

Florida CraftArt presents



November 21 and December 5, 2020

Esther Aall, Ceramics

***Emerging Artist Sponsors:
David and Becky Ramsey***

A Swiss native, raised in Mexico City, born in 1959, Esther Aall has experienced a variety of cultural settings that have influenced her artwork. With over 20 years expressing her creativity through costume and scenic design, printmaking, painting in oil, acrylic and pastels, as well as creating papier-mâché props for theater and floats, Esther has recently found clay to be her favorite medium. Esther has lived in St. Petersburg since 2016.



Esther says, "Have you ever picked up a grasshopper, a bug or a butterfly and looked at its amazing intricate structure, texture, and colors? This fascinates me and sparks my creativity. I can see a larger than life clay sculpture emerging from it.

I am driven to interpret various forms of life: their singularity, intensity, and interaction – while evoking an emotional response. I combine ceramics with other media – like wire, nails, beads, oil and acrylic paints to entertain the viewer's eye. I do not attempt to realistically replicate the creatures, but rather let the viewer see some of their intricacies on a larger scale and bring awareness of their fragility as well as their importance in our eco-system."



Robyn Crosa

Mixed Media

Emerging Artist Sponsors:

Robyn Crosa is originally from the Gulf Coast of Florida. She moved to Atlanta with her family when she was nine years old and lived in the Greater Atlanta area for most of her life. Recently, she decided to move back to Florida to be closer to family. She currently resides in Saint Petersburg, Florida.

She is a multi- talented, and multi- faceted artist and entertainer. The artist considers herself a Renaissance woman. She is also a devotee of the Great Mother Goddess. Her work encompasses a variety of different disciplines and mediums. She ties her work together with the common theme of her worship of the divine feminine. The artist believes that creative work is a form of worship and sacred ritual to the Great Mother Goddess of Nature.

The artist has worked in Atlanta as an actress, singer, dancer, visual artist, and songwriter. She was also the Official Fortune Teller for Historic Oakland Cemetery. Her 'Gourdgeous Goddess Dolls' have been featured as background art for the set of the Atlanta filmed TV show, "The Originals."

The artist's style is folk art that is inspired by the works of indigenous people, as well as self-taught folk artists such as Howard Finster, whose work was most notably on the cover of a "Talking Heads" album and Xavior Roberts who is the originator of the "Cabbage Patch Kids". Like these well-known Georgia folk artists, the artist is mostly self-taught. She creates her doll sculptures based on the natural shape of the wood and then embellishes them with wood-burning

techniques as well as acrylic paint and glued objects. Her first gourds were created as self-portraits because she saw a basket of gourds on a table in an old country shop and it looked to her to be like the gourds were herself and her mother and sisters sitting together. This gave her the idea to personify them and take advantage of the natural feminine shape.

Her work has received an Honorable Mention in the school wide Dean's Art Award Contest in the College of Arts and Sciences at Georgia State University. She has also received a first-place ribbon, a second-place ribbon, and three third place ribbons at the Georgia Gourd Festival in Griffin, Georgia. Most recently they have been displayed at the Salvador Dalí Museum Holiday Art Show in Saint Petersburg, and at the Carrollwood Cultural Center in Tampa.



Diana Hirschhorn, Jewelry

Emerging Artist Sponsors:

Michael and Andrea Graham

Diana Hirschhorn is predominantly a metalsmith and enamelist, working with a variety of precious as well as semi-precious metals and stones. She often incorporate vitreous enamel accents that she has created, as well as touches of 24k gold into her work. Fused glass, leather, beading and wire are other components she uses as accents to create an ever-changing but always cohesive body of work.

Diana says, "I tend to make small 'collections' of jewelry that are of a particular theme/design and then move onto whatever is inspiring me next. I enjoy diversity in my work and rarely make the same thing twice. I am inspired in particular by architecture and the galaxy and that is reflected in my work as they tend to be contemporary designs which are either architectural or "out of this world" in design. I happily work from my home studio in Lakewood Ranch, Florida and make every piece by hand, by myself."



Janna Kennedy, Mixed Media

Emerging Artist Sponsors: Robert and Andria Welker



Janna Kennedy-Hyten creates "Gourdeous Art" with mixed-media objects, natural gourds, Victorian and vintage objects to make strange and wonderful creatures.

Janna says, "I've created art for most all of my life. My cumulative experiences throughout my life's journey lead me to St. Petersburg where I feel my life in the world of art is about to begin. Since landing in St. Pete, I found the Artist Enclave and felt an immediate connection."

"Over the last 2 years I have been experimenting with various mediums to create 3-D mix media sculpted 'gurines' from a collection of antiques, metal, wire, wood, Worbla, and objects from nature. I am proud to have been in the Pilot program for Historic Kenwood Neighbor Association's first Finial Art Initiative and was selected to make one of the 16 finials. My art stands atop the Historic Kenwood post at the corner of 8th Avenue North and 24th Street North."



Tyler Quintin – Ceramics and Sculpture

Emerging Artist Sponsors: Kathryn B. Howd and Edward Rucks



Tyler Quintin is currently a long-term artist in residence at the Morean Center for Clay in St. Petersburg, FL. Prior to this, he completed work-study, internship, and assistantship positions with various artists and craft schools across the country. Tyler received a BFA from Washburn University in 2016 on a full tuition merit scholarship. Washburn afforded him the opportunity to explore work across a variety of mediums, which eventually led to a transition from drawing to ceramics. These foundations have provided a sensitivity to material choice and interdisciplinary thinking in his approach to clay. Tyler's work has been exhibited in numerous national and international exhibitions, including venues such as the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts (Helena, MT) and the San Angelo Museum of Art (San Angelo, TX). Recently, Tyler was a presenter for the international online ceramics conference, The Ceramics Congress. His work is featured in the permanent collections of the Mulvane Art Museum (Topeka, KS) and the San Angelo Museum of Art (San Angelo, TX).





Mary Ann Ziegler, Glass

Emerging Artist Sponsor: DMG School Projects (Duncan McClellan)

Mary Ann Ziegler is a fused glass artist who resides in Largo, Florida. She grew up in a house that sat on a piece of property subdivided from a plantation. The plantation, Farmington in Louisville, Kentucky, had a home on it that was built in the same style as Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson. Abraham Lincoln was known to be a frequent visitor at the house.

Art has been a lifelong passion for Mrs. Ziegler. As a child she copied pictures that ancient Egyptians drew on the walls of their tombs, and went to art museums and exhibits. After her elementary school day was finished, she attended classes taught by her mother's former art teacher and studied perspective, color theory, and design. Art took a back seat during her college days as she became involved with what was going to be her future career, working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing children.

She retired after a forty-year career as a Special Education Supervisor for the Pinellas County School System.

After retiring, Mrs. Ziegler attended the John C. Campbell Folk School in North Carolina and sampled a variety of different art mediums including jewelry, precious metal clay, encaustics, enameling, alcohol inks, and fused glass. It was fused glass that fascinated her the most. Glass is a medium that has a thousand different way of being expressed through pate de verre, kiln casting, strip work, dropped vessels, and more.

While Mrs. Ziegler currently works in several different mediums. Most of her work is in glass which she makes into wall art, jewelry, and religious pieces. Her specialty is functional fused glass that can be used to enhance a dining experience. In addition to glass, Mrs. Ziegler sculpts with paper clay and Powertex (paints with acrylic and alcohol inks) and creates assemblage. Mary Ann says, "One always has to have other things to do since the kiln can take up to 24 hours to complete a firing. I get bored easily if my hands aren't busy".



By attending multiple classes worldwide, Mrs. Ziegler has used the influences of fabric, watercolor, collage, and other mediums to bring her to this point in her career. She is constantly looking for inspiration found in galleries and museums. Each new technique learned shapes the art she creates next.

Mrs. Ziegler is a retail gallery artist at Florida CraftArt Gallery. She credits the Gallery and its employees with increasing her confidence in her talents and exposing her to the rich art world that is part of culture of St. Petersburg, Fla. Since displaying her work at the Gallery, her fused glass menorahs have been highlighted in the Tampa Bay Times. She was also selected to participate in the 2019 Temple Beth El Art Show.