



WASHINGTON
STUDIO
SCHOOL
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2129 S STREET NW
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ADMIN@WASHINGTONSTUDIOSCHOOL.ORG

GALLERY HOURS:
MONDAY - FRIDAY | 10AM - 5PM
SATURDAY | 1X MONTH AND BY
APPOINTMENT

For Immediate Release: August 12, 2019

Reception: Friday, September 6, 2019, 6-8pm

1x Month Saturday Gallery Hours: Saturday, August 17, 12-4pm

Press Contact: Rachel Heiss, WSS Communications Associate, communications@washingtonstudioschool.org

Washington Studio School presents its Annual Juried Student Show
The annual showcase, juried by Allison Nance of IA&A at Hillyer, celebrates the
wide-ranging work produced by students in WSS classes and workshops
August 9 - September 20, 2019



Images (left to right): Monette Melanson, *Deux Coins Dans Le Marais* (detail of diptych), collage, recycled watercolor paintings, painted and colored papers // Courtney Applequist, *Rose*, oil on board // Leah Flake, *From Appalachia*, oil on canvas // Maia Kupunia, *Untitled*, charcoal, graphite and pastel on paper.

Washington, DC—Washington Studio School (WSS) is pleased to present its Annual Juried Student Show. The exhibition features drawings paintings, prints, collages and sculptures produced in WSS classes, workshops and visiting artist master classes. Included are 58 works of art by 38 beginning-to-advanced level students enrolled within the past year.

Juried by Allison Nance, Director of IA&A at Hillyer and Director of Washington-area Initiatives at International Arts & Artists, the show is a long-standing tradition showcasing the visual language and skills taught at WSS as the foundation for further development of expression and a personal vision. It is representative of the School's teaching philosophy that by learning to carefully observe life and translate the visual through a comprehensive understanding of drawing, painting and sculpture skills, a vocabulary is developed for communicating any expressive intent.



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Nance details her experience jurying this year's show, *"our city is filled with incredible talent, and as part of my profession, I have the privilege to experience this on a daily basis. It's always fascinating to see how creativity is developed and I commend the students, teachers, and staff for the time and care spent on fostering an artistic community and finding one's artistic voice."*

What was challenging for me—but also I think quite lovely to see come together—was to jury a selection of work from those who are still very early in their artistic endeavors alongside those who have been practicing for many years. This also makes it more difficult to discern which works to include and which not to include. There are a variety of factors to balance when making these decisions, including what I personally found most exciting and which pieces work best together as a cohesive exhibition, along with my desire to include a cross-section of styles, medium, and subject matter. I was impressed by those who are honing their technical skills as well as the artists who are testing out fresh ideas and pushing themselves to try something new.

I want to congratulate every single student who entered their work for consideration; it is a brave, daring thing to create something and then to share it with the rest of us. Jurying the Washington Studio School 2019 Student Exhibition has been an honor. I am grateful to have been asked, and for the opportunity to get to know the work of so many artists."

WSS Artistic Director and Head of Faculty, Jill Phillips describes the exhibition further, *"the Annual Juried Student Show has a different flavor every year because the sensibility of the juror comes into play, and that makes it fun. However, it is always a wonderfully wide-ranging example of how the visual language that comes from direct observation can translate into personal and individual work. It takes courage to make art, and even more grit to submit to a juried show."*

Artists, A to Z

Barbara Kraft, Bill Thompson, Brenda Fox, Carol Blum, Carol Mould, Courtney Applequist, Fadia Jawdat, Gail Jensen, Heather Paul, Hilary Walmsley, Jack Heaton, Jackie Greenbaum, Jean Consolla, Jessica Preston, Judy Leyshon, Kathryn Kailian, Laura Nelson, Laurance Frierson, Leah Flake, Lee Butler, Leslie Blackmon, Maia Kupunia, Michele Casto, Mitsuko Tsuchiya, Monette Melanson, Neal Johnson, Neyla Arnas, Orlando Pimentel, Pat Granados, Paula Bruening, Peggy Greene, Rachel Heiss, Scott Wiskoski, Serena Martin, Sharapat Kessler, Sharon Wildstein, Tricia Garey and Yen Mooi.

About the Juror

Allison Nance is the Director of IA&A at Hillyer and Director of Washington-area Initiatives for International Arts & Artists (IA&A). She joined IA&A in 2013, prior to which she was the Director of the Target Gallery, international exhibition space of the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria, VA. In 2010 she co-founded microWave project, a curatorial partnership that acted as a conduit between artists and businesses to identify alternative exhibition spaces with an emphasis on site-specific installation art. For the past six years, Allison has served on the City of Alexandria's Commission for the Arts whose role is to advise City Council with regard to policies that will strengthen the arts and further public access to the arts and cultural matters. Allison serves on the Advisory Board for the Washington Sculptors Group, and on the Executive Committee for the Washington, DC Chapter of ArtTable, the foremost professional organization in the US dedicated to advancing the leadership of women in the visual arts.



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About Washington Studio School

Washington Studio School (WSS) is a nonprofit studio-arts organization whose mission is to teach the visual language and skills essential to developing and expressing a personal vision through classes, workshops, exhibitions and programs. Visit washingtonstudioschool.org to learn more.

For more information, or to request images, please contact Rachel Heiss, Communications Associate, communications@washingtonstudioschool.org or 202-234-3030.

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