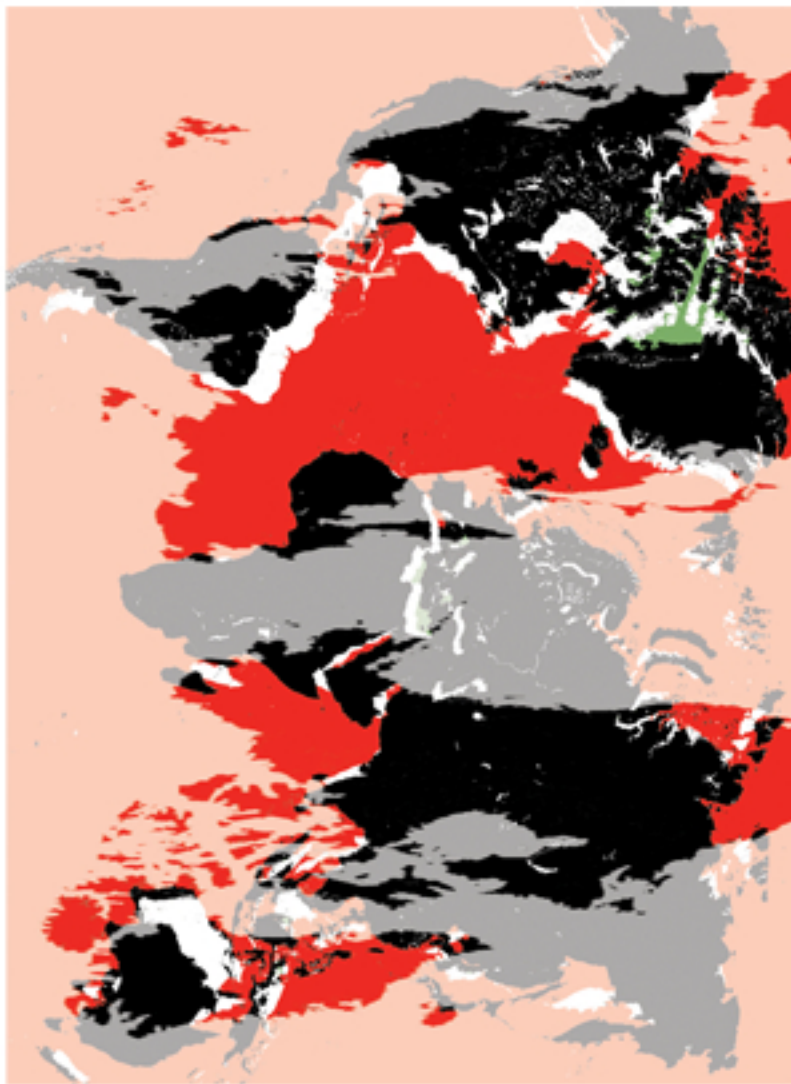


# I Breathe With You

## Part I



February 1 - March 11, 2016  
Augusta Savage Gallery  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

This two-part exhibition features artwork from across the United States and over a dozen other countries. Through paintings, prints, drawings, photographs, digital projections and videos, artists have expressed passionate concerns for equity and justice.

In order to prompt artists to explore the subject we asked these questions:

*What form of bias or discrimination has become deplorable to you? What does it look like? Feel like? Who or how are individuals or communities affected? What would best solve this condition? What steps should we take to eliminate it? What one act might you perform to improve this condition? What would full health feel or look like for the one suffering? Other thoughts?*

This exhibit showcases a plethora of mediums, styles and processes with artists addressing concerns that range from racism and sexism to animal rights and environmental pollution. Augusta Savage Gallery invites the community to support these artists and each other in envisioning and reaching for a better world.

"I can't breathe," a cry, made eleven times by Eric Garner, an African American man, while lying face down on the sidewalk after being placed in a police chokehold is the inspiration for works featured in this show, one that reflects a wide range of visual thinking about social change.

## Participating Artists:

Samaneh Abri  
Reyhaneh Afzalian  
Josh Alan  
Joan Nahigian Appel  
Colin Chase  
Kelly Clark & Trinh Mai  
Stephanie Corne  
Rosetta DeBerardinis  
Abdoul-Ganiou Dermani  
John Devaraj  
Farzin Foroutan  
Jean Gallagher  
Rachel Gugler  
Olga Guse  
Alen Iljić  
Reza Isapour  
Dante Kirkman  
Laura Kiselevach  
Marie Lopez  
Aquila Ayana McCants  
Anne Murray  
Debra Priestly  
Amin Rostamizadeh  
Ruth Segaloff  
Tania Sen  
Hoda Shakibarad  
Thomas Steuer  
Iffy Tillieu  
Tony Wells  
Shirley Whitaker

# Samaneh Abri



*"Every person has a nature, but it's not the same as Nature. "*

Samaneh Abri was born in 1992 in Tehran, Iran. She has exhibited in a range of Iranian and European shows.



# Reyhaneh Afzalian



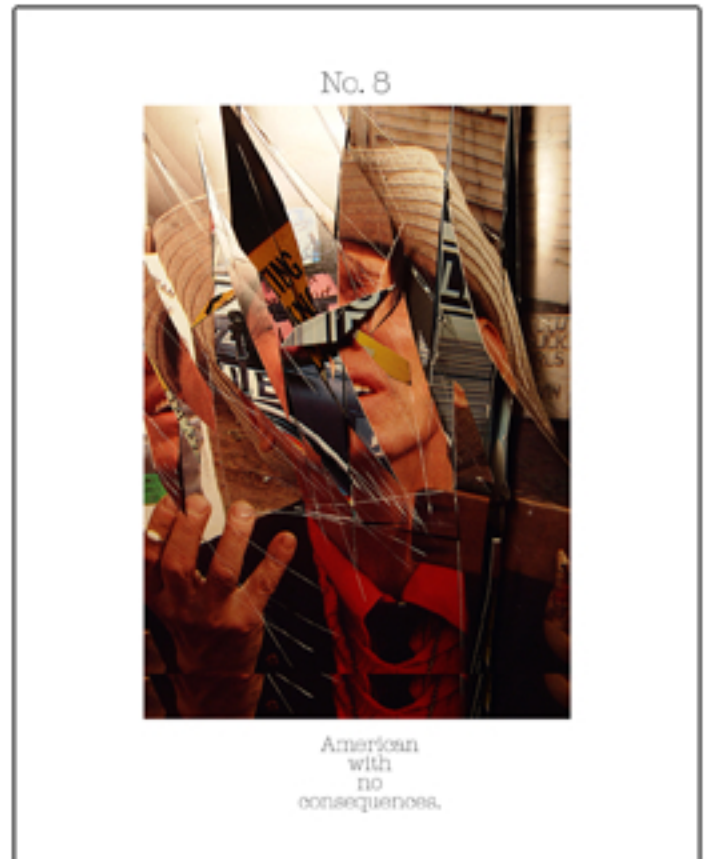
*"when you destroy life  
then life destroys you  
all things we have came from nature"*

Reyhaneh Afzalian, a student of painting in Art and Architecture at Azad University was awarded the 2013 diploma of excellence at the 9th Female Artist's Art Annual in England. She has exhibited in the U.S., Ireland, and France.

# Josh Alan



Bulletin No.3

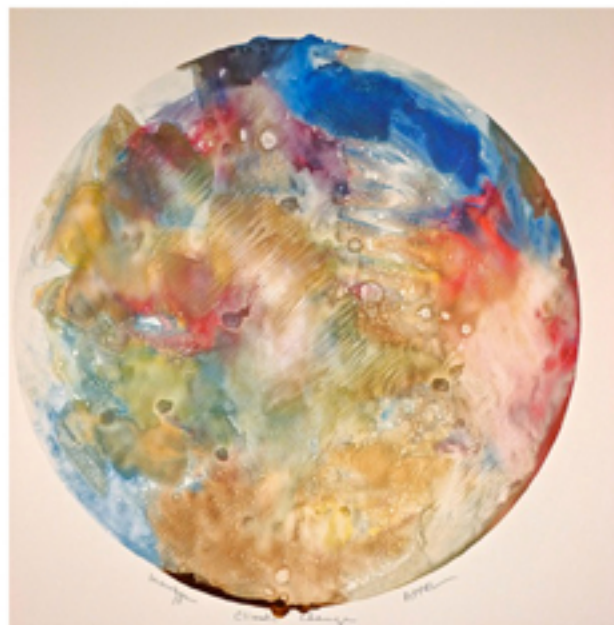


Bulletin No.8

*"My work looks at historical narratives in the hands of contemporary powers. As an artist, I am interested in the manipulation of imagery and information. History and memory change by natural course and by force. America is a place of manipulated histories. I work with visual history as a found object to explore issues of American identity and mythology."*

Josh Alan was born in 1983 in a small, paranoid town on the outskirts of Houston, Texas. He studied painting at Texas State University and eventually made his way back to Houston, where he now lives and works. Alan's work is expressive and dynamic, transitioning the familiar into obscurity and returning to the familiar. The jagged geometrics of his collage-based photography converge into faces and figures juxtaposed in and between texts, emblems, and icons. His work, which explores American mythology and iconography, is achieved through combinations of multiple disciplines including collage, photography, and digital processes.

# Joan Appel



*Climate Change*



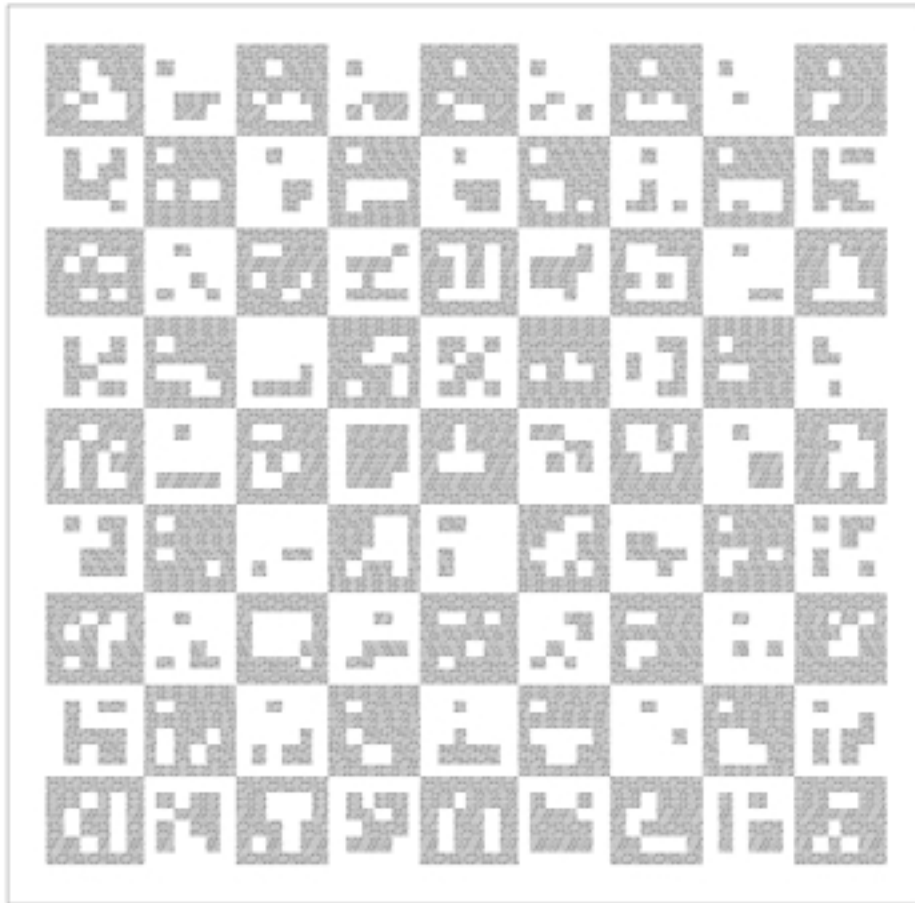
*Melting Ice Caps*

*"Humans are slowly destroying the planet. Ice caps are melting, climates are changing, our oceans are polluted. I feel strongly that if my art can emphasize this, it might have some influence on people to be more diligent about rectifying these problems. I do my part by using all non-toxic materials to create my art."*

Joan Nahigian Appel was educated at the Paier College of Art, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, DeCordova Museum, and many other places. Exhibiting in both solo and group contexts throughout New England, Joan is a member of the National Association of Women Artists, Monotype Guild of New England, The Boston Printmakers, and has taken part in invitationals in Washington D.C., and Falmouth England.



# Colin Chase



Gasp

*"Many Americans live in a palpable atmosphere of fear. The fear of law enforcement, the fear of race and gender bias is high on the list. These are polluting contaminants of the founding declaration of our great country. My digital drawing is a graphic visual from a distance. On closer inspection, it consists of a composition of three lines in a breathing cadence: 'I can't breathe in fear. You can't breathe in fear. We can't breathe in fear.'"*

Colin Chase lives and works in New York. He received an AAS from Fashion Institute of Technology, a BFA degree from Cooper Union and an MFA from the University of Michigan School of the Arts. His interests include sculpture, architecture, interdisciplinary art, eastern philosophy, poetry, jazz, current events and the flotsam and jetsam of our daily lives.

# Kelly Clark and Trinh Mai



*I Breathe With You*

*"While grieving the death of Eric Garner, we also exhale a laden sigh for the countless others who have endured cruel injustices and immense suffering in the struggle for life. Among these is Freddie Gray who died from a severe spinal cord injury while in police custody in Baltimore. A scarlet cord wraps each vertebrae - this lifeline that connects us all. This collection of intimate works aims to lift up the wounded who bear the afflictions brought on by the human condition. For these, we draw in a deep breath and exhale in union."*

Kelly Clark is a Washington-based artist whose mediums include metalsmithing, writing, painting, and drawing. Living in the evergreen forests of the Pacific Northwest in communion with nature, her work derives from the exploration of natural environments married with the experience of the awakened human condition. Kelly received her B.F.A. in Pictorial Art from San Jose State University, alongside extensive studies in Art History. Since then, Kelly has served as guest Gallery Curator, multi-media Art Teacher for True Center, and exhibits her pieces nationally, with works taking residency in private and public collections spanning six continents.

Trinh Mai is an interdisciplinary California-based artist whose work is driven by heritage and tradition and seeks to evoke personal, familial, and spiritual dialogues. Since receiving her B.F.A. in Pictorial Art from San Jose State University and furthering her studies at UCLA, Trinh has exhibited nationally, showing in public and private collections internationally. In addition to exhibiting, she has taken on diverse roles within the community, serving as Project Director for the Vietnamese American Arts & Letters Association (VAALA), Master Teaching Artist for the Bowers Museum, Course Developer for the Pacific Symphony, and Curator at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts.

# Stephanie Corne



*Unarmed and Dead*

*"My Facemotions portraits are a collection with a focus on the representation of someone's feeling onto the skin. I therefore mix the abstract (a feeling) and the figurative (a face) in the same format. In Unarmed and Dead, the wounds are flesh color because the color of the skin is directly related to the fact that there was disproportionate use of force in the Ferguson case and a dead person as a result. Their placement is the accurate location of where Michael Brown was shot. The people breathing are left with feelings of injustice, a need for healing and a responsibility towards the ones who senselessly are no longer breathing."*

Stephanie Corne was born on the outskirts of Paris, France in 1969. With a textile design degree, she moved to NYC in 1993 where she worked as a set painter, a muralist, decorative finisher and graphic facilitator. Already as a child she felt she expressed herself more accurately with paint than words. Her influences range from the classic masters to abstract expressionism as she sees figurative and abstract worlds as cohabiting realities. She lives with her husband and children in Brooklyn, NY.



# Rosetta DeBerardinis



*My Purple Heart*

*"My purple heart was broken when you were killed for being black in a country where your ancestors mattered because they were its human commerce. Where some have privileges by birth and history but scorn those whose experiences and opportunities differ by racial division-one man, one country, two nations. Upholding a flag with painful symbolism evoking hatred grounded in a war won but with flames still burning and the stench of gun fire still circling the air. A land where citizens are stratified by pigmentation then using it as a target for bigotry, hatred, exclusion, misconceptions and often death- nobody is free. So, I Breathe With You and bestow our nation's medal of honor to all who recently died on the battlefield while walking, buying Skittles, driving or sitting silently praying because some of us have turned our backs on you. "*

Rosetta DeBerardinis has a full-time studio practice a few steps from the nation's Capitol in Washington, D.C. Her work has been exhibited and sold at museums, commercial galleries and art venues both nationally and internationally and included in public and private collections. She has received grants from the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities for paintings in its public art collection, Liquitex, a major manufacturer of artist paint, awarded its 'Artist of the Month' in 2007 Her work is featured in the books, 100 Artists of Washington, DC and the One Word Project along with features in numerous magazines and newspapers.

# Abdoul-Ganiou Dermani



video still from "Tissa oukolo" ( We are one )

*"The video 'Tissa oukolo' (We are one) aims to promote love and peace among people. Regardless of race, ethnic background, religion, we must respect each other and live together in peace. We are all human beings, we are one people."*

Abdoul-Ganiou Dermani was born in Agou-Nyogbo, Togo and studied Painting and Batik Art at the College of Arts and Crafts in Kpalime, Togo. He currently lives and works in Stuttgart, Germany. His artistic practice takes on many forms including painting, drawing, mixed media, photography and video. He has exhibited internationally in Europe, India, the U.S. Africa and Russia and has been earned numerous prestigious awards for his work.

# John Devaraj



video still from "Angles of Hell"

*"I use all the skills I possess for the beautification of underprivileged people and to liberate the 134 million working children of India from human scavenging, the worst human right violation. I am very much with the issue of Eric Garner. Let all Black and Brown men breathe freely."*

John Devaraj is from Bangalore, India and is a painter, sculptor, mime artists, and theater artist.



# Farzin Foroutan



*Parallel Streams 1,*



*Parallel Streams 2,*



*Parallel Streams 3,*

*"The three artworks are from the Parallel Streams series. The two-dimensional images freeze a moment and situation that focuses on relationships between men and women, and images perceived in society about behavior and character. This perception continues generation after generations. "*

Farzin Foroutan was born in Mashhad (IR), and now lives in Tehran . He received his B.A in animation from the Iranian Broadcasting University(IRBU). Through photography and video he has developed a practice that focuses on social issues related to history and culture.

# Jean Gallagher



*Self X*

*"All stages of human development reap with periods of low self-esteem and inadequacy. Yet, when one does not fit into the majority, the discrimination is a form of torture superimposed on this fragile sense of self."*

Jean Marchese Gallagher lives in Northern California where she maintains a studio and also teaches art at the university level. Her work has been shown nationally, including exhibitions at P.S.1, The Alternative Museum, Pyramid Art Center, and Henry Street Settlement in New York City; as well as at Museo ItaloAmericano, Mace Gallery, and numerous universities. She has been a recipient of an NEA Interdisciplinary award and numerous state funded grants.

# Rachel Gugler



*Fluid Encounter*



*Fluid News*



*Saturation Pink*

*"My work has to do with the devastating repression of people, in the United States, and in the world. Saturation Pink is for transgender, gay and lesbian people: all of us who need more still than a federal directive for marriage equality to make us all equal. Saturation Pink, is a hope, a chapel saturated with history and love. Fluid News is a call to the world to stop the torture of people and the planet, and to give aid and sustenance to those in need. Fluid Encounter is for the creatures of the world."*

Rachel Gugler is a printmaker who works primarily with monotype and uses collage as well as stencils, collagraphs, and transfer drawings. She cites an early influence on her as the experience of seeing her mother come home from work with an apron full of black ink, and over the years watching her evolve in her work as a printmaker. Rachel is a member of Zea Mays Printmaking in Northampton, MA.



# Olga Guse



video still from "An Apple for Androgyne"

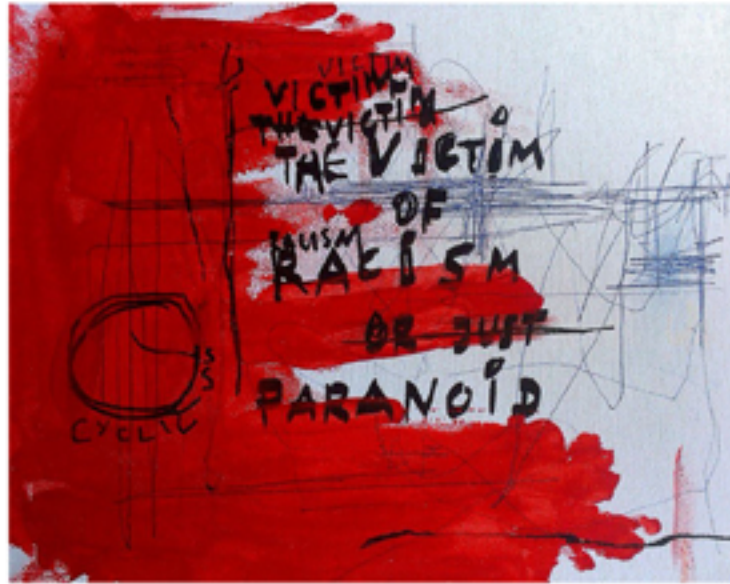


video still from "Decadence of Nature"

*"Earth pollution is increasing at alarming speed. Fantastic creatures, animals and people try to survive in the new conditions. On the one hand, they suffer from pollution, on the other they continue to sail on the waves of the consumer society. Androgyne is a symbol of man born physically or mentally between the two sexes. Throughout his life, he is torn between male and female, Adam and Eve inside and outside."*

Olga Guseva alias Olga Guse was born in the city of Saratov, Russia, and studied art and art history. Since 2003 she has lived in Germany. The director of the International Experimental Animation Festival, Olga has also participated in numerous art and film festivals and received honors in Spain and the U.S for her work.

# Alen Ilić



Cyclic, I



Cyclic, II



Cyclic, III

"As a mixed blood person, I was always victim of prejudices, such as racism and anti-Semitism. Since I became aware of the fact that the world needs lot's of changes, I've started including those problem story's into my art works. This art work reflects my mental situation, the schizoaffective disorder that I've developed trough the past years. "

Alen Ilić is a Serbian avant-garde composer and multimedia artist who studied film music City of Westminster College, and composition, orchestration, electronic music and sound engineering at the Faculty of Music in Belgrade.

# Reza Isapour



*Womb*



*White Day*



*Whithe(love)*

*"The human need to kindness and love is evident.  
If you do not love, you are forced into isolation."*

Reza Isapour was born in Iran, holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Culture and Art in Ardebil and has ten years of experience in experimental photography.



# Dante Kirkman



Credo



Clean Hands



Green Boy

"Credo" - The hashtag BlackLivesMatter has been everywhere after Ferguson and most recently after the South Carolina homicides. Here it was found as sidewalk art on MLK Day 2015 in San Francisco. I focus attention on this simple truth through digital enhancements to the message and blurring of the periphery, which becomes a credo for how we can all be bridges towards justice and peace as we affirm our common humanity towards one another.

Clean Hands - Each of us has a responsibility and accountability for our actions and moral character. Our hands can be a bridge extended to others to welcome and uplift them, or dirtied by bad conduct and withheld from helping others. Here, I captured members of SFPD congregating on a sidewalk on MLK Day, 2015, symbolic of the collective police presence historically, and the question of clean hands. Through the placement of the officer's hands we can sense his sober awareness of the power and duty that flow through his hands, and this gives some hope.

Green Boy - This work asks the question, 'Does it make a difference to you now that I am green?' I feel creative and liberated being green, but I already felt that way inside as a Black youth, so is this just a way to show you better what's inside me? But I heard from Kermit that it's not easy being green, so maybe shifting is not the answer? Perhaps those for whom the shifting is being done should begin to understand what it is. I think those who do the shifting already know."

Dante Kirkman is a public school secondary student and teen artist/photographer from Palo Alto, California. His work expresses his experience, viewpoint and creativity as a Black youth growing up in America. This includes his love of boxing and car culture, as well as his unique perspective growing up in Palo Alto, with the neighboring influences of East Palo Alto and Stanford.

# Laura M. Kiselevach



FUCK THE POLICE

*"Empty city walls and the blank barricades of urban development become a canvas for the disenfranchised."*

Laura M. Kiselevach is a native of Pittston, Pennsylvania and lives in New York City. After twenty years of working as a visual designer and photo stylist for such clients as Ralph Lauren, Tommy Hilfiger, DKNY, and The New York Times, she decided to pursue her passion for photography. Using only her well trained eye and a smart phone camera, she captures both the grandeur and minutia of her everyday life. Laura's work has been published in a range of publications and exhibited at galleries in New York City, Florida and Los Angeles.

# Marie Lopez



image of book *Degrade and Destroy*

*"Degrade and Destroy is a self-published perfect bound color book. Degrade and Destroy is a compilation of personal texts, manifestos and prose alongside published texts on situationism and psychogeography. In Degrade and Destroy I explore the idea of cryptoforestry as it relates to my own body and experience as a second generation Latina in an urban environment, engaging with these forests through urban foraging walks along the city of Boston, MA. Cryptoforestry is about nature as alienated entities, existing where they were never intended to, very much feeling like how displaced I am in the city. Neither here nor there. Managing to survive in an economy that was not made for me."*

Marie Lopez is an alum of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and Tufts University. Some of her themes include racial politics, interpersonal relationships online, social media induced fear and anxiety and humor. She believes humor is a great device of resistance, an idea realized as video performances, text based works and sculpture.



# Aquila Ayana McCants



*Transcending the Darkness*

*"This work was inspired by a lifetime of witnessing brutality, inflammatory signs, segregation and bombings. I have tried to speak against imperialism, racism, poverty, gender discrimination, incarceration as the new slavery, and cultural appropriation (rendering certain groups as invisible). What I haven't experienced, I have actively sought information and people to help me understand. My professional life has been devoted to rectifying inequities. My art is usually figurative, representing "everyday" people 'cause I'm everyday people trying to make a change."*

Aquila Ayana McCants was born in the poorest county of Alabama and raised by her Native American grandmother on land that stretched over 163 acres. The emancipated slaves on her father's side of the family purchased over a hundred acres on the other side of the county in 1883 that remains property for the Dees/McCants clan. Like many, the immediate members of the McCants family were part of the Great Migration, eventually moving to the South Bronx, New York. Nothing seemed so bleak. Economic pressures, segregated classrooms, police and gang violence, abandoned buildings, overpriced packaged food, drugs brought into the neighborhoods to anesthetize the community, and worst of all, people so numb by the oppression that they could not/ would not get involved: self-sustaining to dependency.

# Anne Murray



still from film "Shadows in the Sky"



still from film "Pa amb Tomaquet"

*"Shadows in the Sky is about how art becomes our voice in times when we feel we cannot express ourselves directly. It links Turkish cultural traditions from the past to the modern day, using the shadow play as a metaphor for life. The film incorporates the voices of Turkish people who lived through the Gezi Park protests of 2013. It is an opportunity for their voices to represent thousands who lived through and witnessed this crucial time in Turkish history."*

Anne Murray creates video poetry and photographic work and is currently living as an artistic nomad, traveling from one residency to another, mostly in Europe. She has American and Irish citizenships and draws inspiration from the changing borders of our world in relation to personal identity. She has exhibited her work in London, Paris, Shanghai, Istanbul, Los Angeles, New York, Belgrade, and Budapest. Her work can be found in various collections including the White House Permanent Collection and the Collection of Prints and Photographs at the Main Branch of the New York Public Library. She obtained a BFA from Parsons School of Design in Paris and an MFA and MS in Art History from Pratt Institute in New York City. She is also a writer and enjoys combining her written work with her photographs to create video poems.

# Debra Priestly



Strange Fruit 31

*"Strange fruit 31 comes from my ongoing series entitled preserves. The canning jars encapsulate portions of autopsy records assigned to Trayvon Martin and Sandra Bland, two young African American individuals who died as a result of racial assaults. I began this series in 1999 as a tribute to Amadou Diallo, an innocent twenty two year old immigrant from Guinea who was shot and killed by four NYC police officers when his wallet was mistaken for a gun. In light of our current unrest, including the rise of police brutality, racial injustice, and war, I continue this series in effort to bring awareness to these travesties and to remember souls lost."*

Debra Priestly is a mixed media visual artist exploring themes of memory, ancestry, history and cultural preservation. Her work has been exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions and appears in many public and private collections, including the AT&T, Schomburg Center of Research in Black Culture, The Sandor Family Collection, and Petrucci Family Foundation. Awards include two New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowships, Art Omi Residency, The Marie Walsh Sharpe Residency and the Elizabeth Foundation of the Arts Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop Fellowship. Priestly holds an MFA from Pratt Institute and a BFA from The Ohio State University. She lives and works in New York City and Upstate New York.



# Amin Rostamizadeh



*"These pieces are about women, whom through history have always been attacked on the basis of conditions prevailing in society. But their scars are deeper than the skin. Darkness, through this mutilation, corrupts their clarity and purity, decaying the spirit and body. Their souls are destroyed, gradually melting – they can neither see, nor be seen. Uncaring, we remained silent. Words catch in our throat, even when faced with their visages. We see our own inadequacy, and the results of our inaction. Their faces protest, their silence speaks. Suddenly, we realize we are a part of this tragedy. "*

Amin Rostamizadeh, born in Kerman, Iran earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in Painting, has been an art teacher at Shahid Bahonar University since 2010, and is a member of the Society of Iranian Painters.

# Ruth Segaloff



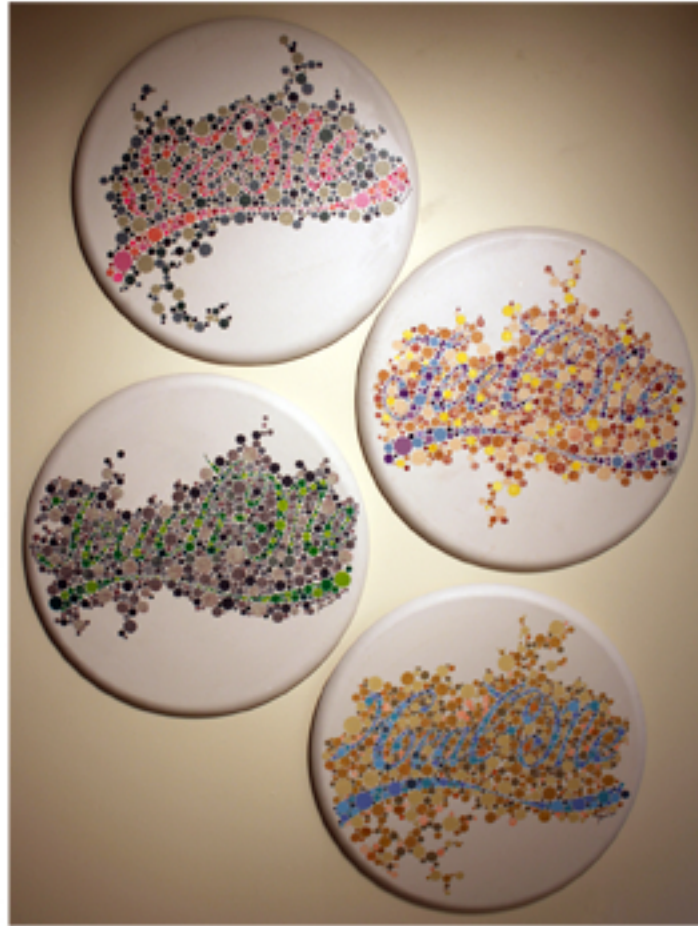
*Not In My Name: "Speaking Truth to Power"*

*"As a white Jewish American, I am outraged by the epidemic of white police officers killing unarmed black men and not being held accountable. Since when, at least in the twenty first century, did minor traffic violations, being black in an "upscale" white neighborhood, selling cigarettes without a license, holding a toy gun, or merely fleeing the police, deserve the death penalty? This artwork, 'Not in My Name,' is my way of saying 'Black Lives Matter.' Albert Einstein said, 'The evil in this world is not done only by those who commit it, but by those who stand by and do nothing.'"*

Ruth Segaloff grew up in New Orleans in the 1950s, at the violent beginnings of the civil rights movement, and was greatly influenced by it. In 1960, the city's ugly racism became national news when Ruby Bridges, a six year old African American child, was the first to integrate an all-white public school in the south. For her own safety, she had to be escorted to her first grade class by Federal Marshals, which Norman Rockwell captured in his work, "The Problem We All Live With." Like Rockwell, she considers it her responsibility to use her art to speak out for human rights and social justice.



# Tania Sen



*Color Vision*

*"My work addresses the tension between iconic unity and digital fuzziness, between the uncontaminated original and its inevitable decay, between recognizability and facelessness, between personal and depersonalized identity through substitution, mediation and commoditization. Drawing from mythology, politics, pop culture, ads, signage, my works emulate the process of materialization of a thought or imagination, bearing clues of transformation and morphing. Signs and symbols are tools of communication. Communication and its effectiveness determines distribution of power. Symbols do not discriminate. It is the understanding of symbols or lack thereof that disturbs the balance of power."*

Tania Sen was born in Kolkata, India. She currently lives and works in New York/New Jersey. Through painting, drawing, sculpture and installation she explores traditional symbolism through personal interpretation. Sen graduated with Honors in English Literature from Calcutta University and completed a Masters in Communication Arts from New York Institute of Technology. She completed an MBA while working in the advertising and design industry in New York City. After being in the industry for some twenty years, she turned to teaching and art therapy.



# Hoda Shakibarad



*"Element used in this work of art are nostalgic because I want to show that just as these elements are worn and old as human values, humanity too is worn and threadbare."*

Hoda Shakibarad is an Iranian artist who earned a B.A. degree in Graphics at Tehran University.

# Thomas J. Steuer



heart



medieval

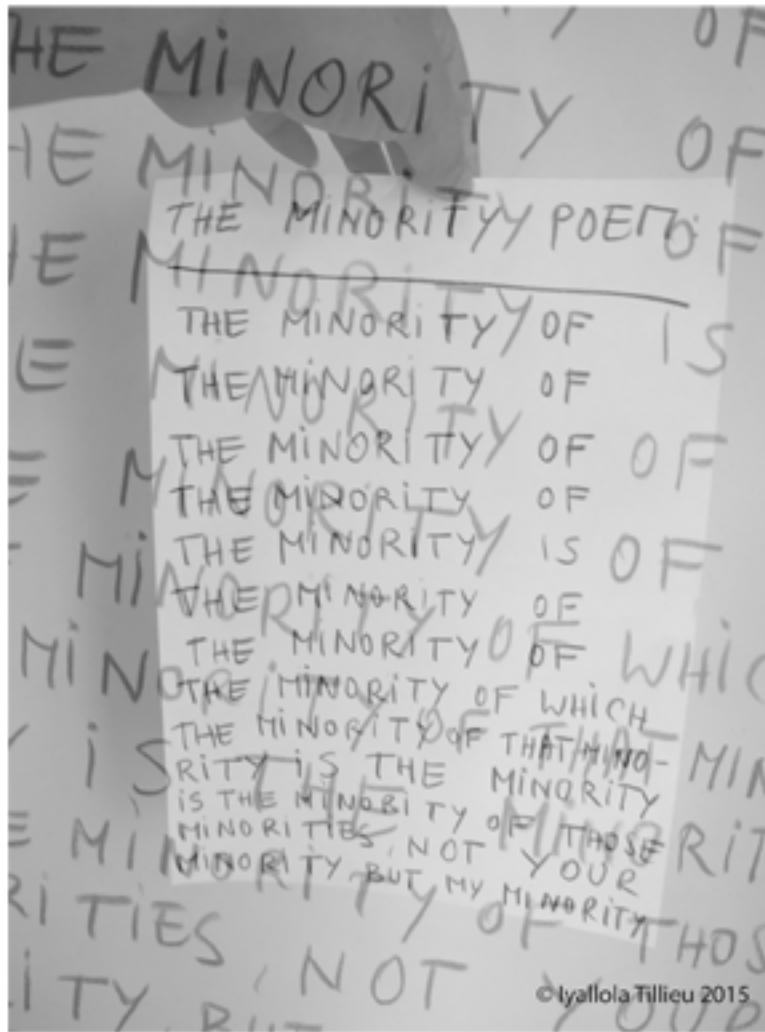


there is no escape

*"Believing in the equality of man and fighting, talking, creating against racism all my life is a big part of me. Living among the Lakota people for 12 years and experiencing racism, every day influenced my work as such. In the words of an old friend of mine, Dave American Horse, 'What do you see if I cut off my arm, what's inside ? What do see if you cut off your arm, what's inside? Its blood, what color does it have ? Are we not all red inside?'"*

Thomas J. Steuer, born in Munich, Germany creates photography, graphic design, photo art, multi-media shows and writes poetry, essays, children stories and fairy tales. He has travelled and lived in Greece, Spain, UK, Italy, France, Finland, USA, Canada and Costa Rica, and has studied native art and culture with several tribes in South Dakota, Canada and Brazil.

# Iffy Tillieu



video still from "Minority Poem"

*"Art is a way for adults to (remain) play(ing). In the field of art, adults can try the existing, the normative, the common good, and reverse their meanings and uses. Art is not about making something beautiful or appealing. We must be ready to start all over again each and every time to create a whole new universe. I want myself and the viewer to self-reflect. For this, I create a sense of unease, I create shame, I reverse social roles, I reverse gender-roles, I break rules and codes, I gate-crash. Everything I do and make is autobiographical, whether I disguise this or not."*

Iffy Tillieu was born in Brussels in 1978 and graduated from Luca School of Arts in 2003. She has exhibited in Berlin, Amsterdam, Brussels, Canada, Tehran, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Copenhagen, Auckland, London, Vienna and Istanbul. She explores the impact that borders, whether visible or invisible, and whether mental, cultural or visual have on human conditions.



# Tony Wells



*Railroad Underground*

*“Railroad Underground depicts the unjust criminal process that exists in this country for the poor, minority and middle class. By underfunding public defense assistance and overloading defense attorneys’ client list, there is a natural push by attorneys to accept pleas despite their clients’ guilt. The bail system adds to that pressure on the clients themselves. The modern day middle class can ill afford the price of an attorney with ongoing adjournments used by prosecutors to force their acceptance of their terms of plea bargain. The prosecuting attorneys and police frame the defendant within the parameters of the penal law and evidence procured without regard for the actual truth of an incident. I know this from working within the court system for thirty years.”*

Tony Wells’ works are often like music in its movement, its rhythm and harmony within structure and color schemes. At other times, his work is more visual. The manipulation of old magazines, books and image sources allowed him to pull media from other sources, which inspires resourcefulness. His collages are made up of separate pieces of paper with carefully chosen image, color and structural properties.

# Shirley Whitaker



*"I trust that the evolution of my work will always be consistent and true to the high ideals of my ancestors, and accessible and stimulating to all."*

Shirley Jackson Whitaker is a native of Waycross, a small south Georgia town. Her formal art training has been very limited and experience in the art world short, but she has already demonstrated extraordinary skills and love for all aspects of the field. Her mother always said that her artistic skills were "gifts from your grandmother" who displayed abilities in playing the piano, singing and drawing. Using subjects and ideas from her up bringing in the south, Dr. Whitaker expresses her love for life and people in a style that is colorful and simple. The excitement in her work so impressed printmaker Leonard Baskin that he offered to help expand her skills in etching and printing.



