



MEUREHG STUDIOS
Inaugural Exhibition

STILLNESS
AND
SURRENDER

Cover Art:

RainerGeist

Visitor, 2024.

Collage, watercolour and pastels on plywood,
26.7 x 26.6 inches.

October 9 - 21, 2025

10am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday

1444 Dupont St. Unit 10,
Toronto, ON

Opening Reception

October 9th, 6pm - 9pm



Paul Roorda, **Thekkady**, 2018.
Acrylic on canvas, 24 x 30 inches.

WELCOME!

On behalf of **Meurehg Studios**, our newly founded nomadic art gallery, it is my great joy to welcome you to our inaugural exhibition: ***Stillness and Surrender: A Dynamic Path to Creative Power***. This exhibition marks the launch of our gallery and its vision to create both virtual and physical spaces where visitors can contemplate diverse expressions of spirituality and engage in meaningful conversation. With this first gathering, we set out on a journey to cultivate spaces for spiritual seeking and dialogue.

The story of Meurehg Studios began with two earlier exhibitions I curated at the University of Toronto – one for the Toronto School of Theology and another for Regis College. In those shows, I explored how spirituality informed artistic identity and creative process. Witnessing the ways artists articulate their inner quests through visual art and the conversations that followed revealed the transformative power of both contemplation and dialogue. Years later, this idea emerged in a new form and Meurehg Studios was born as a means to open these explorations to a broader community.

Dealing with the notion of Spirituality may be accompanied by a natural drive to establish its definition. As with any definition, one is compelled to draw boundaries and establish a set of instances that belong within, while excluding the rest. For this reason, I am not providing a definition, bearing in mind that the notion of Spirituality is wonderfully diverse and multi-faceted. We celebrate its depth and richness and welcome authentic ways in which it is articulated.

As I took the first steps towards creating the gallery, I was fortunate to encounter generous individuals. I wish to thank them starting by my wife, Elizabeth, for her

support and for setting things in motion; our dear friend Federica Nazzani, for her business expertise and encouragement; Jennifer Matotek, for her invaluable advice and introductions to experienced art dealers; Robert Birch, for sharing his insight and knowledge; Paul Cohen, for making his wonderful space at Dupont Rail available for this exhibition. In particular, I wish to thank Jamie Angell, who took a special interest in the project and whose enthusiasm and guidance gave me the confidence to move forward.

Most importantly, I wish to thank our artists. Paul Roorda embraced this project from the beginning, inspired by the proposed vision and our past collaboration. RainerGeist joined us purely on the strength of our conversations and the gallery's vision. Their trust and commitment have brought our gallery to life.

With gratitude,

Claude Meurehg
Director, Meurehg Studios



STILLNESS AND SURRENDER:

A DYNAMIC PATH TO CREATIVE POWER

Our exhibition presents works by two artists who operate in different visual languages yet converge in offering paintings as meditative conduits for deep personal discovery. In the apparent stillness of their art, there is a powerful dynamism to be experienced.

Paul Roorda

Paul Roorda's abstract works emerge through a layered and paradoxical process. The first layer begins with the effects of climate and environmental conditions on walls he identifies around the world – walls that bear witness to climate change. These surfaces, marked by weather, minerals, pollution, and time, provide chaotic, unplanned patterns.

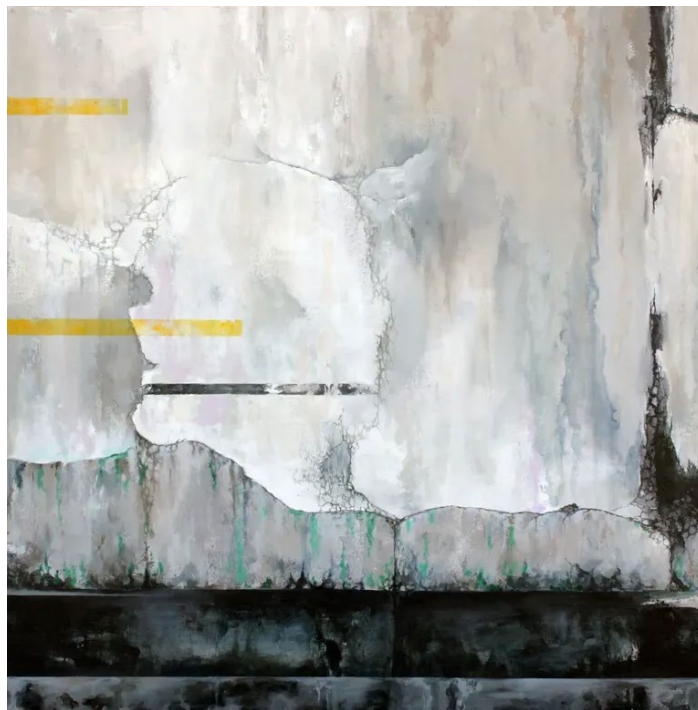
A second layer of abstraction arises when Paul photographs these walls, removing them from their original context. Finally, a third layer comes through his meticulous, realistic painting of the photograph itself, which transforms the image into an abstract painting. At first encounter, the viewer may see landscapes defined by horizon lines, opening onto expansive skies.



Paul Roorda, *Tirana II*, 2018.
Acrylic on canvas,
24 x 36 inches.



Paul Roorda, **Delhi I**, 2018.
Acrylic on canvas, 30 x 30 inches.



Paul Roorda, **Delhi II**, 2018.
Acrylic on canvas, 30 x 30 inches.



Paul Roorda, **Penny Candy**, 2012.
Bible pages in capsules and vintage gumball machine,
15 x 7.5 x 7.5 inches.

With awareness of Paul's process, the paintings reveal even greater depth, becoming windows into the fragile state of our world. His paintings present a beauty that exposes an anxious turbulence that does not quite yet find a resolution. The quiet beauty and turbulence of the works can be construed as calls to immediate action and awareness of our collective responsibility.

These works act as portals, urging us to move beyond the immediate physical realm, toward an inner space of contemplation and awakening. The paradox between the two-dimensional surface and the suggestion of boundless space offers a meditative opportunity to explore inner realities.

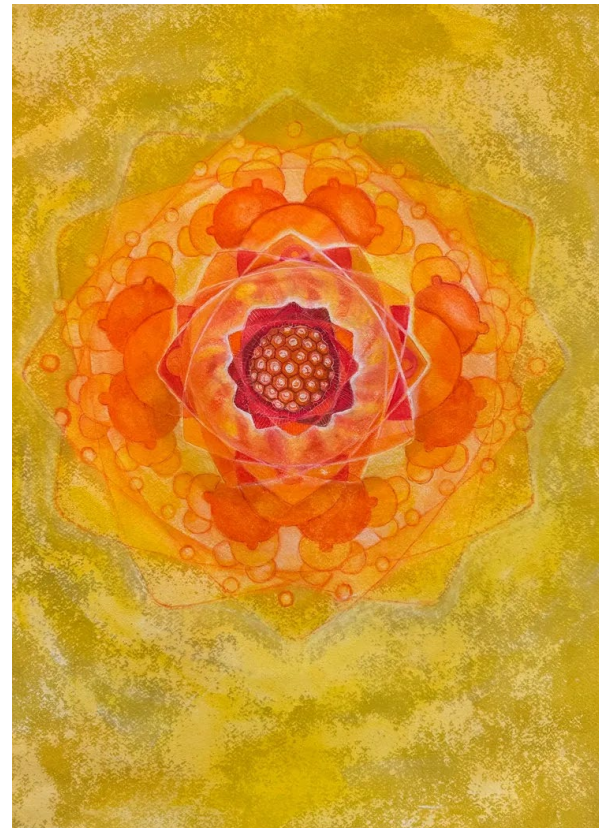
Paul's paintings contain a promise. Clouds will clear, smoke will dissipate, dust will settle. The vision will eventually become clear as the viewer plays the central role in seeing what lies beyond.

RainerGeist

RainerGeist's artistic process unfolds through complete self-surrender. Shapes appear first in dreams or emerge through inspiration, and in a meditative trance are transferred to paper or papyrus. Any trace of personal judgment halts the process. The works manifest in a state of flow and peace, originating in a loving source and communicating directly with the viewer.

These paintings embody complexity and radiate energy: colours vibrate within delicately asymmetrical geometries, while organic shapes pulse with luminosity, electricity, and motion. Some works form vessels – structures that function as carriers of meaning. Others embody a presence – entities emerging through organic forms, inviting viewers into dialogue and shared unity.

Presented in stillness, these works burst with dynamic life, offering intuitive knowledge and creative power to those who, through surrender, allow themselves to receive.



*RainerGeist, **L**, 2025.
Watercolour and acrylic on paper, 24 x 18 inches.*

For both artists, stillness is the realm where content and meaning are exchanged between artist and viewer. Creative power flows from their work into those who experience it, awakening the possibility of transformation and renewal. The exhibition invites viewers to pause, surrender, and allow art to become a part of their own creative and spiritual journeys.



*RainerGeist, **Number 11**, 2020.
Acrylic on paper, 17.5 x 17.5 inches.*



*RainerGeist, **Number 22**, 2020.
Watercolour, wax crayons on paper, 17 x 17 inches.*



RainerGeist, **Redemption**, 2024.
Watercolour, crayons, pastels and
acrylic on paper mounted
on plywood,
33 x 33 inches.



RainerGeist, **H**, 2025.
Acrylic on paper,
31 x 31 inches.

ABOUT OUR ARTISTS

Paul Roorda

Paul Roorda is a Canadian artist whose practice bridges ritual, materiality, and layered abstraction. He has exhibited extensively with solo and group shows in Canada, the United States, and Germany, and has been recognized with grants from both the Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council for the Arts. A finalist for Ontario's 2016 K.M. Hunter Artist Award, Paul was also the subject of an episode of *The Artist's Life* on Bravo TV in 2005.

Paul became an artist because of the multiplicity of meanings that can be embedded in single objects. Art tackles truth, challenges belief. Through questioning and experiencing, it allows us to let go. Just like in poetry where a single page can embody several layers of meaning, art allows for several layers of meaning to exist, interact and build on each other. Art does not need to reach definitive conclusions. It allows us to ask questions without having to arrive at any decisions.

Ritual is a central aspect of Paul's creative act. Ritualistic production of artworks allows him to address anxiety by establishing a rhythm that appeases the fear of the implications of questioning what is given as true. In the process of the work's becoming, Paul achieves an established order that offers reassurance and comfort. The creative ritual seeks to heal with hope as he works with symbolic materials that carry active connotations of transformation and renewal.

RainerGeist

RainerGeist is an artist whose life and practice emanate from a commitment to self-surrender, spirituality, and art. Surrendering ego, biographical information and historical achievements, RainerGeist works as a conduit for what is described as a "transcendent intelligence" that reveals itself through states of deep meditation and flow. The paintings arise without any kind of planning or tortuous execution plagued by corrections. There is no endgame, just a perceived knowledge of when the work is completed. Art manifests what is to be shown.

This process of mystical revelation is central to RainerGeist. The artist does not accept the idea of art as a luxury commodity that is traded as an investment based on past performance. The artwork must shine in its own right without subordination to any previous data.

The name RainerGeist itself is an expression of this worldview. It is a name that was conceived in the same way as the paintings. It communicates what the artist is in the present moment.

In partnership with Meurehg Studios, RainerGeist has initiated a campaign to dedicate at least 15% of the sales revenue of this work to support individuals and organizations working at the intersection of spirituality and art.

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