Artists bios

Diane M. Aramony - Artist



Diane is a self-taught painter and photographer. The visual effects of her work are suffused with brilliant, often startling hues, with strokes of colors that unfold slowly to reveal bits and pieces of what is recognizable but at the same time mysterious and spiritual. Like her painting, her photography is a celebration of life in all its complex beauty.

After her mother passed away in 2014, Diane began experimenting with mixed media painting, using dried flowers as her brushes. Her three-dimensional mixed media images are deeply personal. Through her use of paint with flowers and leaves, she creates a unique textured language, drawing inspiration from the colors and shapes of the flowers.

Diane's work has also been shown in art shows at Worcester State

University. She lives in New York City.

"A Promise of Paradise"
22" x 15" Acrylic and Mixed Media

Photographs: "Summer Field, Normandy" "Colors of Rue de Buci, Paris"

Prudence DeBenedetto - photographer



I've been a member of Marble Collegiate Church since 2014. I love taking 35mm film photos and eating interesting food. A New Yorker all my life, I look forward to seeing the world and capturing it one photo at a time.

Photographs: "The Daffodils"

"Bloom of Pink" (online only)

Carole E. Gregory - writer



Carole E. Gregory earned a B.A. in English from Youngstown University in 1968 and a M.A.E.T.S. (Masters in Education and Theological Studies from Union Theological Seminary and Teachers College, Columbia University in 1976). Her poetry a The Poetry of Black America. This writer is a wordsmith in New York City.

Poems (online only): "The Summer Solstice"
"Saturday at Governors Island & the Pentecost on Sunday"

Karla Hendrick - Photographer



Karla Hendrick is an actor, director, voiceover artist, and master teaching artist, committed to work that supports and promotes education, connection, empathy, social justice and thinking differently. Karla appeared at Marble in the inaugural production of The Theatre Upstairs, downstairs@marble in its world premiere, A Light in the Night. As a member of The Drilling Company Theatre (TDC), she frequently collaborates on both their Shakespeare and new works as actor and director; at TDC Karla created the role of Betty in the Off-Broadway NY Times Critic's Pick hit The Norwegians, for which she was cited by the New York Times as one of the top 25 Magical and Quirky performances that year. Karla has performed on stages up and down the

eastern seaboard and on New York stages for decades. Karla's film appearances include Household Accounts, Avow, and the animated musical feature, The Champion. As a director, Karla's productions of Hamlet in Bryant Park (with a female Hamlet), All's Well That Ends Well, and A Midsummer Night's Dream have played to audiences of over 800 nightly. As a voiceover artist Karla narrates audiobooks and records corporate and educational voiceovers; as a master teaching artist in theatre, Karla works with NYC public school students, teachers, administrators, mentees, Broadway audiences, and other artists of all ages, disciplines, and abilities.

Artist Statement:

Traditionally my public creative work has been that of an actor, voiceover artist, director, and teaching artist, each and every one a storyteller. Over the last year and half, I have begun to expand my identity as an artist by exploring other paths with storytelling always at the center. Work I might normally have kept hidden from public view is now somewhat shyly making its way into the community, including the three photographs here. I have always seen my artistry as my vocation; and though my creative work has traditionally taken place in dark theatres or in isolated studios, the place where I am most at home as a creative soul is in the natural world.

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For me, it is there that the Divine speaks most clearly and where I find I can listen most readily. What excites me about photography is the idea of launching an entire story, not with a cast and crew of many, but rather with a single still image; a lonelier process but still a collaborative one relying on the individual beholder. When I am struck by a subject, it is most often because it tells a story or reflects a Divine truth. I look forward to learning more about this artistry as I explore its path. I hope the three photographs I've shared here may connect you to a story or to a message that was meant just for you.

Photographs: "Greetings" "Non-Duality" "Trinity" (online only)

Brian G. Jones - Artist



A Carnegie Mellon University graduate and native Washingtonian (DC), he began as a Visual Information Specialist for the Smithsonian Institution, Office of Exhibits Central.

Mr. Jones joined Corning Incorporated in 1984 as a Communications Designer in Corporate Design. As Manager, Creative Design for Corporate Exhibits & Design, Brian's expertise has been applied to the full gamut of creative problem-solving in 2- and 3-dimensional design for corporate branding,

tradeshows and events, sales promotion and collateral. Now, as COO / Creative Director at Crystal McKenzie, Inc., since 2001, Jones has done work for a broad array of industries including optical communications, eye care, automotive, life sciences, and information display, cultural institutions and higher education.

In 1998, the Smithsonian invited Brian to design the exhibit *Speak To My Heart: Communities of Faith and Contemporary African American Life.* The 5,000 square-foot exhibit was organized and produced by the Anacostia Museum and Center for African American History and Culture.

Jones' fine art has been shown in solo and group exhibitions including Marble Collegiate Church (New York, N.Y.) ongoing *Celebrating the Creative Spirit* series; 171 Cedar Arts Center, Corning, N.Y.; published in *Seven Visions: The Spirit of Religion in Contemporary Regional Art* by the Arnot Art Museum, Elmira, N.Y.; and, *Finger Lakes Wine Country: Just Down the Road* Outdoor Billboard Group Exhibition and Website Gallery, The Arts of the (N.Y.) Southern Finger Lakes. Brian has earned recognition from *Print* magazine and the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA). Brian also served on the AIGA / Upstate New York Board of Directors.

Not forgetting the value of his educational experience, Brian has been an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Alfred University, teaching School of Art & Design Courses: *Design for Business Vision, Visual Communications*, and *Introduction to Design* and currently teaches *Communication Design* at CUNY CityTech, Brooklyn, N.Y.

"Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego" Pastel on canvas 20" x 24"

VICTORIA PEPE PEPE LUMINSONICS



Victoria Pepe is a lifelong multimedia, multidimensional artist, composer and creator of artistic video and VR presentations. She feels that she creates from a Higher Source, and feels more like a self-taught artist, even with a fine education. She has with a wide range of skills and talents, and creates fine line complex, harmonious, geometric drawings, paintings, sculptures, photography; her videos often include her music. She works in both analogue and digital media. As a fine artist, Pepe's foundation for her images is her free hand unique style sacred geometric drawings and paintings. She is also adept using computer art programs. She lives and creates in Manhattan and is founder of LuminSonics Inc.

Pepe's drawings, paintings, photos, animations and multimedia productions have been exhibited nationally, including shows in New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia and California. Victoria has exhibited in venues and galleries such as The Ballet Shop and Gallery Lincoln Center; Metropolitan Opera Gift Shop; Long Island Arts Festival; The Audio-Video and Film Festival Gallery X; Gallery 49; Digital Bridges at the Westbeth Gallery Digital Arts Video Show; The Godseye Exhibit; Artexpo at the Javits Center; The Visionary Arts Festival at The Palace of Fine Arts San Francisco; The Arts Renewal Program and The Film/Video Showcase at the Marble Collegiate Arts Showcases. She also exhibited at The Atlantic City Art Center, New Jersey; The LGTripp Gallery, Philadelphia, Pa.; The Marble Summer arts festival; The Marble Pop Up Art Exhibit and the Advent – the art of waiting" Marble Art Exhibit; exhibits on the Marble Wall of Healing; solo exhibit The Living Room Gallery with Midtown Arts Common and St. Peter's Church. She recently created the video presentation for Advent, and the very new VR "Christmas Spirit" and "We've Come this Far By Faith" and Lent art shows online for the Marble Arts Ministry.

In addition to being a multimedia visual artist, Victoria is a lifelong composer and performer. Her professional opera career gave her opportunities in music in Vienna and NYC, where, as a pianist she also performed her original music and the classics. Her studies in music ranged from private lessons to North short Conservatory of music, and master classes at Juilliard and Manhattan School of music, adjunct to the Vienna academy of music in Vienna and in-depth studies with maestros of the Met opera and City Opera. Victoria also has accompanied and taught many singers who performed in venues in NYC including Singers at Carnegie Hall, and Lincoln Center and off Broadway. She also composed music for educational and documentary videos: The Philadelphia Museum of Art, The University of the Arts, Pa The Philadelphia School, The McKinney Gallery, Pa. and the TV show Ultimately You. As an accomplished composer, she creates the music that accompanies many of her art/music videos shown at galleries and other artistic venues. And as an artist, she creates all the covers for her music. Much of her music is currently in World Wide distribution. As a composer she is known as Pepe LuminSonics and is a member of ASCAP. Considered a truly multimedia disciplinary visionary artist, Pepe's lifelong spiritual quest forms a foundation for her artistic expressions and concepts. Concerning her art and music she states, "Creating connects me to something beyond myself. It is a meditation and a timeless place of profound peace and transcendence. I connect to a higher Source which creates through me. It is hoped that this transcendent transformative energy is conveyed to those who view and hear my work." In the Philadelphia City Paper art review of Pepe's virtual

video painting on exhibit at the LG Tripp Gallery, Robin Rice writes that her video art is "a truly artful night light". Victoria hopes her creative expressions help spread the Light.

For this current June Art show at Marble, Victoria presents an archival fine art print: "Essence Flower Bouquet" which is part of her art series-- "New Art Fusion--Augmented Reality". The art pieces in this series present natural analogue images merging together with digital and created art images to form the new world integration; the new paradigm, where reality now emerges as the synthesis of the natural and digital. Pepe combines these two different realities, the analogue and digital, in special balance and harmony to create this unified and aesthetic reality. This new reality is the world as it is emerging today in our era. The natural and digital are integrated together in this unfolding existence as seen in her -- "New Art Fusion.." piece, "Essence Flower Bouquet" which is for sale fully framed 16"x 20." \$150

Contact Victoria at www.PepeLuminSonics.com

Douglas Powers - photographer



Pope Francis recently described artists as "Apostles of beauty." That phrase resonates deeply within me. I see natural beauty in the many places I encounter when I'm out and about commuting or just walking around.

I have done my job as an artist if this photograph brings you a feeling of beauty.

Photograph from Coney Island: "A Summer Night"

Email: dpow744@gmail.com

Abigail Shue - fiber artist



From admiring the beautiful, colorful quilts of my grandmother to sifting through design books at the local fabric store with my mother, I have always felt a deep connection to family and community through craft. Fine, intricate crochet was my first love, and the pursuit of perfection that inspires complex lace designs. In an effort to heal following a personal loss, however, along with the chaos of motherhood, I later found myself drawn to a less rigid style. Studying improvisational hand weaving, I found that exploring texture, color, and imperfection through a free-form, meditative process awakened a desire to embrace crafting as a way of healing for myself and others. Desiring to balance this freedom with the order I enjoyed earlier in my crafting journey, I then studied tapestry weaving, and exploring the two styles has been an

exciting adventure, as well as a therapeutic outlet for the complexities of parenthood.

I also view fiber art as a wonderful opportunity to grow in one's relationship with God. I often approach my weaving as a form of spiritual practice - meditating on scripture, sacred writings,

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and needs both local and global. These thoughts and images guide my work as prayer through fiber.

Rarely choosing one type of yarn, I prefer to combine various weights, colors, and textures as inspired. I am passionate about forming, whenever possible, a connection to origin of the fiber I use, through farms, spinners, dyers, and occasionally meeting the animal. Often conversations (and occasionally animal personalities!) find their way into my weaving. I seek to honor family and community through my creations.

Abigail Shue has been exploring various areas of fiber art for over 20 years. She is a weaver, spinner, crocheter, and sewing enthusiast, as well as a singer, actor and mother of two. Abigail holds a Bachelor of Music from George Mason University, two Master of Music degrees from the New England Conservatory, and has studied at Western Theological Seminary.

abbysfiberart@gmail.com

"The Promise" - Mixed fibers, free-form hand weaving "Faithful" - Mixed fibers, free-form hand weaving Photograph: "Joy" (online only)

Joan Silinsh - Photographer



Joan did not actively pursue photography until her retirement. By contrast, in her childhood in Mexico, her father, an educator, was an independent film producer documenting the country's culture and screening his films In the United States for ten years.

In her 35-year career with McGraw-Hill (now S&P Global), Joan held various management positions. Her last post was as Director of Advertising and Promotion for two magazines in the construction field - ENR (Engineering News-Record) and Design-Build.

As an avid traveler, photography has enabled Joan to capture memories of the countries she has visited. Besides travel photos, she uses her camera to showcase the variety and beauty of flowers.

Joan studied photography in courses offered by Greenwich House and the Senior Center at St. Peter's Church. She has exhibited her photographs at several Greenwich House art competitions, Su Casa Creative Center and Marble Collegiate. For a number of years she volunteered at Greenwich House's Center on the Square taking photos of events and outings. Joan has produced numerous photo books documenting her travels, and she also uses her photos to design her own greeting cards.

Joan recently relocated to Sarasota, Florida, and is setting her sights on new photo opportunities. She recently exhibited her photographs at Bay Village's Inspirational Art gallery.

Photographs (online only): "Contrast" "Freedom Tower" "Friendships"

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<u>Margery Westin - Photographer</u>



Thanks to Mario's *Marble Arts Ministry* Exhibits, I've had a chance to exhibit both current photographs as well as some that date back to earlier years when I was using film. After retiring, my iPhone became my camera of choice.....amazing technology that fits in my pocket! When I am out and about, my eyes scan what is in front of me to see if there is a vista, scene or moment in time that I want to capture digitally. My favorite subjects are nature, pets and iconic NYC scenes.

mwestinpix@aol.com

Photographs: "Hazy Morning at Oak Bridge, W. 77th Street"

"Our Secret Garden, E. 104th Street"

"Summer Morning at the Pond, E. 59th Street"