



collage artists of america

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2018



A Little Bit of Madness

A CAA Members-Only Show
 Juried by:
 Melinda Smith Altshuler
 January 31 - February 18, 2018
 Topanga Canyon Gallery
 120 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd.
 Ste. 109, Pine Tree Circle
 Topanga, CA



No great genius has ever existed without some touch of madness -- Aristotle

A LITTLE BIT OF MADNESS WILL END SOON.
 CLOSING RECEPTION IS SUNDAY FEB. 18 FROM 1-3.
 PICKUP OF EXHIBITED WORKS IS 3-4 PM.

Barbara Tabachnick *Home Again 2*, 10" x 8" mixed media and Carol Kay, *Rethinking Paradise*, 22 x 28 mixed media



The works in CAA's current show at the Topanga Canyon Gallery, "A Little Bit of Madness," were specially chosen by the juror, Melinda Smith Altshuler, to highlight the variety of contemporary approaches to collage. She selected traditional work such as those using many pieces of paper, minimalist collages, assemblage, and new media. The gamut of styles created an exciting exhibit. During the opening reception, the juror took us on a tour of the diverse award winners, thereby spotlighting the careful selection of many visions.

Of 106 works submitted, 45 by 27 artists were chosen for the Madness exhibit. The gallery is small and was recently remodeled to open up the space. Donna Geist Buch and her crew expertly hung the show, which fit very comfortably. Many of the pieces were small, and a few at about three feet commanded immediate attention. Several of the works on pedestals were grouped in the center of the room in their own fantasy zone. Happily, there have been two sales, Susie Gesundheit's *Henry Moore Yarn Figure* and Marie Chapian's *Lovers On The Train Reading Interesting Material*.

Many thanks to Sylvia H. Goulden, who solved vexing problems with online entries, for organizing CAA's latest jewel of a show.





Sylvia H. Goulden, Melinda Smith
Altshuler, and Melinda Warren,
Photo by Kwei-lin Lum



2nd Honorable Mention--Melinda Warren "Box Stack 3"

Melinda Warren's assemblage piece, a tall stack of older, sometimes altered boxes, tipped over slightly. 35" x 23" x 19"



1st Honorable Mention--John Selleck "Round Back"

John Selleck's piece was singled out for an award for its minimalism. Ms. Altshuler wondered if the minimalism was the result of subtracted images, or a simple idea. John replied that his piece originally had a picture on the wall, but he removed the picture because the detail at the edge of the piece became lost. About 8" x 10"



Susanne Belcher and
Sylvia H. Goulden, photo
courtesy Susanne Belcher

Third Prize—Susanne Belcher “Renewal”

Susanne Belcher’s work was noted for its quiet photographic imagery. Of special interest was her use of transparency film on which she had scanned images and used as an overlay on her collage. 8” x 10”



Second Prize—Harriett Lahana “Very Odd”

Harriett Lahana’s well-composed piece used many collage elements that enhanced its surface. Ms. Altshuler especially liked the surrealistic elements, which harken back to an old collage tradition. 22” x 30”



First Prize—Marie Chapian

“Lovers On The Train Reading Interesting Material”

The juror was drawn to the humor, color, size, and composition of Ms. Chapian's work, and its simplicity, too. She then checked it up close to confirm that it held up, and confirmed that it was collaged. She was ultimately moved by its sensitivity, with the tilted heads and the feeling of love. 36" x 36"



Sharon Brooks *Too Much Tea?*

Karol Blumenthal
Doll's Cadillac



Sylvia Goulden and Melinda S. Altshuler



Wendy Tigerman and Suzan Alparsian—photo
S. Belcher



Lois Ramirez *Anomaly*

Barbara Margolies repairs
Earth Shoe



Karen Schifman *Trouble With Sleep*



Kwei-lin Lum *Iz & Clo Freak Out*

John Selleck accepting award



D. Mellein *Ivy Has Her Opinions*



Darlene Mellein, Peggy Miley



Janet Black *Second Thoughts* Deborah de Bono *Frog Moon*



Susan Gesundheit *Henry Moore Yarn Figure*



NEXT GENERAL MEETING –FRIDAY MARCH 23
GUEST SPEAKER—NANCY GOODMAN LAWRENCE
ALSO. . .

For the March meeting...



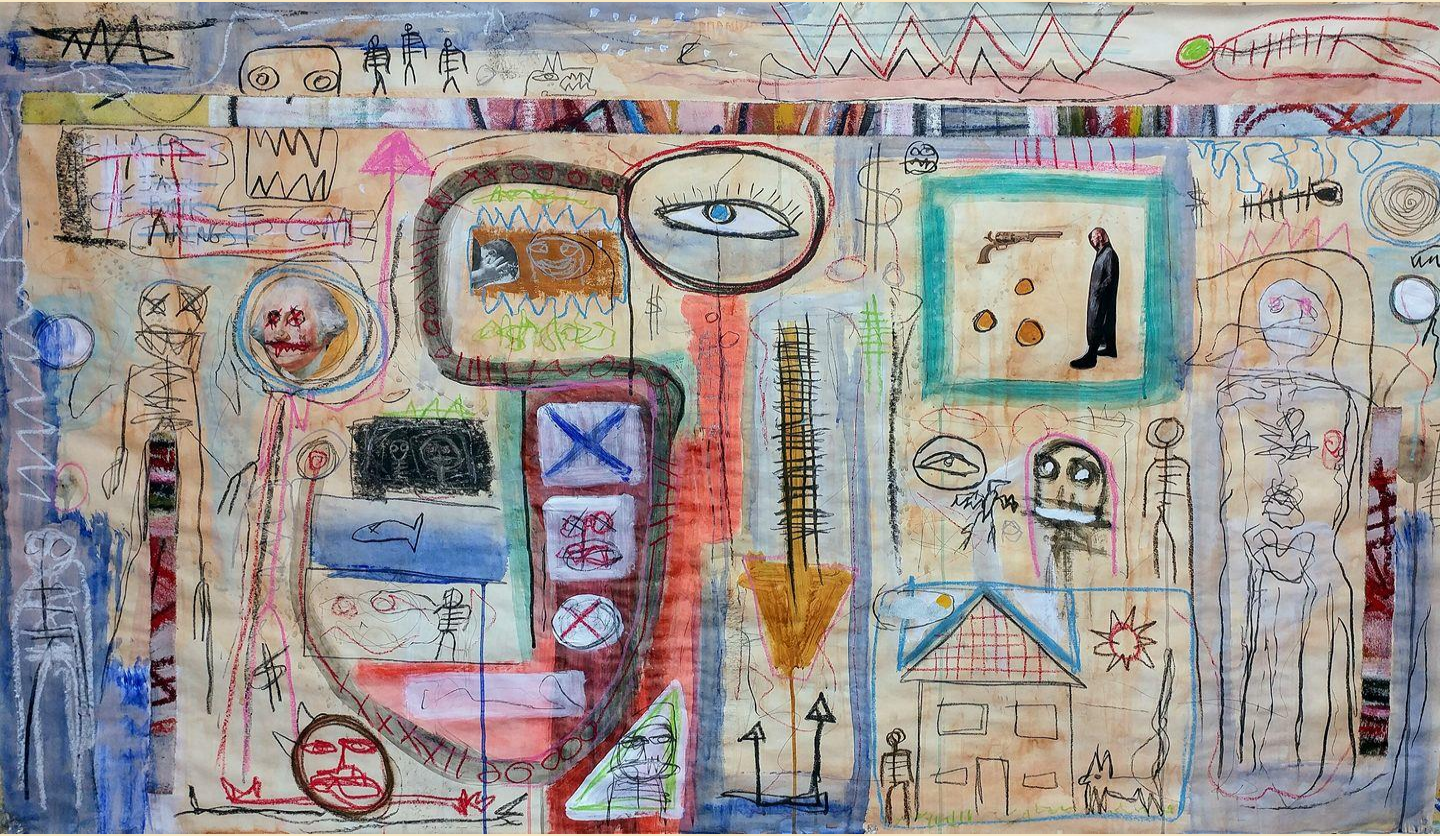
you're invited to bring a collage, no larger than 10 x 10, using a minimum of 2 images from 10 we are choosing.

If this sounds like fun, please email your street address NOW to wendy at letigreuno@icloud.com and she will send you the images.

SPOTLIGHT OPPORTUNITY FOR NEW MEMBERS

If you are a new member as of July 1, 2017, we would love to see your work and get to know you better. We will have a table set up at our general meetings especially for new members should you wish to bring a couple of your artworks to display. It's not mandatory, but you'll be given the option. Feel free to include a bio and artist statement as well. Time willing, you may also choose to introduce yourself and if you brought something to show, *briefly* talk about one of your pieces before we begin our Raffle. If you have any questions, please contact our Membership Chair, Susanne Belcher at Susannebelcher@yahoo.com.

GENERAL MEETING--FRIDAY JANUARY 26 2018



"Another attempt at combining collage elements with painting, 3ft by 5ft." Magazine cut ups, old cut sketches, pieces of old canvas, glued to paper , with paint, charcoal, pastels
Angus Carter, *Untitled*, posted by the artist on Collage Artists of America Facebook page 1-27-18

FACEBOOK

All attendees at our general meeting had their say about the re-evaluation of family friendly guidelines for Facebook posting. Here are the revised rules per page administrator Wendy Tigerman:

1. Nudity is fine, but not porn as in sexually explicit imagery.
2. Depiction of violence is OK, but advocating it in any way is not.
3. Religious iconography is welcome.
4. You may post only ONE image per day. If you just post a link to your page or website, that will be deleted.
5. The only exceptions to the "one image" rule is if your work is a diptych or triptych. OR, if you are showing different angles of an assemblage.

CAA's Facebook page is chock full of daring and exciting collages, often with pop imagery and heavy on surrealism. There are a whopping 5,295 members. Feel free to explore this public page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/collageartistsofamerica/>



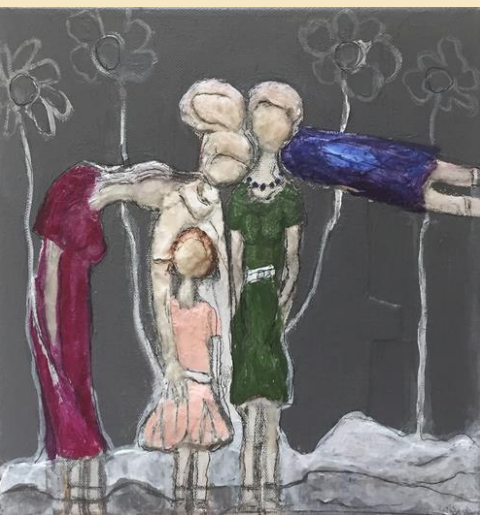
VISIT THE CAA FACEBOOK PAGE

Bonobo Stone,
21st Century Modigliani

Alan McCormick,
At the Station

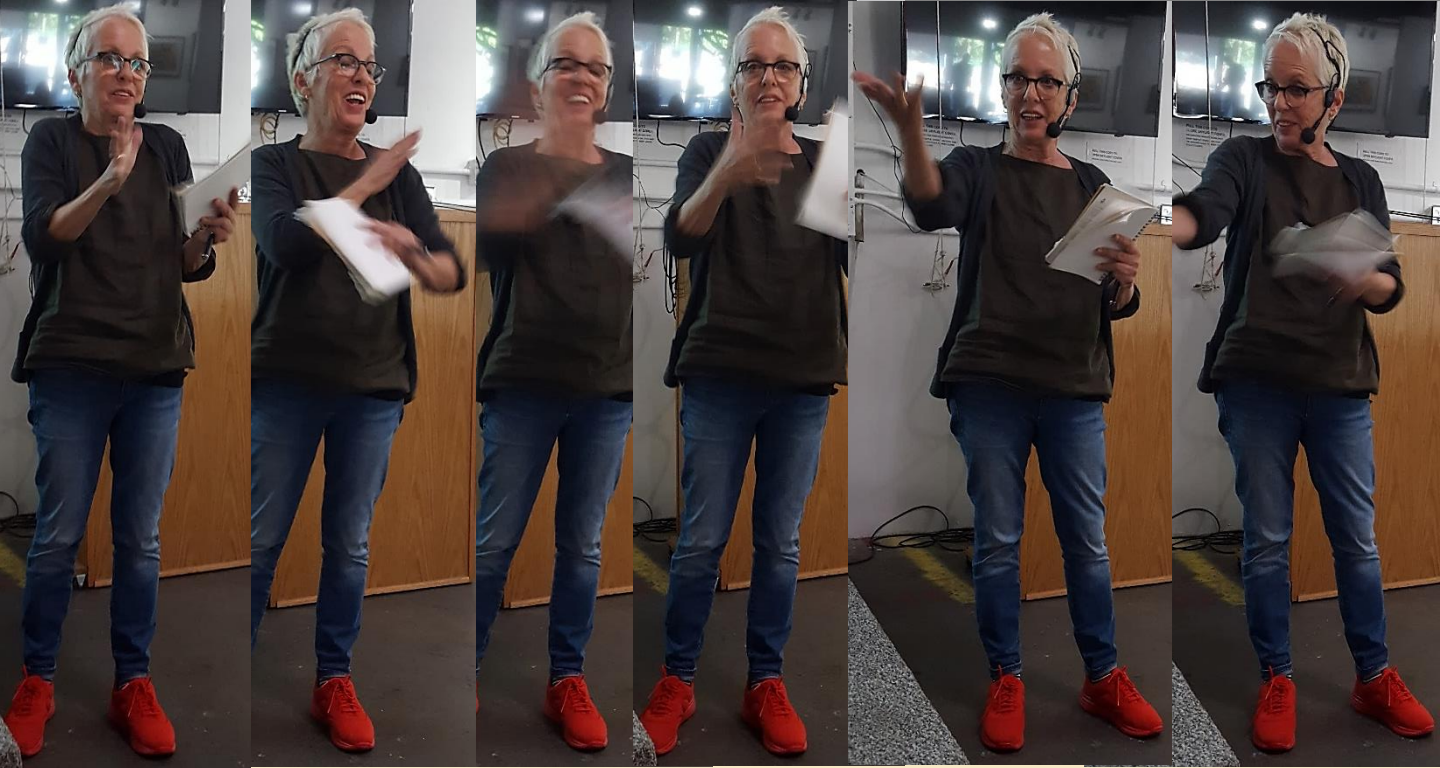


GENERAL MEETING--FRIDAY JANUARY 26 2018



Malka Nedivi, (above)
*Floating Lady and
Floating Man 2*
(right) *Woman in Red
Dress* (left) *My Big
Doll*





GUEST SPEAKER MALKA NEDIVI

Malka Nedivi charmed our audience with unfettered, expressive snippets from her life and artmaking. She was born in Israel, immigrated to the U.S. in 1980, then in 1996 returned to Israel for about 5 years to care for her elderly mother. Much of her life was spent in theater and the film industry, and she began to experiment with visual art in middle age. She started by sculpting in clay, then became compelled to cut fabric, especially old clothes, which are among her primary materials. Her figures are huge, her “doll” scale is larger than life and many of her pieces, which are constructed using a ladder, exceed 6 feet. She gleefully admits that they tend to fall down. In general, she builds a wire framework and adds layers of fabric, paper, glued and glued together, and paints with acrylic. Sometimes she builds with fabric and paper on flat pieces of wood. As detail photos show, her work is richly layered.

Her primary inspiration is her family, especially her beloved eccentric mother. An only child of parents who were married in a concentration camp, Malka’s figurative creations spring from a desire to build a family and history that was wiped out in the Holocaust. She also depicts houses, as if to address the immigrant’s question of where is her home, because she never seems settled in one place. Some of her large figures float as if hung on a clothesline. Lately, she dreamed of marionettes and has started to make moving sculptures.

Malka creates many of her works simultaneously, and they have conversations with each other, with solutions on one helping another. She has no plan and works very intuitively. Sometimes she continues to develop her pieces after they come home from an art show. As an artist, she feels and works straight from the gut. She has over the years accumulated a body of work that is engaging, with colorful personalities and often colorful surfaces.

For more information, go to <http://www.malkanedivi.com/>

Also at her website is a preview of her film about her family, 'Tzipora's Nest.'



Darlene Mellein and Nicki Newfield photo by S. Gesundheit

Sharon Brooks and Nicki Newfield



Susie G wins Malka Nedivi's raffle prize



photo by S. Gesundheit



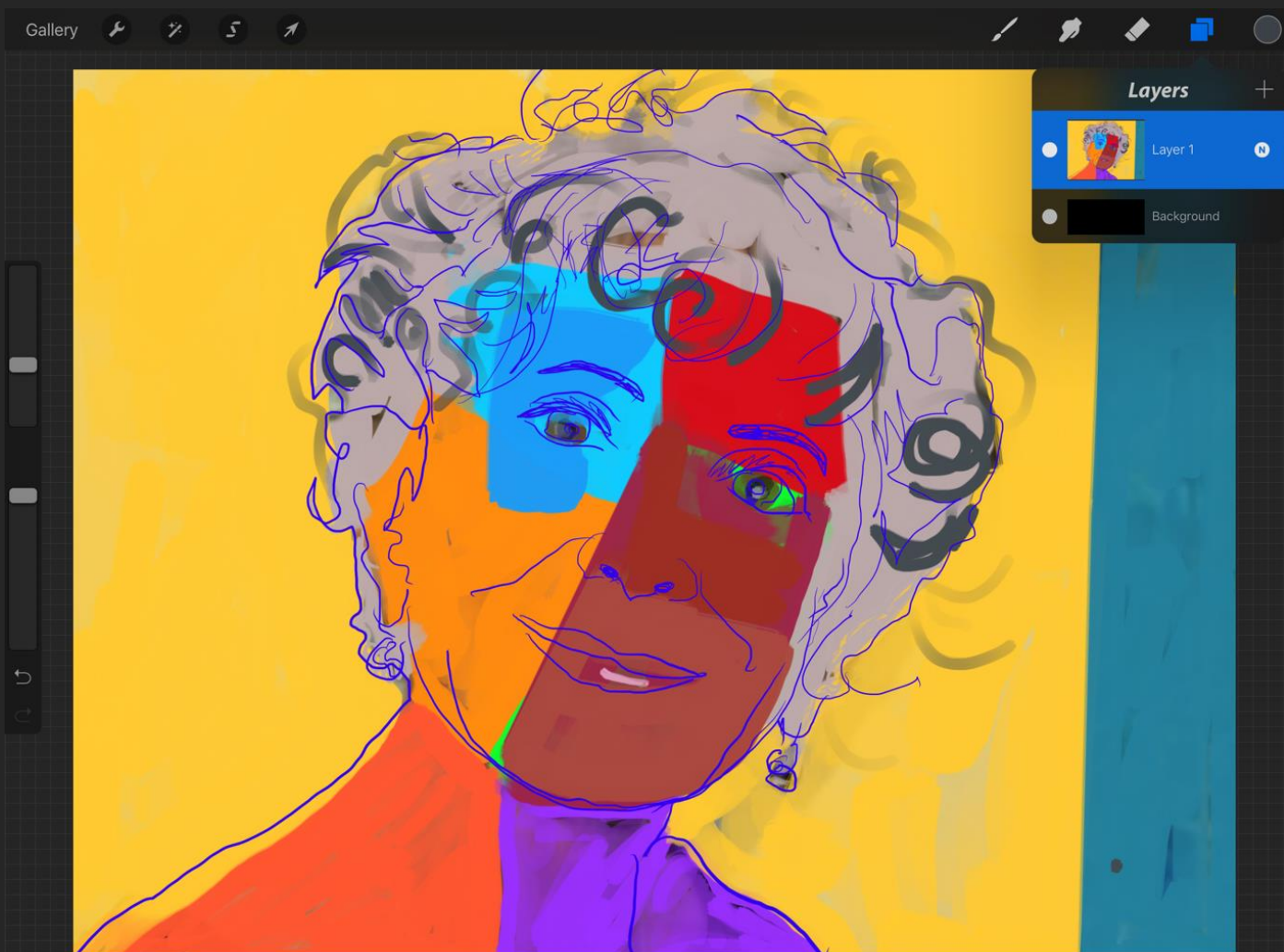
(above) New member Ronnie Loeser and (left) Ruth Banarer and Rea Nagel

CAA general meeting Jan 26 2018 amidst the show, Street Scenes II, SFVACC



FEATURED ARTIST FEBRUARY 2018

RACHELLE MARK



What ideas/themes have you embraced in your body of artwork?

I make art about my interests, family influences, my inspiring thoughts and what turns me on at the moment.

What are your favorite collage materials and what makes them exciting?

Favorite collage elements are papers with texture, subtle colored patterns, yarn, netting, photos , sand and various ephemera.

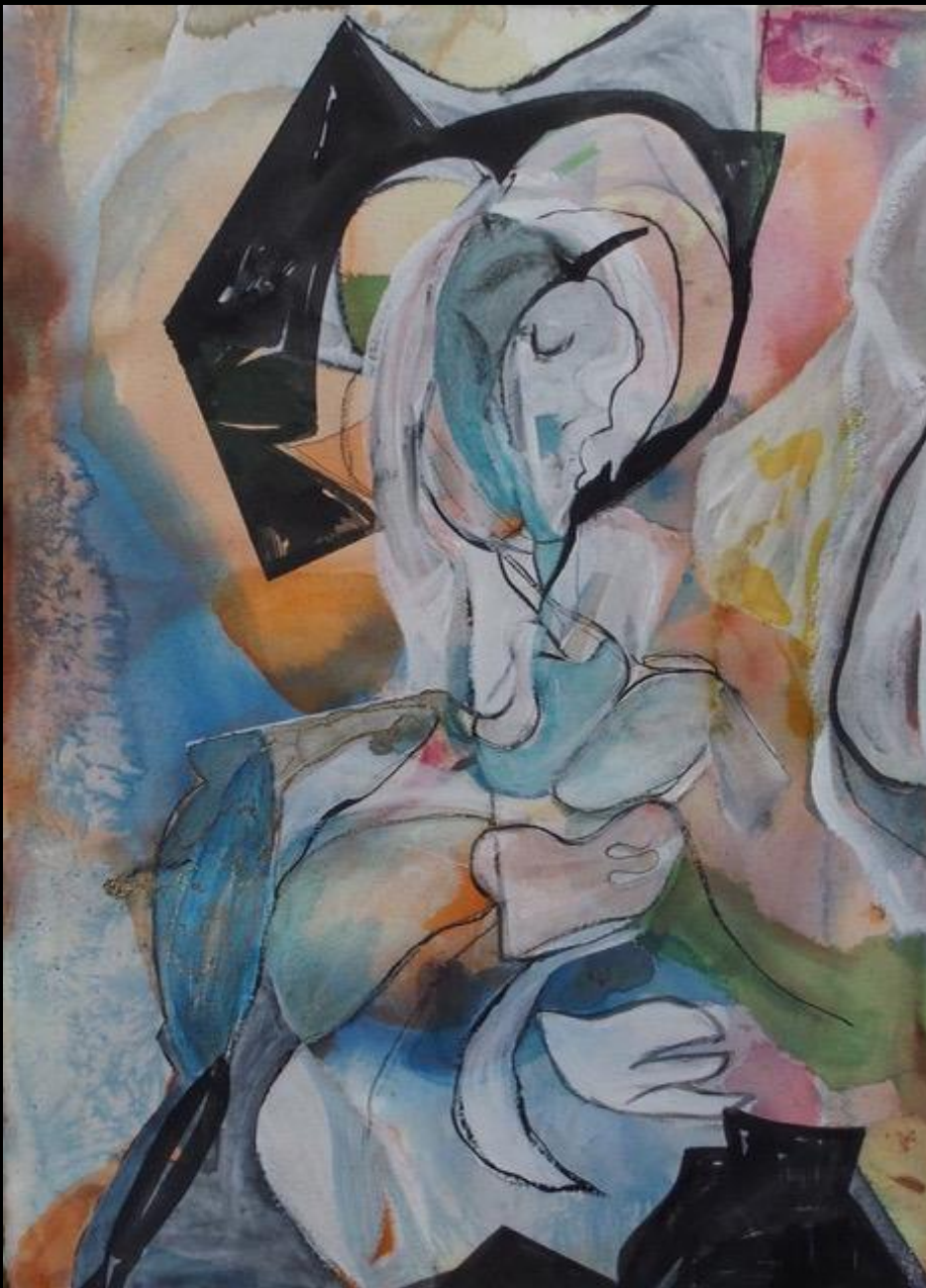
If you had a personal flag, what would be on it, and why?

My personal flag would show “wings of desire.”

A drawing of angel/bird wings, symbolic of moving from the physical world to the spiritual world.



If you had endless time and resources, what art project would you undertake? It is not a matter of endless time; it is more about self-discipline and persistent effort which I do not do ENOUGH of. My goal is to do contour drawing, gesture drawing and value studies every day for an hour or so. These would be objects around me and also abstractions of these things.

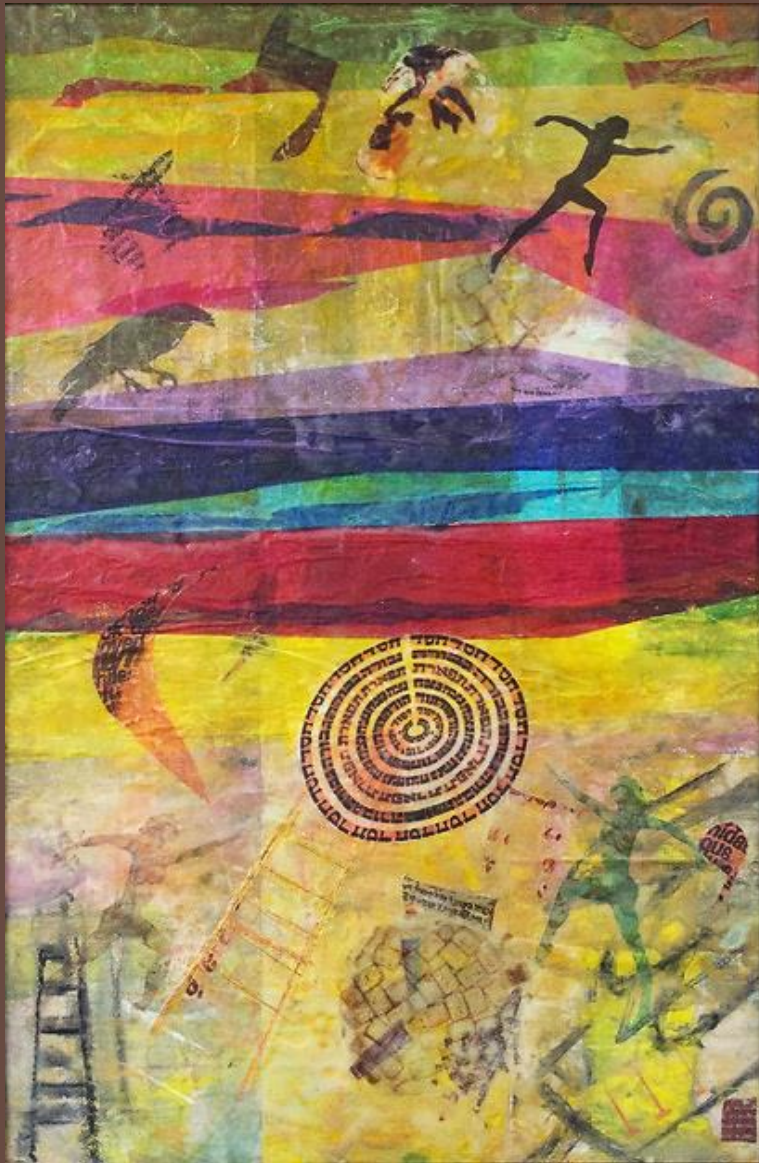


Who are your two favorite artists and why?

My favorite 2 artists are Picasso and Matisse.

Picasso's words-- "Every child is an artist. The problem is staying an artist when you grow up." This is profoundly important to me . I try to work intuitively and without self-consciousness. And to have a sense of play in the work.

Matisse I love because he uses color boldly and violently in order to express his idealized conception of the world. He depicts the world as a place of happiest intensity. His creative spirit is dazzling.



What are the three most important art lessons that you would impart to a collagist?

The most important advice I have for collagists are:

1. Unify, know your intention and be one with the essence.
2. Give the same attention to the principles of visual harmony—focus, composition, value, color and texture.
3. AND find the balance between the abstract and real.

CALENDAR

2018

JANUARY 31—
FEBRUARY 18, 2018
CAA EXHIBIT AT THE
TOPANGA GALLERY—
"A LITTLE BIT OF
MADNESS"—JUROR
MELINDA SMITH
ALTSHULER

SUN FEBRUARY 18
CLOSING RECEPTION
1-3PM
PICK UP ARTWORK
3-4PM

FRIDAY MARCH 23
2018—GENERAL
MEETING
GUEST SPEAKER
NANCY GOODMAN
LAWRENCE

FRIDAY MAY 18
2018—GENERAL
MEETING

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 28
2018—GENERAL
MEETING

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 30
2018—GENERAL
MEETING

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for newsletter submissions is the **second of each month**. The newsletter publishes nearly every month. If you know of collage-related art shows, workshops, or exhibit opportunities, or if you're a CAA member and are participating in a show or fair, let us know.

E-mail Kweilin111@aol.com

Click on our website's "DONATE" button to make charitable contributions to CAA! The button is on our homepage. Donations help fund our scholarship and educational programs.

CALL FOR GRAPHICS

To CAA members interested in lending photos of their work for newsletter use—Please send one digital jpg file of one of your pieces to Kweilin111@aol.com. Please include your name, title, and size of the work. Graphics are handy for newsletter space fillers, and sometimes details from the works are used for patterns. If you don't want your work chopped up, please so state and the newsletter will use only a whole image. Thanks.

NEW MEMBERS

Abby Diamond

Tujunga CA

a.gemofagirl@gmail.com

MEMBER NEWS

Condolences to the family of BEN GOLDMAN, who passed away peacefully January 5. Ben was an early active member of Collage Artists of America and served several terms on the board. He also co-founded Los Angeles Experimental Artists in 1990.



Barbara Tabachnick has four paintings in "Chaos and Order" at La Galeria Gitana in San Fernando, 120 N Maclay Ave Ste E, San Fernando, CA 91340. The show runs from Feb 24 (opening reception 6-9pm) to Apr 6.



Barbara Tabachnick, *African Landscape*

Melinda Warren recommends an excellent exhibit at the Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art at Pepperdine University, 24255 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu CA:

Alexis Smith, *Private Lives and Public Affairs*, January 20-April 1 2018. "For over 40 years, Alexis Smith has made collages that explore the impact of popular culture on our lives. She typically begins with an array of images—ranging from thrift-store finds to nostalgic advertisements—and juxtaposes them with poetic and poignant texts. Her art underscores the powerful role that media has in shaping our self-image and reminds us that meaning is often fugitive and always surprising."—from promotional material for the show

OPPORTUNITIES

2018 Comics, Anime, Cartoons and Fantasy

[VIEW MORE INFO](#)

Fee: \$35.00

Entry Deadline: 3/3/18

MEDIUM: All*

ARTIST NOTIFICATION: *March 11th, 2018*

ART DELIVERY DATE: March 26th to 31st, 2018

SHOW DATE: April 5th to April 27th, 2018

Entry Fee: \$35

Do you love comic books, superheroes, or anime? Las Laguna Gallery is now accepting submissions of artwork comprised of or inspired by Comics, Anime and Animations. There are no restrictions on content, style, medium or context, but your entries should fit this theme, either traditionally or digitally, in some way. We invite and encourage artists of ALL ages to participate and look forward to seeing your work.

DÉPAYSER

For **California** artists

Deadline: 02-28-2018

Alliance Française de Pasadena

Pasadena, CA

The French language consists of many words that cannot be translated neatly into English. “Dépayser” describes the fundamental experience of leaving your comfort zone: that which accompanies, for example, learning a new language or visiting a foreign country. Literally, the verb “dépayser” means to displace somebody, causing a change in scenery and routine, and by extension, disorientation and a feeling of strangeness. This upheaval is particularly manifest in art, as Marcel Proust explains in *Time Regained*: “Our vanity, our passions, our spirit of imitation, our abstract intelligence, our habits have long been at work, and it is the task of art to undo this work of theirs, making us travel back in the direction from which we have come to the depths where what has really existed lies unknown within us.” As part of the International Month of Francophonie, the Alliance Française de Pasadena invites artists to show their work inspired by the French word “dépayser.”

Open to all California artists age 18 and older.

Contact: Lacey Minot

email: internafdepasadena@gmail.com

Phone: 626.683.3774

Website: <http://afdepasadena.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/call-for-art-version-5.pdf>

CAA MEDIA AND CONTACT INFORMATION

CAA WEBSITE

<http://www.collageartists.org>

CAA FACEBOOK GROUP

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/collageartistsofamerica/>

CAA E-MAIL

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CAA SNAIL MAIL

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Wendy Tigerman,
5" x 5"