

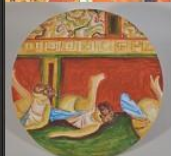


HORIZONS  
REIMAGINED

AN EXHIBITION OF ARTWORK  
BY MEMBERS OF THE  
AREA ARTISTS ASSOCIATION

SOUTH BEND  
MUSEUM OF ART

SEPTEMBER 22-NOVEMBER 5, 2023



# ***Horizons Reimagined***

***An exhibition of artwork by members of the  
Area Artists Association***

September 22 – November 5, 2023

First Friday Reception: October 6, 2023, 5-8 pm EST

## **South Bend Museum of Art**

120 Doctor M.L.K. Jr Blvd, South Bend, IN 46601

Phone: 574-235-9102

Gallery Hours: Wednesday-Sunday Noon-5 pm EST

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## About Horizons Reimagined

A horizon in a painting often indicates a plane; a place of stability for the eye. And, typically we consider a horizon to be singular. Yet with *Horizons Reimagined*, artists show us the possibility of many. Are there many different worlds? Many different futures? Is a horizon a goal to which we should aspire? Is it far off in the distance and out of reach? Or is the horizon an indication of what is to come? Can we expect or hope for joy, beauty, peace or should we take heed of its early warning? This theme creates the possibility of dreaming impossible things and creating imaginative visions of what is, what could be, what was or what might be. In this exhibition, members of Area Artists Association have reimagined the concept of “Horizons.”

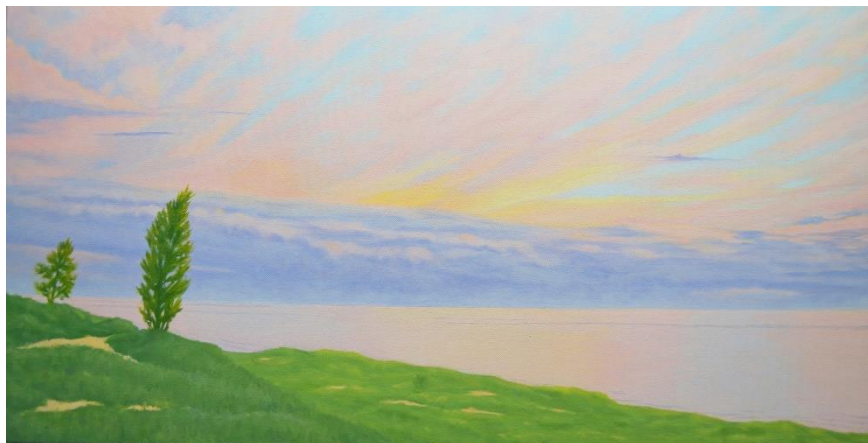


**Figure 1: Cosmopolitan. © Tom Brand. Oil on panel. 21 X 28 inches. \$600**

## **Tom Brand**

Tom Brand has been an active part of the art community in Northwest Indiana, exhibiting throughout the region for over 20 years. His abstract paintings are in collections in the U.S. and abroad. Born and raised in Indianapolis, he came to Chicago as a student to attend the School of the Art Institute on the GI Bill after WWII. After retiring from an occupation as a commercial printer, he devoted himself solely to a career as an artist.

Brand paints in oil on panel. Applying a traditional method of glazes to an initial spontaneous sketch, he arrives at a composition of abstract motifs and organic elements. His finished works suggest imagined landscapes which may or may not contain a horizon line. He relies on the viewer to interpret the meaning in the work based on their experience and understanding of visual art. As an artist, he tries to make the work provocative enough to engage the viewer and give them “handles” to allow their imagination to work. Website: [www.artisttombrand.com](http://www.artisttombrand.com)



**Figure 2: Two's Company. © Laurie Schirmer Carpenter. Oil on canvas. 18 x 36 inches. \$1450**

### **Laurie Schirmer Carpenter**

Art is about seeing. For me, it is about seeing beyond horizons, real or imagined, and capturing what is seen in paint. Most of my paintings deal with actual horizons in the landscape but become meditations on nature; going beyond what is seen in the painting of them. I have been pursuing this “going beyond” for over 40 years, painting horizons of the land, of the sky, of the water in hopes of also providing a path to this heightened state of consciousness for the viewer.

I grew up in northern Illinois, going to college in Denver. I received a BFA and BA in Art History from the University of Colorado, Denver, in 1988. After living there for 27 years my husband was transferred to the Midwest where I have become reacquainted with the landscape and horizons of my youth..

Website: [www.laurieschirmercarpenter.com](http://www.laurieschirmercarpenter.com)





**Figure 3. Solstice. © Jane Cowley. Oil and cold wax. 12 x 9 inches. \$550**

### **Jane Cowley**

Jane Cowley is a portrait and landscape artist and works out of her studio located in Michigan City, Indiana. She studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the Drisi Academy of Fine Art in Glenwood, Illinois. Jane is an award winning artist whose body of work spans over thirty years. She has shown her work in New York, Illinois, Michigan and Indiana.

About this work: I approached the theme of Horizons Reimagined with a literal interpretation. I struggled with the concept until I reviewed some recent landscapes I had repainted because I was not pleased with the initial outcome. The reinterpreted version was more expressive and captured the mood I had intended. If I had not explored and reimagined the images, I would have settled for a competent, but less than satisfactory work. Website:

[jcowley.fineartstudioonline.com](http://jcowley.fineartstudioonline.com)



**Figure 4: Vertical Sunset.** © Anko, Anneke Dekker. Acrylic on canvas. 36 x 24 inches \$895

### **ANKO, Anneke Dekker-Olthof**

Dutch by origin, African by osmosis and American by assimilation, ANKO's full-time passion as an artist draws from her time living in Africa and her interest in travel and photography.

Growing up in Europe, living in Africa for thirteen

years and traveling extensively brought her a unique awareness of different cultures, landscapes and traditions. She works mostly in acrylics, non-representational and abstract and enjoys the play with materials, textures, colors and found objects. She loves the working process: the surprises and unexpected effects that happen while working.

This painting is a representation of a trip to one of the African game reserves. During the evening drinks' stop, at the edge of a forest and red rock formations, the sun set at the face of the rock, giving the strange illusion that there could be two horizons, making you wonder which way was up. Website: [www.ankoarts.com](http://www.ankoarts.com)



**Figure 5: San Antonio © Deb Dyer. Mixed Media. 54.75x 20.75 inches \$800**

## **Deb Dyer**

Deb Dyer works in mixed media utilizing maps, collage, stitching, stenciling, weaving, and paint. She is intrigued with layering, pattern and transparency in her work as well as the traditional feminine work of weaving, embroidery, quilting and appliqué.

The underlying surface is a simple aviation map containing landmarks, dimensions and other necessary information to use while piloting a small plane.

The map is missing one aspect as important as the instruments in the plane – the horizon. I have added this missing layer unto the map with poured ink, highlighted FAA designations, weaving, stencils, collaged paper and embroidery. These

transparent and opaque layers allow the viewer to see the underlying landscape of cities, roads, and lakes, as well as perceive the invisible lines the FAA draws around airports. The enhanced map allows for a novel take on navigating the landscape around us. Website:

[www.debdyerart.com](http://www.debdyerart.com)





**Figure 6: Aspens in Abstract (in infrared). © Carol Estes. Photograph on Acrylic. 36 x 24 inches. \$525.**

## **Carol Estes**

Entering the art world late in life, Carol is a self-taught photographer. Now in “Carol World,” is found both signature work using camera motion and images shot with a camera converted to see only infrared light. Both techniques make a play on the story, and shakes up what the human eye sees as the visual horizon. The grass and sky in this piece indicate how specialized the light spectrum really can be. She is also a writer of poetry and prose, performing on the infamous stage at the Green Mill in Chicago. In 2016, she self-published her first book, "Memories Evoked." Carol is working on a new book, and one on her great grandfather's poetry and stories after he emigrated from Wales in the late 1880's. Website:

[www.welcometocarolworld.com](http://www.welcometocarolworld.com)



**Figure 7: Yellow Rising. © Kevin Firme. Forged Steel and Glass. 14 x 18 x 16 inches. \$800**

### **Kevin Firme**

I create pastel drawings on paper and sculptures of forged steel and blown glass. I can describe complicated imagery in the drawings that I can't in sculpture. The sculptures are inspired by the drawings. My drawings have linear gestures that move together with the whole image. The intention of the artwork is to impart a sense of peace and well-ordered dynamism. When I look at my work, I envisage a sense of calm and wonder at this world I create. I see what is in front of me as digestible and not overwhelming. I am depicting a small part of the natural world and not the scale of the whole world.

My work is about a world in harmony where everything fits in its place. It portrays a personal horizon that gives me hope for the future. I have a BA in Art from DePaul University and an MFA from the University of Notre Dame. Email: [thefeedstore@yahoo.com](mailto:thefeedstore@yahoo.com)



**Figure 8: Transitions in Time. © Dorothy Graden. Mixed media on cotton rag. 42 x 30 inches. \$1,250.00**

## **Dorothy Graden**

As I imagine the concept of horizon, I think of the history of our planet, those who have lived here and the millions of years of horizons experienced. Humans have been a small part of this journey, yet as I include humans, I see the aspirations of those who came before. Early people had many of the same thoughts and wishes that we have: staying warm, having enough to eat, hoping that tomorrow will bring joy and safety.

I have developed an innovative artistic style through years of historic research, observation and investigation. The inspiration for my work is the result of hundreds of miles of hiking throughout the mountains and deserts of North America studying prehistoric rock paintings. My mission is to bring awareness of ancient art to people of today. Traveling to these wonderful and remote sites has involved descending into canyons, dodging rattlesnakes, and scrambling up cliffs. I love the adventure of the hunt. Website:

[www.dorothygraden.com](http://www.dorothygraden.com)





**Figure 9: Moving Below the Horizon in the Villa of Mysteries, © Diane Grams. Fresco on wood panel. 28 inches round \$3500**

## Diane Grams

Diane Grams is an award-winning artist and writer who builds rich, permanent surfaces and strong narrative using the ancient media of fresco. This fresco, *Moving Below the Horizon*, references frescos found in the Villa of the Mysteries in Pompeii once buried below volcanic ash for nearly 2000 years. “I was inspired by the brilliant colors, the movement of figures and the faux marble effects,” she said.

“Through work with Italian fresco painters, I learned how to achieve vivid colors associated with Pompeiian frescos.” Her BA in painting (Indiana University, Bloomington) and Master/PhD in cultural sociology (Loyola University Chicago) are augmented by residencies at Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, Ragdale Foundation and Oxbow School of Art. She is vice-president of Area Artists Association. She exhibits in Chicago and Northwest Indiana, and hosts workshops from Somersault Studio 12 on Patreon.com and at her studio at St. Mary’s Studios in Michigan City, IN. Website:

[dianegramsart.wordpress.com](http://dianegramsart.wordpress.com)



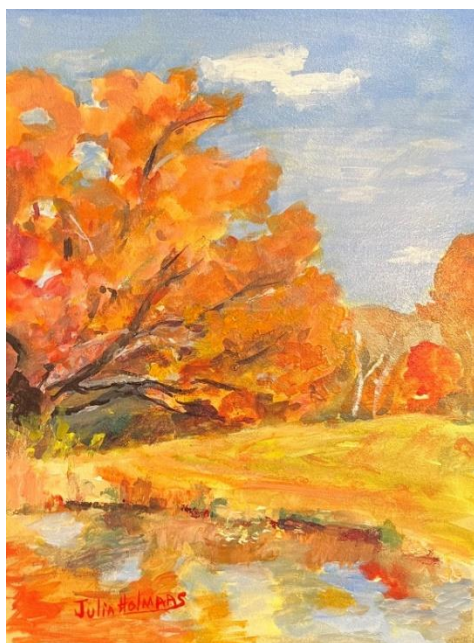
**Figure 10: Free at Last. © Kuhn Hong. Oil on Canvas. 24 x 30 inches. \$2000**

## Kuhn Hong

Dr. Kuhn Hong, a retired Chicago physician, began painting during a medical mission in Ethiopia as a volunteer radiologist from 2013 to 2018. He is active with the Duneland and Chicago Plein Air Painters and has recent showing at the Korean Community Center of Chicago, and Palette and Chisel Academy of Fine Art. In 2022, he visited Korea for solo exhibitions at 6 different galleries in 4 cities.

About this work: “Many Ukrainian families ran for safety while Russian soldiers invaded their homeland. Some were fortunate enough to get out by train. I, myself, experienced a similar situation as a young boy in Korea. We left everything behind, running for our lives with no place to go when the North Korean Communist Army tanks crossed the 38 Parallel Line without notice. My heart sank to watch the terrible images from TV almost every day and I started to paint.” Website: <https://www.kuhn hong.com/>





**Figure 11: October Light. © Julia Holmaas. Gouache on Aquabord. 12 x 9 inches. \$500**

## Julia Holmaas

For generations, this old oak tree has grown on a fence line in Tennessee, marking changes to the property and creating new spaces. I have been painting the shape and horizon of this tree for several years, exploring new mediums and surfaces while doing so. Since childhood, I have combined my love of botany and art into painting the natural world: landscapes, flowers, trees, animals, and people. I paint from life as much as possible. After studying biology in college, I spent my career with the National Park Service, including as Chief of Interpretation at Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. While working as an Exhibit Curator at the Park Service Design Center in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, I began learning watercolor. I've been active in the NW Indiana arts community since 1995 and currently serve as board president of The Art Barn School of Art, where I teach *Introduction to Watercolor*. Website: [www.juliaholmaas.com](http://www.juliaholmaas.com)



**Figure 12: Fortune. © Christine Hubbell. Colored Pencil on Drafting Film. 13.5 x 13.5 inches. \$225**

### **Christine Hubbell**

Christine Hubbell is an illustrator trained in botanical and scientific illustration at the Denver Botanic Gardens. Her work has traveled nationally as part of juried exhibitions. She is an advocate for creating and preserving bird habitat, and is passionate about the birds she illustrates. After many happy years in Colorado, she's delighted to be "back home again" in Indiana.

About the work: My colored pencil paintings blend storytelling with natural science illustration, drawing inspiration from local wildlife to explore nature in unconventional ways. Through whimsy, I invite viewers into storybook moments where familiar animals appear in unlikely settings. Each piece suggests an illustration separated from its book, a moment in time where heroes or villains pause in the midst of their journey. By reimagining the horizon where story and illustration meet, I hope to open a space for reflection on our personal response to nature. Website: [chubbellart.com](http://chubbellart.com)

**Figure 13: King of Disks. © Laurel Izard.**  
**Cotton thread on cotton fabric. 10 x 8 inches. \$950**

### **Laurel Izard**

Laurel Izard is an award-winning artist who exhibits her artwork throughout the country. She currently lives and works in Michigan City with her artist husband Edwin Shelton and three cats. She received a BA from Northern Illinois University, with majors in art



and anthropology, and a MFA in ceramics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Currently she creates art full-time out of her home studio. Her philosophy as an artist and teacher is that an integral part of being human is to be creative.

About this work: My hand-embroidered images are a loose (very loose) interpretation of the archetypes of the tarot cards, which are created using DMC floss on cotton fabric. This work reflects the love I have had for hand-stitching ever since childhood—for creating seventy-eight embroidered tarot images is a huge undertaking. The imagery is straight out of my imagination and heavily influenced by vintage science fiction, illuminated manuscripts and contemporary art. Website: [laurel-izard.com](http://laurel-izard.com)



**Figure 14: Here Be Dragons. © George Kassal. Photo print on canvas. 20 x 30 inches. \$275**

### **George Kassal**

The horizon is that line where land or water meets the sky and where perspective lines merge. It is a boundary of our vision where the unknown begins. Ancient map makers drew sea serpents and dragons beyond the horizon. It is a metaphor for the limits of our knowledge. Because it fades before our approach like the end of a rainbow, it can only be reached by imagination.

I am an artist who uses photography as a media. My early education and experience as a geologist have fostered a deep interest in landscape as subject matter; later education and experience in the arts has refined my ability to see and express using images. My goal is to show others what I see and present it in a way that causes the viewer to reconsider and appreciate the fragile beauty around us. Website: [www.Kassal-studio.com](http://www.Kassal-studio.com)



**Figure 15: The Venturi Effect. © Connie Kassal. Charcoal and acrylic on wood. 24 x 30 inches. \$400**

### **Connie Kassal**

Conscious Soul blows across a pipe. The Venturi Effect draws Life Force up from the Ocean of Love and Mercy and expels it as the Breath of Life. New horizons await.

My work has been shown in the Indiana Governor's Mansion, several Northwest Indiana museums and galleries, and a collaborative piece with my photographer husband is in the collection of the Indiana Museum Fine Arts Collection. I managed three small local galleries including the Mayor's Gallery, and was on the Mayor's Council for the Arts and Humanities.

I am a founding member of the Lubeznik Center for the Arts and its Area Artists Association. I was given the Donald W. Hanson scholarship while obtaining my Master's Degree at Governors State University. I taught drawing and painting at Prairie State College, then at Purdue North Central. I work in charcoal and paint on wood or canvas Website: [www.Kassal-studio.com](http://www.Kassal-studio.com)





**Figure 16: Wrinkled Horizon. © Timothy D. Lace. Gelatin Silver Print. 16 x 20 inches. \$400**

### **Timothy D. Lace**

“In every part of every living thing / is stuff that once was rock /  
In blood the mineral / of the rock // Iron the common element of  
the earth...” excerpt by Lorine Neideker, *Lake Superior*. (1968)

Wrinkled Horizon represents a return to the Calumet Region of the Southeast side of Chicago. This work considers the line where natural environments and human endeavors come together but also grate against each other, observations of industrial fragments of the American Dream. With my cameras, I've been on a voyage to discover the world and all its environments. Much of my work is produced through traditional photographic methods using film and printed on gelatin silver paper. My work has appeared in exhibitions throughout the Chicago and Michiana Area including “Silver Prints,” a solo show at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts. My photos have been published in Pan-o-Ply Michiana, Chicago Life Magazine, The Chicago Reader, New City, Art in America, The Progressive, Crafts Report, Screen Magazine, Illinois Arts Alliance Quarterly, and the Chicago Artists Coalition News. Website: [tdlacephotography.wordpress.com](http://tdlacephotography.wordpress.com)





**Figure 17: Seeing the Light. © Nancy Natow-Cassidy. Acrylic on Canvas. 48 x 36 inches. \$2500**

### **Nancy Natow-Cassidy**

I live in a forest yet see so much more than trees. I see light, joy and beauty mixed with chaos and grief. I see the wholeness of the world and the dissolution of it. This painting is the horizon I see, both in my eyes and of our country ~ beautiful and disjointed, broken into discrete pieces of bright color and darkness. Color and light make me happy and keep me hopeful. I breathe deeper and my heart expands in the presence of color and organic shapes. Trained as a dancer, I incorporate movement into my painting. Often, I use a long stick found in the forest, moving prior to painting, extending my reach and gathering energy. These gestures translate onto the canvas.

I received my degree in painting from the University of Michigan. In Chicago I was a modern dancer, a graphic designer and a stylist for photography, and have been a full time artist for many years. My work is in numerous private collections across the country and will be shown at Alma Art and Interiors in Chicago.

Website: [nancynatowcassidy.com](http://nancynatowcassidy.com)



**Figure 18: Cataclysmic Ascension. © Teresina Pavel. Acrylic paint, pastel and marker on wood. 20 x 20 inches. \$400**

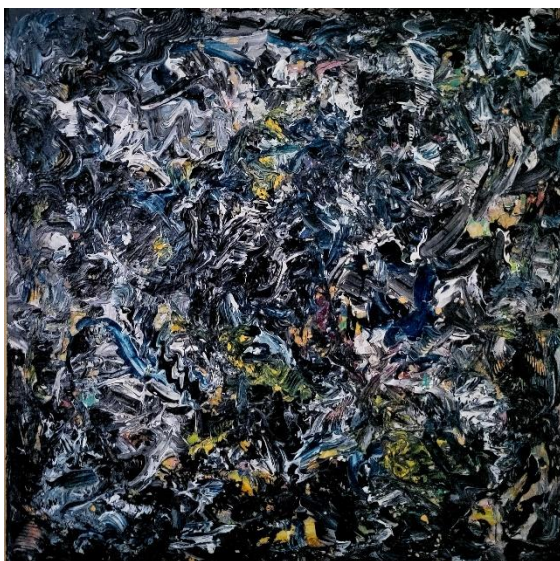
## **Teresina Pavel**

Unknown Horizons...Ever-expanding Edges...Never-ending Hope

What I need to express through my art has evolved. Years ago, moved by the beauty of nature, I tried to capture it. The past few years, I've felt the need to express my fear regarding what threatens that beauty. Now I want to express faith that an unknown future will continue to honor the universal force of life.

Just as what I need to express has evolved, so does each piece of my artwork. I find that making art takes me on an emotional journey. This journey starts with a feeling that is magnified by what I see, hear and write. My artwork is guided by the materials I use, the wonders they offer, and the insights they bring. My emotions create the art...which creates new emotions...and then, once again, art. A wondrous cycle.

Teresina has an M.S.in Education, with an endorsement in Art Education and has completed extensive graduate coursework in Art Therapy.



**Figure 19: Universe.** © Ginny Scott. Acrylic on canvas. 24 x 24 inches. \$400.

## **Ginny Scott**

This painting reflects “Horizons Reimagined.” Its horizon is not linear but a look into a different dimension in the universe to see vastly different futures. As we venture forth into space and different worlds, we do not know what we will encounter or how our lives will change on earth.

Ginny has had over 35 years as an exhibiting abstract expressionist artist. She exhibited widely in the New York region with the noted Febland Group before relocating to the Midwest. She was a juried member of Artist Equity in New York for many years. Since moving to the Midwest, she has exhibited in juried, group and solo shows. Her work has been published for many years into American Artwork Book and Studio Visit Book, which are national and international art books. As a member of the Area Artists Association, she is also a member of Northern Indiana Artists in South Bend. Ginny has a B.S. degree in Behavioral Science and a master’s degree in social work. Website: [www.ginnyscott.com](http://www.ginnyscott.com)

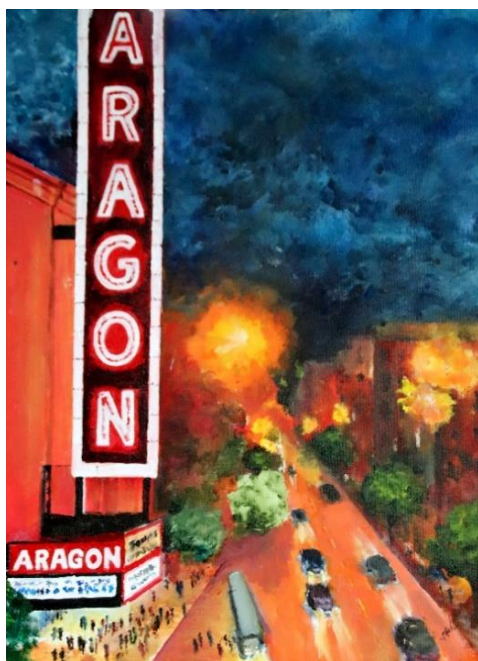


**Figure 20: Nonduality Existence. © Edwin Shelton. Mixed Media. 44 x 35 inches. \$3600**

## Edwin Shelton

Edwin Shelton earned his BFA in sculpture from Virginia Commonwealth University and achieved his MFA in sculpture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Edwin Shelton completed his final credits at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Skowhegan, Maine. Since 2020, Shelton has worked from a studio in the St. Mary's Studios building in Michigan City. The space has allowed him to create his large sculptures. It is conveniently located next to Marquette Catholic High School where he teaches art.

About this work: I strive to create a new horizon with the formal yet unexpected qualities of these assemblages that reflect my spiritual inquiries. The recombination of discarded, unloved and broken objects are the building blocks of my innovative sculptures. The visual chaos I create is contrasted by my obsessive-compulsive attention to surface detail. Website: [edwinshelton.com](http://edwinshelton.com)



**Figure 21: The Aragon.** © Joan Spohrer. Acrylic on canvas. 20 x 16 inches. \$500

## Joan Spohrer

My career as a magazine editor and freelance work brought me into the worlds of photography, website design, and art. Out of curiosity and a strong desire to paint, I enrolled in an artists' workshop in 2002 with the Pinhook Painters in South Bend and still paint with them every Wednesday. Through the years I've shown and won awards at many regional exhibits and art fairs. I am an organizer of the annual Leeper Park Art Fair in South Bend and a member of Northern Indiana Artists, St. Joe Valley Watercolor Society. I paint in watercolor, acrylic, and digitally on my iPad.

About Horizons: When travelling, I photograph immediate scenes, and yet often find in my images something intriguing in the distance. I become interested in what is beyond the focal point. In this painting I wondered, looking deep into the dark, endless miles of the Chicago grid, what is happening away from the welcoming lights of the Aragon Theater? Website: [joanspohrerwatercolors.com](http://joanspohrerwatercolors.com)





**Figure 22: Waypoints. © Carole Stodder. Acrylic on canvas. 25 x 22 Inches. \$900**

## **Carole Stodder**

Carole Stodder was born in Minnesota. She came to the Chicago area for her college education and remained in Chicago for much of her life. She completed a Master of Fine Arts Degree at the University of Chicago and taught at the Laboratory School. During the 1980's, she established a studio on the west side of Chicago and was active in the art community as an arts administrator. In 1996 she moved to northwest Indiana where she has continued to paint and exhibit her work.

As a painter of abstractions, Carole Stodder calls herself a “modern classicist” for her emphasis on composition and design. This is literally a different horizon than that of a traditional landscape or still life. She is concerned with the art of plane surface design and spatial composition. Space is shallow and controlled. Within a work, there is a balance between positive and negative forces and a sense of resolution as forms and colors echo each other. Email:

[cstodder@comcast.net](mailto:cstodder@comcast.net)





**Figure 23: Earth's Sentry. © Jamie Wallen. Cotton hand-dyed textile, thread painting. 30 x 36 inches. \$1200**

## Jamie Wallen

Jamie Wallen is an award-winning international textile artist and teacher who has developed his own techniques to complete his art quilts that travel throughout the world. This piece, "Earth's Sentry," represents horizons reimagined by focusing on new commitments to the earth by nature itself. "Earth's Sentry" is hopeful about the planet's partnership with its non-human species. It serves as a watchtower seeking to reverse the damage created by humanity.

Jamie creates custom hand-dyed fabric to showcase his thread painted focus points. He then completes the pieces with his own signature art quilting to provide and draw out dimension and texture to the textile panels.

Jamie has taught and exhibited work throughout the U.S., Canada, Australia and Europe. Not only has his art won awards but he has also received four consecutive Teacher of the Year awards within the textile art community as well as producing his original line of best-selling tools for the textile arts community. Website:

[www.jamiewallen.com/](http://www.jamiewallen.com/)

**Area Artists Association (A3)** is a non-profit organization of professional artists affiliated with the Lubeznik Center for the Arts (LCA) in Michigan City, Indiana. Artists who live/work within 60 miles of Michigan City, Indiana may be juried into the association through review by current A3 members.

The purpose of our organization is to support, recognize and encourage regional artists and provide opportunities for exhibitions of their art and for professional development. Through our regular exhibitions, we also provide communities throughout the northwest Indiana region access to the diversity of work produced by area artists. Among the benefits A3 members share are:

- opportunities for one-person and group exhibitions
- participation in lectures, demonstrations and discussions taking place at our bi-monthly meetings
- involvement in other communal projects initiated by the group to further the aims of A3

Membership to A3 is \$25.00 annually and paid in addition to LCA membership each December. Members, who attend meetings, volunteer to help mount exhibits and serve on committees are considered members in good standing. Fine artists interested in being part of A3, may visit our website to complete the application form and attach a brief exhibit history, artist statement and 5 images of recent work. For more information, please feel free to contact us.

**Area Artists Association: President, Carol Estes;  
Vice-President, Diane Grams; Treasurer, Laurie Schirmer Carpenter;  
Secretary, Jane Cowley**

**Email:** [areaartistsassociation@gmail.com](mailto:areaartistsassociation@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.areaartistsassociation.org](http://www.areaartistsassociation.org)

**Mailing address:** Area Artists Association, c/o Lubeznik Center for the Arts, 101 W 2nd Street, Michigan City, IN 46360