

QUEERING 24 SOUND

QUEERING SOUND 24 : PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION
WEDNESDAY 15 – FRIDAY 31 MAY

ARTISTS RECEPTION : Saturday 25 May, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Free + Open to the Public during all events + by appointment
Email: info@rhizomedc.org



Sabina Troncone, DIGITAL MEDIA

Based in Newark DE, Troncone specialties reside in creating digital media, but she's not afraid to adapt to other media if that's what the art calls for! Three of her biggest inspirations include nature, dreams, and music. One or a combination of the three subjects is present in almost all of her work. Her goal when creating art is to capture the imagination of the viewer and transport them into the worlds of her imagery.

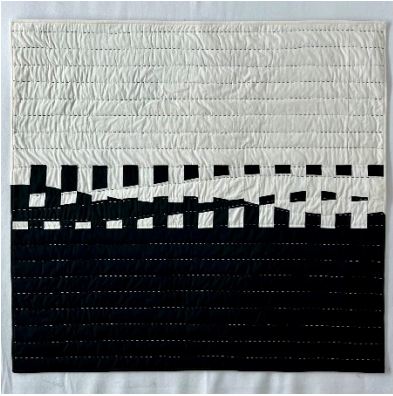
<https://www.instagram.com/sabrotro/>
<https://sabinatroncone.com/>



Mary O'Brien, MIXED-MEDIA INSTALLATION

Mary O'Brien (she/her) loves using texture and movement in her art to evoke rhythm and power. Mary uses art as a tool on her healing journey towards self-love, self-acceptance, and peace.

<https://www.instagram.com/murrrrrre/>



Frederick Nunley, FIBER ARTS

Washington DC-based Frederick Nunley shares his passion for photography, quilting, printmaking, bookbinding, gardening, walking, and seeking nature.

<https://www.instagram.com/WOODCUT55>

dcmmodernquiltguild.com



Mei Mei Chang, INSTALLATION + DRAWING

As a mixed media and installation artist, Mei Mei Chang explores various media to bridge her internal and external worlds. She is a lifelong student of the human psyche, fascinated by the mind's ability to focus on details - great and small - without limits. Using her internal symbols, she creates rich visual images that are both highly personal and accessible by all. Throughout her work, she translates the topographical maps of the mind onto multilayered and patterned surfaces as her personal internal landscape takes on its own appearances, colors, attractions, and distractions,

[meimeichang](http://meimeichang.com)



Joanna Axtmann, MIXED MEDIA

Axtmann's imagery combines life events with visual experience in a multitude of medias and dimensions.

"Making art is my consistent passion and a means for survival. Vision and experience builds up an energy

within that needs physical, visual release/expression,” Axtmann writes. “I make images in a variety of media – mixed media on paper, sculptural installations, assemblage, and printmaking.” She currently teaches Printmaking, Drawing, Design and Visual Thinking at the University of the District of Columbia and also offers private art workshops out of her Washington, DC studio.

joannaaxtmann.com



Kate Childs Graham, a.k.a. KCG, MIXED MEDIA

I walk for miles each day. On pathways and sidewalks, in refuge and refuse, I find objects. Plastic objects that remind me of the power of the human body. Metal objects that remind me of the wonder of the great outdoors. Natural objects that remind me of the supernatural. I collect these objects, by hand and phone, and I work with clay, cement, metal, and wood to create something from them. What is found is found again.

www.akakcg.com



diego, PAINTING

Diego's art is deeply personal, mirroring his subconscious while also being inspired by his affinity for scary themes, which grew from his love of Halloween being an October baby. Diego expanded, “In a

time I did have a lot of darker thoughts, but now it's just reflective, you know, my sharp teeth in my drawings doesn't mean, oh, it's a monster that's going to eat you. It's more like, damn bro, like you really got to clean yourself up." Diego's almost year-long journey with sobriety has also profoundly impacted his art, bringing a new depth and clarity to his work. (Brigade, 2024)

<https://www.instagram.com/dieglostudios/>

<https://www.instagram.com/6ieglo/>



AnaMarie King, MULTIMEDIA

Born in 1998 AnaMarie King is a self-taught multimedia artist whose work aims to illustrate her inner struggle with all that she cannot control. Often working with found objects, she allows the materials to influence her and lets them take on a new form. Her work looks at preconceived notions of society through a lens of chance and chaos. Through subjects such as race, age roles and gender roles, the artist exposes and mocks the rigidness enforced by societal norms.

<https://www.anamarieking.com/portfolio>

<https://www.instagram.com/7avk7/>

Dilip Sheth, PAINTING

Sheth first discovered his talent in painting in the early nineties. To further his knowledge of the art world, he started taking art classes at the Corcoran School of Art in Washington DC and eventually took up painting as his career. Since the mid-nineties to-date he has exhibited his work in galleries and art venues throughout the nation. Sheth states, "With the use of bold colors, the world I see becomes my world on canvas."

<https://dilipart.com/>



Julie Paez, NATURE-BASED ASSEMBLAGES

I added Milkweed into my garden along with a much larger variety of native plants in my efforts to create a sustainable pollinator habitat. Most of the seed pods in my assemblages are from my garden

or local surrounding area. The milkweed and trumpet vine pods are bursting with life as they release the seeds, voluptuous curved shapes, and after months in the elements they have a beautiful patina bearing witness to a life well lived. They are the perfect chalice to tell the story of the Sacred Feminine.



John Paradiso, COLLAGE + HAND-STITCHING

My work is an ongoing exploration of identity. It is influenced by the AIDS epidemic during the 80s and 90s, internal and external homophobia, sexual desire, and growing old. His work is a statement about my experiences navigating a sex-positive lifestyle among a prevalence of sex-negative messages, and at other times, the work is my way to honor my feminine side while striving to be more masculine. After moving to Washington DC in 2001, and reflecting on past visits to the [AIDS Memorial Quilt](#) on the National Mall, and the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation, I was inspired to make quilts that spoke of survival and sexual liberation. This became my Men Working series, which led to the Soft Porn and the Paper Quilt/Collage series. The three series combine images of men and masculinity, using working methods that are considered traditionally feminine, such as sewing, embroidery, hand quilting, and scrapbooking.

john-paradiso.com



Tom Hill, MIXED-MEDIA ASSEMBLAGES + PAINTING

My current work focuses on harnessing, reinforcing, and expanding the untamed forces of queer masculine energy. Like other expressions of queer experience, the pieces take on disruptive elements of de- and re-construction, promiscuous flamboyance and innuendo, and ironic whimsy.

The queer spirit of shapeshifter is a prominent theme, involving the repurposing of found and chosen materials whose original forms and functions are coaxed into transformational arenas that suggest, disguise, subvert, and occasionally confound. Paradoxes are highlighted to transcend culturally reinforced binaries: elements are turned inside out and upside down, creating whirls of gender confusion and skewing centers of gravity and balance.

Materials that serve as traditional signifiers of masculine iconography are at once undermined and uplifted. These include forest debris, castoff lumber and hardware, building supplies, grooming aides, discarded gear from locker rooms and construction sites, and talismans from leather culture.

Agents used to bind, bridle, and fasten serve to both confine and liberate. Color and surface are key to my work: industrial fluorescents and jewel-box metallics coexist, often blending with tones of earthy growth and decay to complement and amplify. Anchored in a tradition in which the queer tongue is held firmly in cheek and dissonant elements create magnetic polarity, each of these archetypical pieces simultaneously emits a grunt of rough exertion tempered with a wistful sigh; a light-in-the-loafers step serving as a backbeat to the marching rhythm of steel-toed boots.

tomhillartist.com/



Rita Elsner, ILLUSTRATION

My recent work is a continuation of conceptual illustration and narrative landscape drawings with the addition of weathered and deteriorated sub-straits that contribute a rich history of their own.

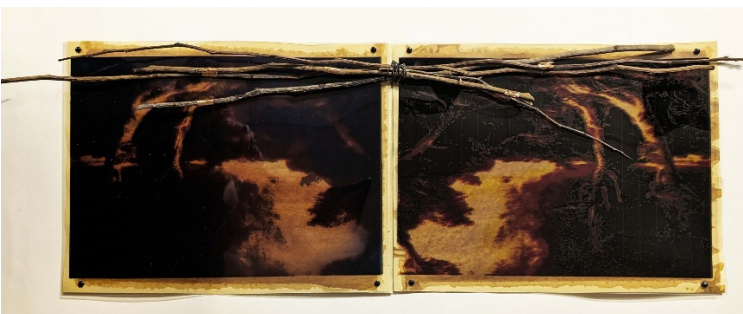
www.flickr.com/photos/ritae/sets



Todd Franson, PHOTOGRAPHY

A graduate of the prestigious Savannah School of Art and Design in Georgia, Franson had his sights set on a career in photography and art direction since graduating in 1991. The majority of his adult professional life has been spent at Metro Weekly, capturing members of the community, celebrities, politicians, and other assorted assignments. He has previously shown at the DC Center for the LGBT Community, Artomatic 2024, and QUEERING SOUND visual art exhibits. "I look for beauty and humor in our world and try to capture little bits of it. Do you see what I see?"

[instagram.com/toddfranson](https://www.instagram.com/toddfranson)



JS Adams, PHOTOGRAPHY + MIXED-MEDIA

Adams' artworks focus on the conceptual nature of photographic communication as championed by the Dada, Bauhaus and Fluxus art movements. His artworks incorporate layered collage, fractured text, hauntology, image degradation/manipulation and failed printer technology.

www.instagram.com/blkwbear/

<https://www.artbear.com>

QUEERING SOUND is a volunteer-driven, multifaceted arts festival of LGBTQIA+ artists and allies held annually in Washington DC and features visual art, spoken word, video/new media, and a wide variety of musical styles. Since 1999, QUEERING SOUND has presented over 100+ local, national, and international artists at nine local venues and online; showcasing artists who push against and create their work outside the socially-mainstreamed boundaries of sound and vision.

<https://www.queeringsound.com>

The loose thematic is Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, wherein contributing artists may re-interpret a familiar work of art in their own style and/or addressing 'THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK' (primarily 'white' or 'black' works, fill-in-the-blanks, blank canvas, monochromatic paint-by-numbers done in a single color – just tints + hues, blind stitching, 'negative' space, etc.)

Would you consider showing a couple of the photos taken at the Rubell Museum and two others of your own choosing?

Let me know if you are interested.

xx

Jim Adams
202.302.5717

LOAD-IN SUNDAY 12 MAY

INSTALLATION 13-14 MAY