

VALORÉ GALLERY PRESENTS

IMPULSE





EVA CRAWFORD

Eva Crawford is an award-winning artist with a BFA from UNC-Chapel Hill and a lifetime of art making. Her interactions with former high school students and her own 5 children, which include a son from Uganda, taught Crawford to make art about human stories.

Crawford's portraits are unusually soul-filled as she captures the true essence and subtle nuances of her subjects. Often there is an emphasis on beauty and humor recognizing that humor is sometimes the best medicine.

Her work ranges from expressive to intricately slow creations which reflect the necessary time required to know another human and to gain deeper understanding. Crawford's materials include watercolor, acrylic, oil and collage and range in size from notecard to wall mural.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

The last stanzas of "Quilts" by Nikki Giovanni inspired Crawford's desire to bring new purpose to these damaged vintage quilts. Using acrylic paint Crawford portrays the soul of the quilt through large portraits.

"...When I am frayed and strained and drizzle at the end
Please someone cut a square and put me in a quilt
That I might keep some child warm
And some old person with no one else to talk to
Will hear my whispers
And cuddle near"



EVACRAWFORDART.COM

#28

Dorothea – \$4500

66x83 Acrylic on vintage quilt

#26

Rachel – \$4500

71x75 Acrylic on vintage quilt

#29

Niki – \$4500

73x82 Acrylic on vintage quilt

#27

Hope – \$4500

59.5x74 Acrylic on vintage quilt

#25

Super Girl – \$4500

72x82 Acrylic on vintage quilt



GABRIEL KARAGIANIS

Gabriel Karagianis is a contemporary painter. He has an expressionist style which he developed in his studio working with oil paint on canvas.

His artwork depicts narrative folkloric subject matter, archetypal motif, and abstract designs .

Over the past 20 years of his creative career, he has sold paintings directly to private collectors around the world, produced customized commission paintings, and worked commercially creating logos, branding, and illustration.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

I get into the studio and I want to make something... anything... don't always know what to make... so I start painting... one color... two colors... I begin reacting to what is emerging... a series of impulses.

I can work impulsively and not worry about the consequences. I can't inflict damage on the world with the chaos that I am generating... and managing on a 16" x 20" canvas. Controlled and contained demolition becomes organized harmonic gesture and form recorded in the physical material.



GABRIELKARAGIANISARTWORK.COM

#1

ZOOFACE – \$900

oil on canvas

#2

Scavenger II – \$1,200

oil on canvas

#4

Petragraph 00032 – \$1,300

oil on canvas

#3

Scaffolding – \$1,200

[Petragraph 00044] oil on canvas

#5

Scavenger III – \$1,200

oil on canvas

#7

Scavenger I – \$1,200

oil on canvas

#6

Petragraph 00040 – \$1,200

oil on canvas

#8

Scavenger IV – \$1,200

oil on canvas

#9

Ronin – \$1,200

73x82 Acrylic on vintage quilt

#10

Windmill – \$1,200

[Petragraph 00043]" oil on canvas



MATT MYERS

Matt Myers is an award-winning illustrator of children's books. Titles include the New York Times bestseller *Battle Bunny*, the Theodor Seuss Geisel honor book *The Infamous Ratsos*, and *Children of the Forest*, featured in the Wall Street Journal.

His fine art paintings have been shown in Brooklyn, Manhattan, Los Angeles, and Charlotte, NC, where he now lives and works. He has been a guest exhibitor at the Mint Museum and was one of the 2023 ArtPop artists whose work was displayed throughout the Charlotte area and in Times Square.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

This series of artworks is about having fun with the narrative. I find art prints (never original artwork) and pretend the artist forgot to add the key element that would finish the story.

My "collaborations" remind us that art is always subjective, and we are meant to engage with an image, not passively view it from a distance.



MYERSPAINTS.COM

#17

The Elephants of Union County –
48"x30" – \$3000

#16

The Unwelcome Proposal – 27"x25" –
\$950

#15

Few Will Be Chosen – 35"x31" –
\$1400

#18

Get Me Out of Here – 44"x32" –
\$1800

#20

It's Time You Knew Who Your Real
Mother Is – 24"x20" – \$900

#21

Crossing the Rubicon – 31"x24" –
\$1400

#14

Grace – 26"x22" –
\$600

#12

Breaching Bot – 17.5"x14.5" –
\$600

#23

Triumph – 12"x15" –
\$600

#24

House of Fear – 10.5"x13.5" –
\$600

#13

Around the Bend – 12"x15" –
\$450

#22

Our Country America – 13.5"x16.5" –
\$500

#11

Calculated Risk – 9"x11" –
\$600

#19

New Jersey Law – 12"x15" –
\$600



LAURIE SMITHWICK

Laurie Smithwick (b. 1969) is an abstract painter, printmaker, muralist and public artist. She was born and raised in Charlotte, NC, studied art and creative writing at Duke University, and graphic design and photography at Parsons School of Design. Laurie was the founder and creative director of LEAP Design – an award-winning graphic and web design agency with clients such as WFAE, UNC School of Medicine, and The United Nations – and is a partner in the Alt Summit creative conference. Her design work earned her a 1997 Grammy nomination, and she delivered a 2016 TEDx talk on the genesis of ideas.

Since becoming a full-time artist in 2016, Laurie has participated in exhibitions around the country, including a solo exhibition at 81C Gallery in St. Thomas, USVI, and being selected two years in a row to show her work at ArtFields, in Lake City, SC. She has also taught printmaking, painting, and writing workshops, delivered keynotes, and created murals and public art for many businesses and organizations, including Charlotte City Center Partners, Blumenthal Performing Arts, Novant Health, AARP, and The VAPA Center.

Her abstract art, driven by a fascination with possibility, uses color, texture, layers, and gesture to explore the interplay between the seen and the unseen.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

I paint possibility. I'm not in the business of outcomes – it's the threshold I'm drawn to. The quiet tension, the breath held, before that first step forward. A single moment that might change our lives forever.

Layer upon layer, I use color, gesture, and intuition to probe the emotions of transition: exhilaration and resistance, chaos and clarity. Some layers remain visible, others fade beneath the surface – buried histories that add depth and texture. This process mirrors the contrasting forces shaping our lives, resulting in compositions that withhold as much as they reveal. My work invites you to stand at that edge – to sense both the seen and unseen, what is and what could be.



LAURIESMITHWICK.COM

#35

Don't Know What You've Got Till
It's Gone – \$3000

48x36

#33

Not Quiet #5 – \$2800

48x30

#34

88 Mini Portals – \$100 Each

2x2 Each 45x63 in grid

88 Tiny Portals Statement:

Magic portals may not be literal but I believe they're real.

Symbolizing a powerful pull toward possibility, a portal makes us instinctively imagine where it might lead, a shortcut to a new world or a profound experience. Even if you know on a rational level that finding a portal is unlikely, this emotional activation makes the day feel charged with chance, like something out of a story. The portal isn't the change – it's the gateway to change. It's the quiet tension, the breath held, before that first step forward.

Each of these 88 portals is tiny, pocket-sized even. A talisman you might grab on your way out the door in the morning to remind you that changes don't have to be big to be impactful.



KELLEE STALL

Kellee Stall was born in Norfolk, Virginia, and spent her childhood in Lilburn, Georgia, before moving to Mandeville, Louisiana for her high school years. At 18, she relocated to Crystal Lake, Illinois, where she earned her BFA in Acting and met her husband, Tim Stall, with whom she has shared 31 years of marriage. In Illinois, Kellee founded and operated Inhabit Theater, a pop-up theater that brought original stories to life throughout the Northwest suburbs. She wrote and directed site-specific, collaboratively crafted comedies, staging performances in unconventional venues like coffee shops, a sip-and-paint studio, and even an empty home for sale.

Over her 23 years in the Midwest, she worked as an acting coach, talent scout, director, and playwright. In 2017, Kellee moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, where she now works as a casting director for Unrivaled Films. She also designs sets for both film productions and local theater companies.

As an assemblage artist, Kellee approaches her visual work with the same theatrical sensibility she brings to the stage. She collects and casts found objects, arranging them into scenes that spark either humorous dialogue or critical conversation. Collaboration remains central to her creative process, often partnering with other artists to further deepen the dialogue her work inspires. In 2021, she produced Duets, an immersive art show featuring ten Charlotte-based artists and performers. The sold-out event offered patrons the opportunity to tip the artists directly in support of their work.

Her 2025 solo exhibition, Breaking Bread, presented seven suspended tablescapes at Charlotte's iconic Visart Video, funded through sponsorship by the Infusion Fund and the Foundation for the Carolinas. Kellee's art and set design have been featured at the Breath and the Clay conference in Winston-Salem (2021, live and online). She received a HUG grant from Charlotte is Creative to produce her 2019 show, Plastic Perspective. In 2018, her solo exhibition Identity Crises showcased eleven pieces at New City Gallery in Charlotte.



[INSTAGRAM.COM/KELLEESTALL](https://www.instagram.com/kelleestall)

Artist Statement:

Breaking Bread, an installation on Hope, was created from true stories collected in Charlotte, NC of two people having a conversation over a meal. Each table scape captures the moment differences are exposed, mid-meal. This exhibit explores how we hold hope for those who think, feel, and believe differently than ourselves.

#38

Breaking Bread; Elderly
Couple/Marital roles – \$1500

Epoxy food, found objects.

93 year old husband cooked his first meal for his wife of 60 years.

#36

Breaking Bread;BFFs/BLM –
\$750

Epoxy food, found objects.

Friends for over 30 years. One is Black, one is white and they are having their first conversation about race.

#37

Breaking Bread; Grandmother & Adult
Granddaughter/Roe V Wade– \$1500

Epoxy food, found objects.

One is a devout Catholic, one is a newly converted Buddhist.

#39

Breaking Bread; New
Roommates/House Rules – \$750

Epoxy food, found objects.

First night together after the move.



EMMA WOMBLE

Emma Womble is a distinguished graduate of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where she earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Painting and Drawing, graduating cum laude. Throughout her academic tenure, she specialized in abstract art, engaging with a diverse range of media, including painting, drawing, textiles, sculpture, and collage. In her senior year, Womble completed an internship at Stove Works Gallery in Chattanooga, TN, where she had the opportunity to engage with local artists through interviews and develop a comprehensive understanding of gallery operations and curatorial practices.

Following her graduation, Womble relocated to Chicago to further advance her artistic career. She accepted a position as an Art Restoration Assistant at David Leonardis Galleries, where she acquired valuable expertise in the conservation and preservation of artworks. In addition to honing her technical skills, she gained insight into the art market, focusing on the dealer side of the industry and acquiring key knowledge on successful sales and acquisitions of fine art.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

This work is a mix of collage fabric with no borders, no parameters, no structures, working from outside in, using every inch of gathered materials to create something new. With various materials such as: burlap, yarn, canvas, and miscellaneous scrap fabric. Texture is a main formal element, I do not want my paintings to be dull, flat, plain, or boring; they need the substance to hold something real. The rawness of the unconventional substrate brings insight to how these materials interact and conflict with others when combined. It displays how destruction is just as important as creation in my work.

The reconfiguration of form is a pronounced idea I present in this work from the obsessive layering techniques. Layering helps me bring out the obscure as a personal desire of form. It led me to an open ended way of working vigorously to make odd, abnormal formal arrangements.



EMMAWOMBLE.ART

#32

Oval Superiority (if hairy) –
54x32 – \$950

oil, yarn, pantyhose, vase, found objects, charcoal on canvas

#30

HOW MANY MORE? – 90x60 –
\$2500

oil on canvas and varying fabric

#31

Sit With It – 31x36 –
\$750

oil on canvas

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VALORÉ GALLERY

Valore Gallery is dedicated to fostering a vibrant art community that celebrates meaningful experiences and relationships through contemporary art.

The heart of Valore gallery:

At Valore Gallery, we believe that value should drive life. Therefore, we are endeavoring to create such a life—not only for ourselves, but for others. We sacrifice for what we value thus, we are creating a gallery dedicated to the life we value. We are purposefully building a space dedicated to share in celebrating experiences and relationships of value.

IMPULSE Art Exhibition Curator: Kellee Stall

THEVALOREGALLERY.COM

IMPULSE EXHIBITION 2025

GALLERY
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