

"COHESION"

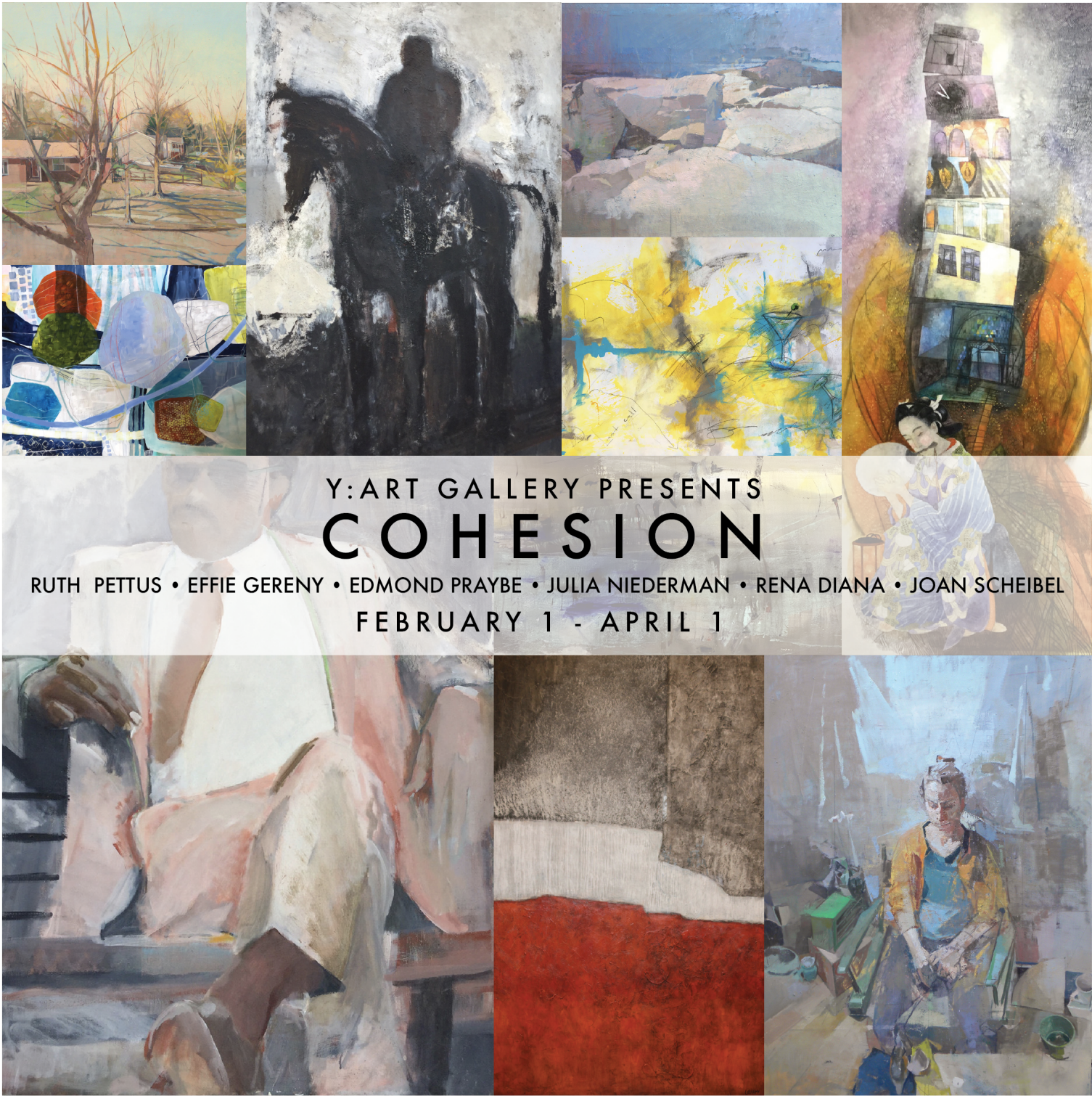
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*Ruth Pettus, Effie Gereny, Edmond Praybe, Julia Niederman,
Rena Diana, and Joan Scheibel.*

February 1 - April 1, 2021.



Y:ART GALLERY & FINE GIFTS



COHESION

FEBRUARY - APRIL 1, 2021

Featuring the work of:

Ruth Pettus, Effie Gereny, Edmond Praybe, Julia Niederman, Rena Diana, and Joan Scheibel.

Visible, thick, expressive brush strokes fill the walls of the gallery. Perhaps a palette knife was used to apply the paint directly on to the canvas. One moment a figure is clearly visible, but as you observe further you find that the figure has disappeared into a collage of color and texture. This exhibition is a cohesive combination of works from some of our favorite artists that have been with Y:ART from the very start. Some works you may even recognize from previous shows. These fantastic paintings deserved a second chance to be displayed in a dynamic and cohesive curation!

COHESION is on display by appointment only from February 1 - April 1. Please contact our curator Juli Yensho to make an appointment via phone (443-928-2272) or via email (yartgallery3402@gmail.com).

We look forward to sharing this remarkable show with you!

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

RUTH PETTUS

Pettus has a long history of depicting men in her paintings. These men are often large and looming, indistinct but imbued with character. They are the main focus of many of Pettus' works, often shown walking or standing on an obscure background. They are faceless, vacant, without expression; because Pettus decided that faces are unnecessary for the purpose of these paintings. The men depicted in these works are simplified, quiet subjects, utilizing a limited color palette, but each with their own very powerful presence. Pettus started as an abstractionist, and this style is carried into her more recent paintings. Through the evolution of her technique, subjects were discovered and given shape, while remaining vague and suggestive. Although the focus of each work is nebulous, Pettus is able to represent the

significance of human connection through the emotional experience of the viewer. Each reaction is personal and unique to the individual.

EFFIE GERENY

Gereny's practice is heavily influenced by her travels, most specifically in California, Greece, and Japan. Her memories of light, shape, texture and color from these locations help to inform the content of her work. Her work encompasses a variety of calculated brushstrokes and applications of paint, each adding dimension to the picture plane. Utilizing these techniques, her practice alludes to nature in the form of abstraction rather than imitating nature itself. Her work carries a distinct organic quality while simultaneously feeling pleasantly contrived. We hope that you can join us at the opening reception for this captivating exhibition.

EDMOND PRAYBE

Praybe is a Baltimore area based painter and draftsman with a home and studio in Arnold, MD. His current work is a group of paintings and drawings dealing with the themes of still-life, figures in interiors and landscape. The paintings address traditional motifs in painting, but in new and interesting ways. Edmond has been teaching painting at Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold, Maryland since the Fall of 2015. Prior to teaching and upon completion of graduate school he traveled to Europe on the competitive Hohenberg Award. Edmond utilized the award to study paintings from the Italian Renaissance to the modern masters throughout Italy, Amsterdam, and London. His works have been included in solo, small group and national juried exhibitions throughout the U.S., extensively in New York and the Baltimore metro area. His work has been included in exhibitions at Prince Street Gallery, Bowery Gallery, Manifest Gallery, as well as the art Galleries of the University of S. Mississippi and the University of Maryland, College Park among others. Mr. Praybe has received a grant from the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation. He has also received several exhibition awards from the Maryland Federation of Art as well as The Mitchell Gallery at St. John's College in Annapolis, MD and Plein Air Easton, in Easton, MD. Mr. Praybe is currently represented by First Street Gallery in New York, the Bridge Gallery in Shepherdstown, West Virginia and Y Art Gallery in Baltimore, Maryland. He received his MFA from the New York Studio School's painting program in 2012. The program consisted of an intensive studio element and in-depth critiquing with faculty and visiting artists with a presence in the New York art scene. Edmond received his BFA, in painting, from Maryland Institute, College of Art in 2004.

JULIA NIEDERMAN

Niederman has always been fascinated with illustrating particular states of mind, fragmented

consciousness and perception of time, dreamlike states. Much of her work is inspired by dream imagery, and by the blurring of lines between self and environment. In her paintings, memory assembles a moment in time similarly to how dreams create a patchwork mental landscape. Niederman is a designer and painter from Baltimore. After receiving her BFA from Washington University School of Fine Arts in St. Louis, she traveled widely, living and painting in Chicago, Philadelphia, and Madison and working as a designer and illustrator in Italy and the Czech Republic, before settling back in Baltimore in 2001. Since then she has worked as Creative Director of The Berndt Group, an interactive agency, and continues her studio life alongside running a creative team.

RENA DIANA

Diana explains her artistic process stating, "I am drawn to geometric elements and linear designs in both the urban and the natural worlds, finding particular beauty in the interweaving of layers and patterns - and to stones and anything made of stone! Usually my art begins with an image in my mind, based on one of my photographs, and the sensations ignited by it. Then, as I paint and make marks, each piece takes on its own rhythm, its own essence, guiding me along. Other times, I simply start playing with texture, line, and color, and a scene emerges, a dance begins, a light shines." While living in New York City, she found herself enchanted by what lay underfoot, the patterns there, the untold stories. From her photographs and the detritus lying on each spot, she created the mixed media pieces in her "Sidewalk Series" drawing inspiration as bits of beauty, visual interest, and mystery in the most humble, ordinary places. Her most recent artworks are acrylic paintings, Abstract Landscapes, inspired by the glacially carved shoreline of Lake Champlain, Vermont, and the magical interplay of light, wind, stones and water there. In the end, she hopes to evoke imagination, wonder, and a sense of infinite possibility- the same sparks that fuel her when she is painting. Over the past five decades, Diana has taken art courses in a variety of media. Throughout her adult life, she has kept notebooks chronicling her observations and experiences. Gradually these became art journals, filled with sketches, along with personal narrative and remarks about the creative process. As these notebooks evolved into more formal exercises, she realized that they were distinct art forms in themselves. At that point, she began creating larger, single pieces.

JOAN SCHEIBEL

Scheibel states about her artistic process, "I feel it's not really a process so much as a way of life. Like all of us, I see things that move me in life — a shadow, a dance, a church or just everyday objects. It's as if an engine switches on in my brain and it won't stop until I reimagine that image — and send it back into the universe on canvas. Suddenly and finally, the image that grabbed me, is reconstituted to grab you. The universal eye. I'm always looking for an image, a feeling, a moment. Often while I'm looking, something out of left field surprises me. But it finds its way to me because I've opened myself up. I don't judge, I observe, I accept." Back in her studio, Scheibel creates a mise en scene. She surrounds herself

with the right brushes, paints, graphite, pastels etc. and starts to experiment with color combinations on palettes. She prints out images to work from, and tapes them on the wall over her table. Choosing the sizes of canvasses to be stretched forces her to start planning the series. She works in layers, letting each layer dry before painting another usually working from light to dark.

In terms of inspiration Scheibel states, "There's always this seductive tension between what I intend versus what I'm creating. Only when I'm done, do I step back and see I've put something crucial into the piece I wasn't even aware of. Something that surprises me or something that brings the whole piece together. This is the moment you paint for, when effort and exertion give way to a divine creation. It was there all along, I just had to find it. It's full circle, a life cycle. And then I put it out, back into the universe, and watch people have their reaction, their moment. I always love to hear what viewers see in my work... when someone points out something I never saw in my own painting. That's the moment when that invisible wire that connects us all, vibrates. And it makes me want to go home and paint again."





Y:ART is a contemporary gallery established in 2015 by Julia Yensho. It Provides a forum for the art and culture of our time by presenting network and ideas through curatorial practice, artist representation, and by encouraging artistic collection. Y:ART Gallery is in the forefront of a new and exciting renaissance in Baltimore's Highlandtown Arts District. The gallery has been responsible for many important solo and group exhibitions that have launched and sustained the careers of featured local and regional artists. Public programming within the gallery consists of artist talks and expert lectures on current exhibitions; all free and open to the public. Y:ART's gallery store features over 90 local and regional artisans who specialize in handcrafted fine art gifts including: jewelry, pottery, glass, wood, textiles and metal work. The walls are covered with extraordinary unique artworks and sculptural pieces that would impress any collector. This unique space is open for artist showings and workshops, and the gallery is also available as a venue for private functions or social gatherings.

For interviews with the artists, and general inquiries, please contact the gallery at 443-928-2272 or [Y:ART](#)
Gallery & Fine Gifts

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Y:ART

Art Gallery
&
Fine Gifts

Y:ART GALLERY & FINE GIFTS

Y:ART Gallery & Fine Gifts is a labor of love, brought to life by Julia Yensho on October 10th, 2015. The gallery exhibits primarily Baltimore-based artists creating exceptional one-of-a-kind artworks. Y:ART's gift shop specializes in carrying original sculptures, paintings and quality hand-crafted jewelry. This unique space is open for artist showings and workshops, and the gallery is also available as a venue for private social gatherings.



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