ceramic, mid-fire oxidation, 6 x 11 x 9.5 inches *award

Dominique Pfahl



Globetrotter, 2024, Paper, wood, paint, 30 x 20 inches *online

Silvia Poloto



Angels, Ghosts and Fairies: Mistress of the Robes, 2023
Acrylic paint and photography on wood panel, 36 x 36 inches 39 x 39 inches framed, *award

Heather Renaux



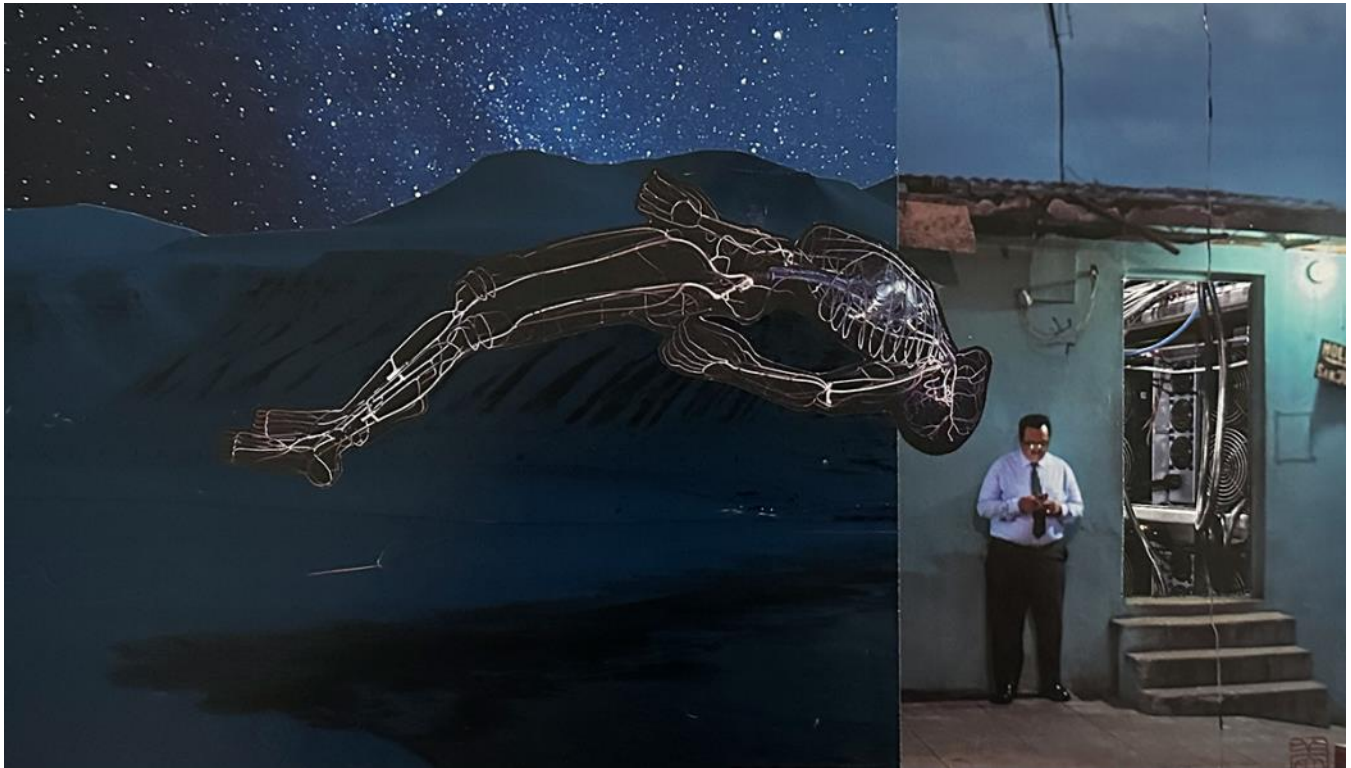
Home, 2023, Acrylic, metallic inks, spray paint and oil on canvas, 36 x 24 inches *online

Liese Ricketts



Big Island Filly, 2023, Archival print in antique cardboard and double sided glass enclosure, 8 x 10 inches in 11 x 14 glass enclosure, *gallery

Jennifer Robertson



Beam Me Over, 2023, Paper, 7.5 x 13.5 inches *online

Randy Rocchi



Wind, 2021, Arches 88 paper, 30 x 22 inches *gallery

William Salit



Vandermeer's Ark, 2023, Collage and acrylic on clear gessoed cradled panels, 12 x 48 inches *gallery

Sterling Sam



*Blue light towers, 2022, Photograph printed on canvas, 40 x 30 inches *online*

Gary Schwartz



SAND WITCH, 2023, Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 24 inches *online

Pauline C. Scott



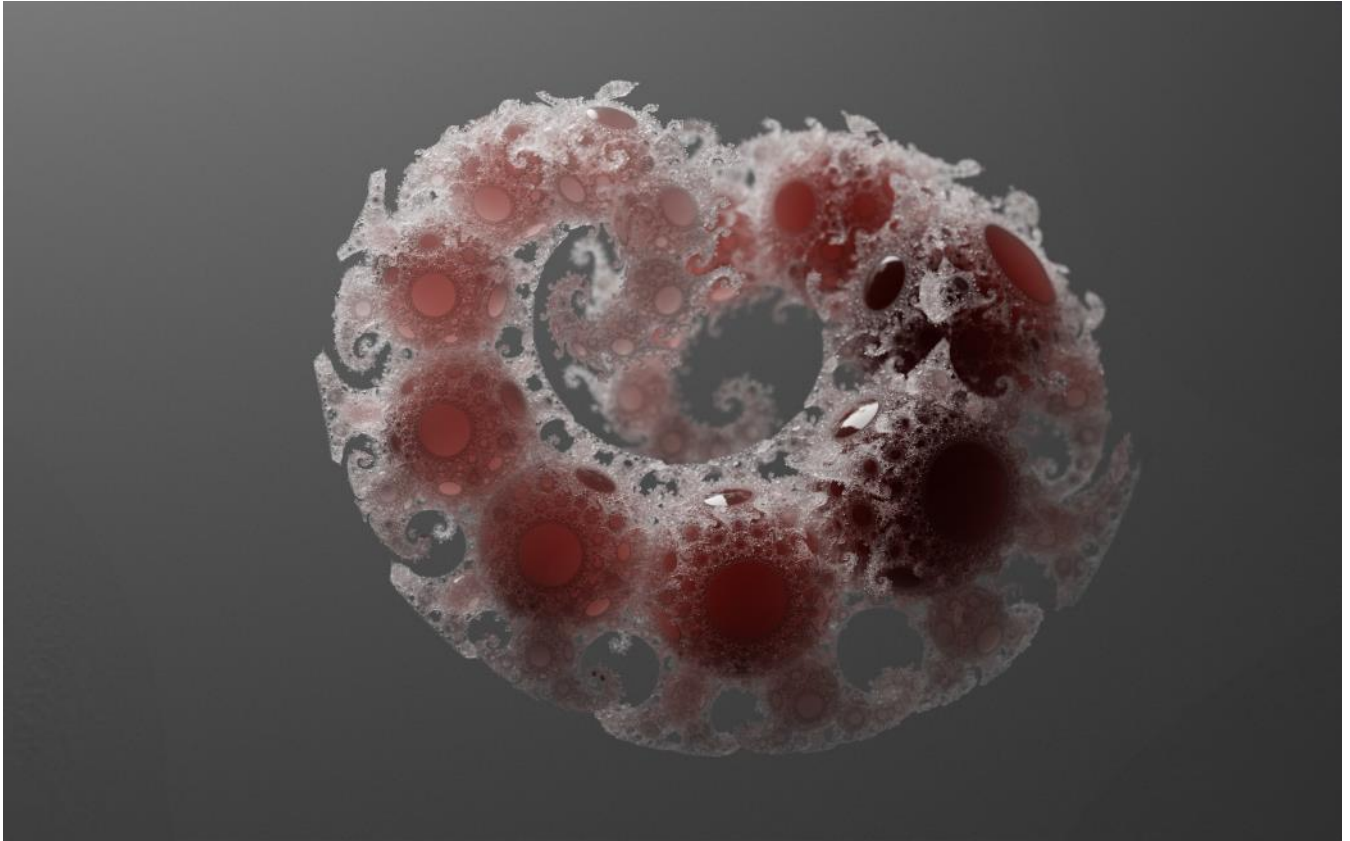
Kindred Spirits, 2018, Acrylics on canvas, 24 x 36 inches *gallery

Marsha Shaw



See, 2024, Paper, thread, 3.5 x 20.25 inches *gallery

Steve Trettel



Creatures of the 4th Dimension, 2023, Ink print on matte aluminum backing, 20 x 24 inches *online

Yuting Wang



*24 Solar Terms - Minor Cold-Rejuvenation, 2022, Watercolor on paper, 33 x 24 inches *gallery*

Josh Wright



The Disciple, 2024, Oil on linen, 29 x 26 inches *online

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