

**gLNJ:** Do you think people consider art a luxury, that it is something they may not necessarily need?

**YNF:** Perhaps, and if so, that needs to change. Decorating with art and collecting art on a personal and even serious basis can be for everyone. Owning original art can significantly increase the quality of your life. And when it becomes part of your happiness collection, and even more importantly, your investment portfolio, it is undoubtedly life enhancing, not only for you, but can be for generations to come.



Yolanda Navarra Fleming (1969), *Language Barrier*, 2022, 20" x 30," Acrylic on framed canvas.

**gLNJ:** What suggestions can you make for someone who says they doesn't know where to start?

**YNF:** I personally visit someone's home, see the space and offer ideas about color, concept and size. If I don't have something in my portfolio, I might suggest a commissioned piece. Art dealers, galleries and auction houses are other options. The Jersey Shore is now growing with these outlets and venues. There are so many ways to buy truly magnificent original art right here.

**gLNJ:** What if someone chooses prints by famous artists as opposed to original artworks by lesser known artists?

**YNF:** There's something about investing in an original one-of-a-kind piece of art that is both more personal, and certainly more valuable than hanging a poster, even if it's of a known master. There was a time when even the masters were unknown artists. The living artists of today that you support, may one day become the Picasso and Van Gogh of tomorrow.

**Art matters, and I'd like to see it become as important as furniture and lighting in home and office environments and spaces.**

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Yolanda Navarra Fleming (1969), *Cue the Welcome Music*, 2023, 36" x 12," Mixed-media collage and acrylic on canvas.