



**For Immediate Release**

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June 1, 2020

## **ANTON ART CENTER ANNOUNCES VIRTUAL OPENING OF 'CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR MENTOR' ART EXHIBIT**

A special artist group exhibit was planned for this month at the Anton Art Center, but in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting temporary closure of the gallery space, the exhibit will now be presented online. *Conversations with Our Mentor* opens on **Saturday, June 6, 2020, at 10:00am EST** on the Anton Art Center's website ([www.theartcenter.org/exhibits](http://www.theartcenter.org/exhibits)), with a special virtual **Artist Talk** event planned the same day at **2:00pm EST**. The event is free and open to the public for registration (<https://www.theartcenter.org/book-online>).

Exhibiting artists include Linda Allen, Claudia Hershman, Christina Haylett, Nanci LaBret Einstein, and Charles McGee, with 49 selected artworks featured in the show, each for sale.

The exhibition statement provided by the artists reads, "The tie that binds us in this show is the formidable figure of artist Charles McGee. Each of us met him in different points in our careers and while our relationships with him may differ, we all share an avowed appreciation of him as an artist committed to his work. It is both an honor and a pleasure to show our art along side Charles and each other."

Artist Christina Haylett says, "I was struggling with a direction in my art. Charles came over to where I was working and looked at what I was doing and he said to me that it looked like I liked being 'particular'. Prior to that, I was always trying to 'loosen up'. Charles encouraged me to expand on what I liked to do most and as a result my work became very dense with marks and texture and detail and it became my own personal expression."

Claudia Hershman adds, "I'm the newest member of this group, having met Charles many years after Linda, Christina and Nanci. I feel fortunate to have taken the last class that he taught and have been inspired by him over many conversations since then. My awareness has been heightened by his philosophy and the principles that govern his work. He is always encouraging and interested in what I do. He has been a wonderful teacher and mentor."

Anton Art Center Exhibition Manager, Stephanie Hazzard, adds, "The visual journaling style with bold mark-making and optimistic tone of this collection is a shining example of the dynamic force of art in Detroit." This exhibit will remain on virtual display for at least the remainder of the summer.

The Anton Art Center is temporarily closed per Governor Whitmer's latest Executive Orders. For more information about the Anton Art Center, visit [www.theartcenter.org](http://www.theartcenter.org) or call 586-469-8666. The Anton Art Center is a registered nonprofit organization located in Mount Clemens, Michigan, with a mission to *enrich and inspire people of all ages through the arts* and a vision to *create an open community around creative expression*. Connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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## ***Conversations with Our Mentor***

### Exhibiting Artwork Images



"Where It Took Me" by Christina Haylett. Mixed media on board, 36x36 in., \$1,100.



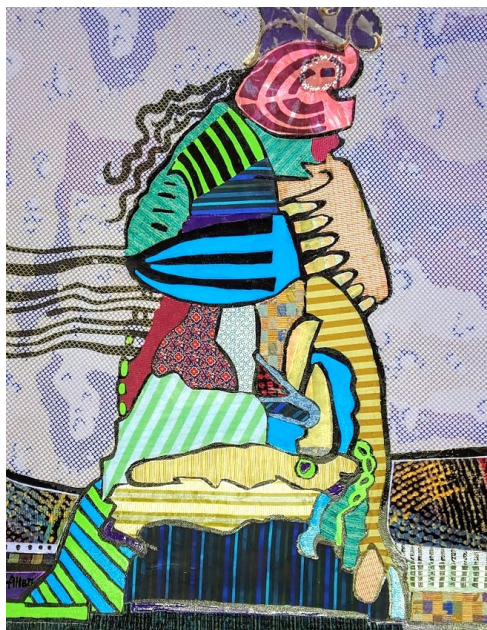
"Funhouse" by Claudia Hershman. Mixed media, 36x36 in., \$2,100.



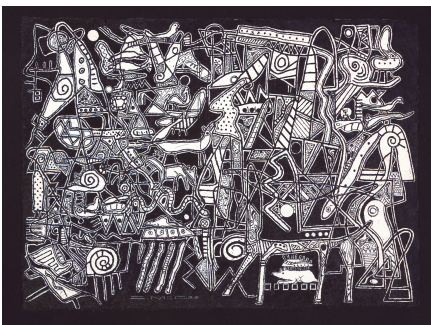
"It's Hot" by Nanci LaBret Einstein. Pencils, 11x14 in., \$325.



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"Bold Spirit" by Linda Allen. Enamel, fabric, 34x62 in., \$475.



"Nature's Song" by Charles McGee. Mixed media, 15x19 in., \$7,000.



*Conversations with Our Mentor*  
exhibit postcard designed by  
Anton Art Center.