Lynn Alker

lynnalker.com

919-395-1234 lynnalker20@gmail.com

Facebook: @lynnalkerart Instagram: @lynnalker

Artist Biography

Lynn Alker requires that her art-making offer a substantial meaning and purpose, even if it's for herself.

For many artists, the formative years of their youth serve as an influential force in their art-making. For Lynn Alker, that's also true. As an adolescent raised in the deep south in the 1960's, Lynn was keenly aware of the racial turmoil and formed a sensitivity to these (and other) injustices. Today, a variety of politically charged emotions manifest in her abstract acrylic paintings on canvas. Bold applications of color and loose mark-making allow her to express topics such as mental health, ecological awareness, and feminine strife, among others which she hopes inspires the viewers' awareness and conscience. For Lynn, these realities guide the painting process and sometimes present to her after the fact.

By contrast to many of her contemporaries, Lynn's career began later in life and didn't originate with an early gravity for creating visual art or a formal arts education. While she was and is an avid collector of abstract visual art, she didn't create her first painting until she was in her early 60's. Lynn's passion for interior design and a strong career in flower growing led her to enroll in a painting class at a local arts center. Her beginning art classes were few and far between each other, but Lynn approached art-making with an out-of-the gate seriousness. Since then, she has not stopped on her trajectory to create art. Lynn quickly realized that she had more to offer through abstract painting

rather than the traditional subject matter she was first introduced to. She describes that abstractions best align with her desire for “the unknown” of what’s to come on the canvas. Since her first art classes in 2015, Lynn has attended dozens more professional arts development programs including master classes with nationally recognized educators, and she has a growing exhibition history that is free of trepidation about traditional artist career labels and pathways.

Lynn lives in Raleigh, North Carolina with her husband John with whom she has two adult daughters, two grandsons, and a dog Peyton. She is an active member of several arts organizations and works almost daily from her home studio.

Artist Statement

The mystery of abstraction speaks to me. Without thought as to the outcome, my oil and acrylic paintings on canvas, paper, and wood board begin with mark-making then evolve into what I call a “conclusion.” For me, there is a great anticipation throughout the process as I watch the work developing, turning, and arriving at places and ideas, much like the way a conversation does. I start with mark-making that often includes symbols, words, and phrases, then apply bold color and texture. I most enjoy working on hard boards which allow me, without inhibition, to gouge, excise, and dig into the paint layers which are often created with materials such as pastes, coffee, and dirt. With these materials I can build the surface and create the foundation for even more experimentation.

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SELECT PROFESSIONAL ARTIST DEVELOPMENT

Master Painting Workshop, Cullowhee Arts, 2019

Art and Success, *Powerful Design and Personal Color*, online course, 2020, 2019

Art and Success, *Watch, Learn, Grow*, online Course, 2020, 2019

Beginning Sculpture, North Carolina Museum of Art, 2019

Master Painting Workshop, Cullowhee Arts, 2018

Everything You Want to Know about Cold Wax Medium, Monarch Arts Center, 2017

Exploring Painting with Oil and Cold Wax, Contemporary Art Museum (CAM), 2016

Intuitive Approach to Abstract Painting, Jerry's Artarama, 2016

Acrylic Figures, Art of the Carolinas, 2016

Introduction to Cold Wax Medium Workshop, Art of the Carolinas, 2015

Bigger, Faster, Fresher, Looser Abstracts, Waverly Artists Studio, 2015

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2020 Bev's Fine Art, Spotlight Series, "Lynn Alker," Raleigh, North Carolina

2018 The Eye Institute, "Lynn Alker," Raleigh, North Carolina

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 Prince Street Gallery, juried exhibition, New York, New York

2024 Golden Belt, "Community Art," juried exhibition, Durham, North Carolina

2023 The Centerpiece Gallery, “An evening of Art and Home,” Ethan Allen, Cary, North Carolina

2023 The Centerpiece Gallery, “Continuum Exhibition, Lynn Alker and Joshua Smith,” Raleigh, North Carolina

2023 The Centerpiece Gallery, “17 Exhibition, Lynn Alker and represented females at The Centerpiece,” Raleigh, North Carolina

2022 Cary Gallery of Artists, “Small Treasures,” juried exhibition, Cary, North Carolina

2022 Artspace, “Fresh,” juried exhibition, juror Jonell Logan, Raleigh, North Carolina

2021 311 Gallery, “Abstracts Matter,” juried exhibition, Raleigh, North Carolina

2021 Gallery Citrine, “Connection,” juried exhibition, Wilmington, North Carolina

2021 Bridgeport Art Center,”Viral Collaboration,” Chicago, Illinois

2021 Bev’s Fine Art, “Golden Exhibition, Lynn Alker and Josef Kote,” Raleigh, North Carolina

2020 Artspace “Fresh,” juried exhibition, Raleigh, North Carolina

2020 311 Gallery, “Abstracts Matter,” juried exhibition, Raleigh, North Carolina

2019 Visual Art Exchange, “Member Showcase,” juried exhibition, Raleigh, North Carolina

2019 Bev’s Fine Art, “Spotlight Show: Lynn Alker and Rosie Midyette,” Raleigh, North Carolina

2019 311 Gallery, “Abstracts Matter,” juried exhibition, Raleigh, North Carolina

2018 Visual Arts Exchange, “En Masse,” Raleigh, North Carolina

2018 Artspace, “Fresh,” Raleigh, North Carolina

2018 Cary Gallery of Artists, “Small Treasures,” juried exhibition, Raleigh, North Carolina

2017 Coffee and Crepes, Raleigh, North Carolina

2016 Litmus Gallery and Studios, “Anything Goes,” juried exhibition, Raleigh, North Carolina

2016 Contemporary Art Museum, “Camstellation,” Raleigh, North Carolina

AWARDS

1st Place. Juried exhibition. Galleryone962, online gallery. 2022

2nd Place. Juried exhibition. “Three's a Crowd.” Cary Gallery of Artists, Cary, North Carolina. 2021

2nd Place. Juried exhibition. “Snagged Again.” Cary Gallery of Artists. Raleigh, North Carolina.
2020

Honorable Mention. Juried exhibition. 311 Gallery, Raleigh, North Carolina. 2018

PUBLICATIONS

Artist feature and interview**.** *Art Radar*. November 2023 online publication.

Artist interview*. Bold Journey*. November 2023 online publication.

“Kaleidoscope Series,” *Midtown Magazine*. Featured Artist, November/December 2022.

Book cover. “Passage” artwork by Lynn Alker. *The Parting of the Gods* by David Brondos. 2021.

“Shift.” *Apero Catalogue.* Juried international exhibition, issue March 2021.

“Parting Ways.” *Apero Catalogue.* Juried international exhibition, issue July 2021.

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

“Music Man,” UNC Health, Rex Hospital Holly Springs, permanent public art collection

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Creator and Curator, “Unchained,” juried exhibition, Imurj, The Artists’ Cafe Raleigh, North Carolina, 2018

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

North Carolina Museum of Art, Member

Visual Art Exchange, Member

Artspace, Member

Art and Success, Member

Durham Art Guild, Member

CAM Raleigh, Member

Online portfolio available at: lynnalker.com