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ARTIST FEATURE

world art group



CHRIS VEST



Chris Vest has a 25 year background in traditional mediums, but more recently has developed a way to merge painting and photography in the digital medium. In the tradition of Alfred Stieglitz's "Photo-Secessionist" movement, photographic images are transformed by intense painterly manipulation to create textures and effects that attempt to bridge the unique properties of photography and painting, a process he has dubbed the "painted photo montage".

After years of wandering, traveling and living in places like Alaska, Switzerland, Israel and Wyoming, Chris now lives with his partner Cathy and 25 companion animals on a six acre farm near Dolores, Colorado. Together they are restoring the land, formerly badly overgrazed by cattle. In addition, they operate a small animal shelter, rescuing and fostering animals from across the four corners area. All sales help this animal rescue effort.

Last year saw the publication of an acclaimed Conservation Field Guide by the American Bird Conservancy for which Chris had provided the complex and ornithologically precise bird illustrations and habitat vistas.

Clockwise from top left: 175472Z Blue Grosbeak, 174415Z Painted Magnolias I, 174323Z Aspen Forest Floor, 175467Z Fence Line Flight II, 174411Z Sego Lilies, 175473Z Male Quail, 175471Z Horse in Flowers II, 174408Z Mountain Mist II

SUSAN FRIEDMAN



Susan Friedman (photographer/filmmaker, mixed media artist) is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and photographer. Friedman has been a still photographer for many years and has had one-woman shows both nationally and internationally, including Tokyo, Amsterdam, Berlin, and San Francisco.

Her still work is collected by the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Oakland Museum, The Santa Barbara Museum of Art, and the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris. Three of her films on horses have been shown in NY and racetracks around the country.

For the last few years she has traveled to breeding farms in France, Morocco and Portugal and has photographed some of the world's most magnificent breeds of horses. Susan has exhibited both nationally and internationally and continues to exhibit in galleries, magazines and in private collections.

She was on the Art department faculty at the University of California, Santa Cruz for 30 years. Her work can be found at www.susanfriedmanphoto.com.



Clockwise from top left: 142280Z Weave, 142276Z Horse in the Trees II, 160668Z Equine Double Take I, 142279Z Tempest, 142271Z Horse Exposures I



Meticulously torn bits of hand-painted papers, delicately put together, are what form the vibrant collages created by artist Elizabeth St. Hilaire. Richard Colvin, the executive director of the Lake Eustis Museum of Art says, "Elizabeth St. Hilaire's artworks have a fresh quality that belies the way they are constructed."

St. Hilaire published her book, *Painted Paper Art Workshop*, internationally in August (2016). Her work has also been published in *Acrylic Works 3: Celebrating Texture* (2015) and *Incite 2: Color Passions* (2014). A feature article on her work appeared in a 2014 issue of *The Artists Magazine*. She was also a finalist in *The Artist's Magazine Annual Art Competition* and took first place in the category of *Collage/Mixed Media* for *The Artist's Magazine All Media Competition*.

Elizabeth has lived in Central Florida for the past 20+ years. She holds a B.F.A. in Advertising Design from Syracuse University, which prepared her for a dual identity as both communication designer and a painter. These days she's a full-time fine artist. St. Hilaire has earned Signature Member status with the National Collage Society and travels the country several times a year to take her art on the road. Teaching and sharing her collage technique through an intense three day *Paper Paintings* workshop has become a passion.

Clockwise from top left: 175483Z Hacienda Dream II, 136119D Edibles III, 175482Z Hacienda Dream I, 162812D Happy Bee III, 132850D Flower Pot IV, 162808Z Happy Bird IV, 158500Z Fabulous Florals, 158498D Always Looking Up V

EVA BANE



Eva Bane lives in the sunny city of Sydney, Australia. Born in Hungary, she's lived and worked on different continents and has changed careers along the way. She started photography as a hobby but then quickly became obsessed with this art form and completed a diploma in professional photography.

Eva's fine art photos and portraits have been exhibited in Australia, Europe, and the United States and were also selected by art curators to feature in collections. In addition to art galleries and photo salons, her images have been displayed in luxury hotels including Hyatt, Sofitel, Marriott and in corporate offices.

Eva's work is inspired by both natural and man created objects, patterns, textures, shapes, and color combinations. She finds the everchanging quality of light and shadow to be fascinating. Eva constantly applies new techniques and modifies them to achieve aesthetically pleasing results.

In addition to the long hours spent taking photos and creating digital artwork, as an international tax specialist, Eva dedicates her time to the interpretation of complex legislation.



From the left: 158763D Dreamy Florals in Violet I, 158756D Bohemian Spirits I, 166070Z Coral Essence I, 158760Z Celestial Dew Drops I, 159916D Moonlit Dream III



Irena Orlov, innovative, contemporary fine artist, architect, designer, illustrator, and photographer is known for creating captivating works, full of energy.

Extraordinarily versatile in her mediums, Irena could never imagine life without art. She is an artist whose path in the fine arts has led her to a unique expression of mood and color. The combination of antique and a very clean, crisp modern design sense creates a highly prized, individual art style.

Her images begin spontaneously and give expression to personal creativity and insight. Each piece is unique in design. Irena often prefers to think of herself as a craftsman, constructing or interpreting imagery and messages from her conscious and subconscious mind.

Irena has lived in Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Canada, and now lives and works in Los Angeles.

EVELIA DESIGNS



Raised in the Miami Valley, Evelia has always identified as an artist. At age 11, she was awarded a scholarship to attend adult art classes from the Dayton Art Institute. Later, she graduated from The American Academy of Art in Chicago and embarked on a commercial art career.

A 30 year veteran in graphic design and gift/stationery industry creative, she is an award winning artist; named The Official Artist for the 2014 National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington DC, our nation's capital's largest spring time celebration.

Fresh, bold and modern designs are her signature, reinterpreting patterns found in nature into sleek lines and rich textures designed to easily mix and harmonize with today's current trends in color, fashion and interior design.

Evelia makes her home in Southwest Ohio, with her husband Randy and their Jack Russell Terrier, Dex.



From the left: 131359Z Watercolor Flower Composition VI, 131357Z Watercolor Flower Composition IV, 159100Z Animal Utopia IV, 131354Z Watercolor Flower Composition I, 159104Z Avian Dreams III, 159106Z Chic Providence I, 131355Z Watercolor Flower Composition II

RICK NOVAK



Rick Novak is a self-taught painter with a love of the island life. From Tahiti to Key West, his art takes the viewer away to a tropical paradise of deep blue oceans and radiant skies.

Rick had his start in the arts at the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale where he graduated with honors and a degree in computer and traditional animation. From there he worked in Miami doing children's television for companies such as Unavision, Telemundo and Nickelodeon. Not satisfied with the corporate scene he decided to make a go of it on his own by striking out as a Faux Artist and Muralist. In time he developed a style of art that was exclusively his own. Working down from large size murals to canvases Rick now paints in oil on canvas.

Rick Novak's works are now published internationally.



Clockwise from top left: 175699Z Sailing Ships III, 107064GG Sailfish Map II, 122901D Illustrated Yellow Perch, 98473GG Bright Stems IV, 98874GG Ocean Waves I, 122896D Illustrated Lobster I, 133311Z Hummingbird Florals I

JULIE JOY



Professional artist Julie Joy strives to create art that depicts a strong depth of emotion. Enter her world of expressiveness through a deft brush stroke, telling a story that vibrates in color and light. Fall in love with her passion, joy, creativity and a visual experience that leads to art that collectors say they can feel.

Julie was born into a small farm community in Ohio. She learned how to adapt to change and relate to a myriad of cultures and people in her youth as her family moved around to various cities around United States. Her mother in particular was of great inspiration as she made money for the family in clever ways like sewing, baking, using coupons for groceries, cutting hair and doing paintings on barn wood, all while raising five children.

As an impressionist and abstract painter who utilizes oil and acrylic mediums, Julie Joy is explorative, open hearted, and versatile. She likes to get out of the studio and convey the emotion of her artwork by traveling and painting outside.

Julie is an artist, teacher, writer as well as a leader in her community. She has resided in Carmel, Indiana for the past fifteen years and has a vibrant and full life as a busy single Mom of three children. In her free time, Julie enjoys spending time with her son and two daughters.



Clockwise from top left: 144827Z Mixed Floral I, 144830Z Wooded Pathway II, 158486Z Flowing Vision II, 144829Z Wooded Pathway I, 144825Z Misty Mountain View I, 144828Z Mixed Floral II, 158485Z Flowing Vision I