

Y:ART GALLERY & FINE GIFTS

KENNETH HILKER & JOSEPH CORCORAN EXHIBITION

5 JUNE - 13 JULY, 2019





Y:ART Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of its June exhibition, featuring work by talented contemporary artists Kenneth Hilker and Joseph A. Corcoran. The opening reception will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2019 from 6pm - 9pm.

This exhibition will present work that is connected by its ability to illustrate the interdependence of human beings to the natural world. Each artist explores the relationship of identity and existence, employing fully divergent mediums. Hilker creates visually appealing minimalist abstract paintings which utilize layers to represent landscapes and draw the viewer in to contemplate the meaning of each stroke as it pertains to their reality, while Corcoran develops vibrant, sculptural glass forms illustrating chaos and uniqueness that is a reflection of our mortal existence.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Kenneth Hilker is a contemporary artist living and working in Baltimore, MD. Ken uses innovative compositions and uniquely proportioned canvases to create complex and layered paintings, primed for quiet contemplation and personal interpretation.

Ken's work includes abstract, figurative and landscape painting and prints. These compositions invite the viewer to reflect on the interplay between nature and human impact, action and rest. His work seeks to create a personal visual experience for the viewer, an interchange between the individual conscience and our collective identity.

Ken was born in St. Louis, Missouri and graduated from the Maryland Institute College of Art. He lives with his wife Erica, and their daughter Dora in the Federal Hill neighborhood of Baltimore Maryland.

Joseph A. Corcoran is a Baltimore based installation artist working predominantly in glass. He has shown at galleries throughout the United States, and extensively in Washington DC. Corcoran has created multiple notable public works, located at the Rockville Town Center in Rockville, MD, the US Ambassador's Residence in Beijing, China, POD Hotel in Washington DC, the Center for Naval Analysis (CNA) in Clarendon, VA, and ReefPoint Group Consulting in Annapolis, MD; and was awarded the 2018 Individual Maryland Artist Grant.

As a former Naval Officer, he saw glass-making firsthand while stationed in Italy and Malta. Upon returning stateside, he spent over 14 years learning, teaching and exhibiting his work across the nation. He has executed many public and private pieces including recently installing a piece at the US Ambassador's residence in Beijing, China. Joe received a Bachelor's in Mathematics from the US Naval Academy and is currently in a Masters in Fine Arts program at Maryland Institute College of Art.

"My work is about things that are alive from an atomic to a macro level. I am interested in the patterns of the natural world and where those patterns go awry and become chaotic. I make things that are alive to remind of our own existence. Like us, each element is similar but has a unique identity. These differences is what makes the system work, and our world beautiful."

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. Our hours are Wednesday-Thursday 12pm-5pm, Friday-Saturday 10am-6pm.

For reproduction requests, photographs, interviews with the artists, and general inquiries, please contact the gallery at 443-928-2272 or <u>vartgallery3402@gmail.com</u>

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