

24 and Counting

VET

Acrylic

\$1200

While sorting through some of my family photos, I came across my grandmother's original Poll Tax Receipt dated 1954. I vaguely remembered the purpose of poll taxes and slowly began to realize the significance of my personal connection with part of history. I knew it was connected to The 24th Amendment, that prohibited fees to be charged to voters, mainly to disenfranchise poor and black Americans.

One of the things my grandmother, Rosie Nel Leftridge, was subjected to was to pay \$1.75 for the privilege to vote. On the surface it does not seem like a lot of money until you consider that in 1954 her minimum wage was .55/hr., gas was .29/gallon, bread was .17/loaf, milk was .92/gallon, a can of beans was .25, and a stamp was .03. So, the right to vote has not always been an easy choice or free.

I wanted my art piece to remember history, reflect on present changes and prepare for what can be amended in the future, again.

Amend (verb)

* make minor changes in (a text) in order to make it fairer, more accurate, or more up-to-date

* make better

* alter

24th Birthday

Sal Barron

Mixed Media

\$500

I have always loved the challenge of creating a theme show. For my piece, I thought I would take a trip back in time to my 24th birthday. My mother dropped off a cake for me, chocolate of course. The year was 1978! Jimmy Carter was President; it was the summer of Son of Sam and Ted Bundy. Garfield debuted in the comics. Harriet Tubman got a postage stamp. At the movies, Anny Hall won best picture and Woody Allen won 4 Oscars. I never saw it. But I did catch Animal House and Up in Smoke. On the radio, the Bee Gees gave everyone Saturday Night Fever! I was grooving on the O'Jays "She Use to be My Girl". But the most memorable moment of my 24th birthday in 1978: Tom Landry and the Dallas Cowboys WON the Super Bowl!

The Great Man-Made River

Sherrie Tootle

Fiber

\$500

My 'Twenty-Four' was inspired by what I found at Lat/long 24.0000°N, 24.0000°E - Kufra, Libya and the Great Man-Made River. During the 1960s, while drilling for oil in the deserts of Libya, engineers discovered ancient underground aquifers. The big problem was the aquifers were found deep in the desert, hundreds of miles away from the population centers along the Mediterranean coast that needed fresh water. How to make use of this precious commodity was the main question facing the Libyan government. Desalination of the Mediterranean was deemed too expensive, and the Great Man-Made River (GMMR) was established and in 1983 the project launched. The GMMR is considered the biggest irrigation project in the world. It pumps 6.5 million cubic meters of fresh water every day, providing water to 7 million people. It was designed to irrigate thousands of acres of desert with the intent to make the country self-sufficient. Four meter wide concrete pipes were set in place along with drilling 13,000 water wells. 2½ of the project's 4 stages are complete. Political instability, negligence, illegal connections to its pipelines and poorly managed water networks are among the GMMR's biggest problems. The Great Man-Made River is a resource that will last for decades or even centuries as it is part of the Nubian Sandstone Aquifer System which is underneath most of Libya. The GMMR created jobs, farms in the desert and clean fresh water. Green circles of irrigation systems can be seen throughout the country, and from the International Space Station. aquifer - a body of permeable rock which can contain or transmit groundwater. Materials: up cycled fabric scraps, perle cotton, cotton floss, paint.

24 Reasons

Sheila Cuningham

Photography

\$500

Photography documents and preserves moments that tell the story of where we were the instant it's taken. Viewing the image later brings the memory of that moment rushing back to us. But is it as we remembered, or have we started to reimagine the reality of that moment? Digitally manipulating the image creates a new reality and challenges how we perceive things.

In **24 Reasons**, how do we perceive the opportunity to practice stewardship for ecosystems. What actions can assist activities, behaviors, decisions, and technologies to engage in recovery or preservation. What new reality and challenges can create ways to enhance ecosystems.

4 and 20

Laurie Mahoney/Gloria Lobaugh

Mixed Media

\$1800

Four and Twenty, created for Invitational Exhibition: 24, has its origins in an ongoing, yearlong collaboration with her 98-year-old mother – Gloria Lobaugh. Each year, beginning immediately after the previous holiday, daughter and mom begin planning for the following Christmas, designing and producing intricate felt/fabric pieces that are gifted nationwide to family and friends. In 2023 they crafted more than 100 birds... twenty-four of which are in this 24 exhibit.

The Whole Box of Crayons

Mindy Telenko

Acrylic

\$444

Twenty-four months ago, I was feeling pretty down from the effects of chronic illness and isolation. Not realizing how important it would become; I signed up for Painting with Vet with the Dallas Public Library. My first painting was so much fun, and I joined Vet's Infinity group, too. Vet has brought so much color and inspiration to my life, and I wanted to capture that. I chose a 24 color palette to work in that reflects the Crayola crayon palette. I chose this palette to bring a sense of joy, comfort, and nostalgia. For many, the Crayola colors represent some of the earliest experiences of seeing and naming particular colors.

Materials and Methods:

Mis-tinted house paint, paper towels.

When a customer purchases a custom tinted paint at the hardware store, sometimes the color or sheen isn't correct, and those paints are rejected. Stores sell them very cheaply, as they will have to dispose of them if they are not sold. I have used this type of paint for many years, first in furniture refinishing, and now for fine art. I mixed paints from my collection to closely match the classic 24 color Crayola crayon palette.

To pay homage to Vet's use of paper towels, only the signature was done by brush. The rest of the painting was created only with paper towels.

Lemonade Stand

Renee Turner

Mixed Media

\$1440

When the world was hanging on by a thread, I suddenly had all the time in the world to submerge myself into being creative 24/7. One Catch, the supply chain had come to a halt. Creativity took on a new meaning. What do I paint on? What do I create with? Words like recycle, repurpose and reinvent are now part of my art process. The Lemons are examples of all the media and substrates experimented with during "that" time; envelopes from junk mail, pages from old books, fabric scraps, leftover yarn from hat projects for the grands, distressed inks, makeup no longer needed except for Zoom. It was exciting trying new techniques; coffee dyeing copy paper and eco dyeing file folders with flowers from funerals of loved ones during the time. Geli printing on rice, deli and mulberry paper, printing on onion paper, Painting on tyvek mailers brought a new meaning to "You Got Mail" Once you get started trying out new substrates for art, nothing is safe. Not even old leather shoes. To me, having a glass of Lemonade or a lemon drop martini is a reward after a chore, a long day at work or a period of time that has you holding your breath wondering if it is "safe" to hug a friend to greet them. So this Lemonade stand is a celebration of creativity in the midst of chaos. Cheers!

Time Well Spent

Linda Disosway

Fiber

\$1000

My first thoughts about this piece started with thinking about how I looked at life before covid, during covid and after covid. But there were just too many thoughts: Time we take it for granted, Don't know what you lost till it's gone, Make every moment count, Enjoy the good and be present and aware of the bad times, Time is something you can't get back, and so many others. I knew I wanted to weave this particular piece but how do I use weaving to explain my thoughts visually? Then it came to me 24 different weavings and the time I spent on them, for me that is time well spent. Plus the different weavings represent the different paths or choices I could choose from. In life we all make choices directly or indirectly on how we choose to spend our time that we have

2024=8

Sharon Zigrossi

Acrylic

\$450

My painting, **2024 = 8**, celebrates this year 2024. Adding $(2+0) + (2+4)$ equals 8 and in numerology an 8 year represents **abundance, balance and success** which I incorporated in my painting.

Inspired to paint a still life with my 24" canvas I started by placing the window and table with vase in a **balanced** composition on the square. I added 24 stripes as a wall covering in the background and then added an **abundance** of flowers. I was going to paint just 24 flowers in the vase, but my floral exuberance prevented me from stopping!

Often my preferred canvas is hub caps and found materials and it had been a while since I painted on a large canvas. I appreciate being invited to participate in this exhibition and feel I've accomplished some **success** in painting big.

24 Karat Pawn

Jose Vargas

Acrylic

\$170

I was invited to turn in an entry into the 24 Art Exhibition. In the Call for Entries was a list of suggestions in which the number 24 was used. I saw 24 carat and I thought to myself – that looks kinda interesting. Whenever I see the word carat I think of the orange vegetable carrot. And so it began – an idea for a piece of artwork involving an orange carrot. But not any carrot, no sir! It had to be a large carrot. Maybe a Gi-mungus carrot! Yes, a Gi-mungus carrot made out of metal, adorned with neon lights so that it could be seen from many miles away! In fact, it could attract nosey Aliens looking for a good time on planet Earth. If the Aliens did not know that the Gi-mungus carrot was made of metal and they thought that it was the largest vegetable carrot on Planet Earth, then they would think that they hit –the –Jackpot. Why, they would think that the Gi-mungus carrot could very well feed the crew for at least six months, maybe longer!

All Aliens are aware of the potential of tasty treats that the Blue Planet has to offer. It is just a matter of finding the tasty treats first!

And most Aliens are attracted to neon lights!

And who can blame them for that?!

So here is my painting of a very large Karat above a Pawnshop that is open 24 hours. Yes, Karat with a “K”! Ok?

Teresa Grew Tired of Stars, Roses, and Mermaids

Enrique Fernandez Cervantes

Oil

\$2400

In this painting, I strive to capture the profound journey of resilience and transformation embodied by my friend Teresa. Inspired by our recent reunion after years of disconnection caused by distance, pandemic challenges, and the ebb and flow of life's demands, this piece delves into the highs and lows of people like Teresa, depicting resilience, companionship, and the beauty of human connection. Teresa's narrative unfolds as a testimony to the human spirit's capacity to adapt and find solace in the middle of adversity. Her battle with health challenges serves as a backdrop to her remarkable bond with a parrot, an unexpected friendship that has brought great comfort and companionship to her life. Symbolism weaves through the canvas, capturing the evolution of Teresa's outlook on life. Once adorned with the whimsical imagery of the Mexican board game, Loteria—stars, roses, and mermaids—her perspective has shifted towards the quieter, more profound elements of life, embodied by the card of the parrot. The Loteria cards that were once emblematic of her cheerful optimism and fanciful pursuits, and her new fondness for the image of the bird, serve as a testament to her journey towards deeper, more meaningful connections. Central to the composition is the parrot, a motif drawn from the Loteria game itself, designated by the number 24. The parrot emerges not merely as a whimsical figure but as a powerful symbol of resilience and companionship, mirroring Teresa's own journey of growth and adaptation.

at 24

Renee Reid

Pencil

\$5500

In "at 24," I pay homage to iconic rapper Notorious B.I.G. aka Biggie, exploring the crossover of his Jamaican heritage and American upbringing. Just 16 days after his tragic death at 24 his album, "Life After Death" was released solidifying his place in Hip-Hop history.

Like Biggie, I navigated the dualities of two cultures, engaging the perpetual dance between the norms and expectations—a struggle shared by many immigrant and migrant families. I showcase vibrancy through banana leaves, representing Jamaica against the Brooklyn Bridge, symbolizing where Biggie embraced possibilities and made the impossible possible. Biggie is seen in rich soil with roots around him.

My creative process involved meticulous planning and examining photos of banana trees, leaves, soil, the artist, and the Brooklyn Bridge. After ideas simmered, I crafted a preliminary pencil sketch and refined it with a colored pencil draft before engaging the canvas.

This piece marks my first 100% colored pencil artwork on canvas. In addition to pencil, gesso was applied, and odorless mineral spirit was used for blending. The canvas has been sealed with varnish to ensure its longevity.

I want the viewer to see and recognize the lasting connections, like Biggie, of existing in two worlds. To the immigrants, the displaced, and the diaspora, go off, find yourself, and plant roots.

Personality

Adrienne Burton

Fiber

\$300

Art is a practice in playful exploration. Collecting random reclaimed materials over time, when I sit down to create, it begins with a concept or theme and then I let the materials speak and show me what they want to become with no destination in mind. Nature and the universe are common threads featuring simple concepts with deeper complexities layered beneath to spark joy and curiosity. Arising from a spiritual and often ancestral process, this piece draws on African and Native American quilting and symbology traditions to weave together the 12 energetic archetypes and 12 forms that shape personality. Offering myriad variations and evolutions from these abstracted elements, each person can craft their own story and see themselves reflected.

Art is my salvation:

Joining with spirit to make old things new. Revealing mysteries beneath what is seen and known as true.

Elevating the discarded and healing the brokenhearted.

Honoring my ancestors as the harvest in their gardens.

I enter the journey grounded in my breath, layering abstract concepts, imagery and text. Telling a story like a parable that is simple, yet complex.

Personality is a soul's living expression of the divine; Weaving a story of 12 energies and 12 forms through space and time.

Working Hands Countdown

Vicki Charlotta

Acrylic

\$400

I received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of North Texas, with a major in graphic design. I spent 30 years in the corporate world as a graphic designer/art director for major corporations in Dallas, but as corporate graphics moved toward electronic technology, I began to realize a deep longing for more creative freedom and the traditional, tactile, “hands-on” mediums. In addition to painting, I have experimented in ceramics, stained glass, weaving, welding, glassblowing and jewelry making. Currently, my focus is on mixed media painting and collage. Drawing from my multi-disciplinary background I am enjoying exploring color, texture and pattern. My process involves an intuitive process of layering, adding, subtracting and hiding and exposing. My works evolve as I do, constantly reaching for a balance between control and total freedom.

A Prayer for Uvalde

Karen Jacobi

Oil

\$300

Another school shooting to which we have all become accustomed happened on May 24, 2022. Time after time, the inability of lawmakers to enact common-sense safeguards has left a pattern of destruction etched on all of us. Guns and weapons of war are part of the everyday fabric of life in our communities whether we accept it or not. The names of the victims of the Robb Elementary shooting are inscribed along the edge of this canvas. We must not forget.

4 and 20 Blackbirds

Johanna Hulsey

Acrylic

\$124

This 18th century nursery rhyme inspired my painting:

Sing a song of sixpence,
A pocketful of rye,
Four and twenty blackbirds
Baked in a pie.
When the pie was opened
The birds began to sing—
Wasn't that a dainty dish
To set before the king?
The king was in the counting-house
Counting out his money,
The queen was in the parlor
Eating bread and honey,
The maid was in the garden
Hanging out the clothes.
Along came a blackbird
And snipped off her nose.

This old rhyme is a jumble of weird and wonderful visuals. My intent was to harmonize them with elements from a famous work of art by Marc Chagall. I admire how he sets a scene & creates a feeling of storytelling in his art. Painting in his style increased my appreciation for his sense of color. As I worked on this, I had a timely visit from a large flock of red-winged blackbirds outside the window. Flashes of red fanned the air as they cascaded to the ground searching for seed. It felt like the painting conjured them up. I added red feathers to a blackbird's wings in the painting. Then I went out to put birdseed in my yard. Maybe if you do the same, they'll visit you (but watch out for your nose).

24" =2'

Rita Barnard

Mixed Media

\$1000

If you ever want to win a game of 20 questions, be an "8" or any number, they will never guess you. Being dyslectic doesn't help. If I had to copy a number - all the numbers would be there but out of order, but I couldn't see the difference. When I was asked to fill in as a cashier, I found that as long as I copied the shapes and did not try to quantify the value, I had success. Numbers have always been a conundrum for me.

Chapter 24

Karen Jacobi

Oil

\$300

Election years are always full of tension, but 2024 promises to be one for the books. What's in store for our Republic, our Democracy? Does history provide any guidance or clues? Like the simple objects in this still life, we go about our lives, some of us struggling to be heard and some moving through life like game pieces on a board.

AM or PM

VET

Mixed Media

\$1200

We no longer rely on the sun and the moon as our primary source of time keeping. Sometimes it is often confusing to distinguish if it is early morning or late evening when neither of these celestial bodies are present. As day folds into night, the promise of another dawn waits just over the horizon.

Our lives are a constant stream of days and nights. No matter how fast or how slow the repetition of days may flow, time does pass; tick by tick by tick.

When working on this piece, I noticed that often the times aligned in order no matter how many rotations I applied. As I continued to write the numbers, I realized that I could not define if I was writing for morning, afternoon or evening. However, it did not matter, because every am and every pm are on a continuum of time.

Time Zones

VET

Mixed Media

\$1200

Technically there are 24 time zones on the earth. That is not counting a few minutes here and there, a full hour or any local adjustments that municipalities make to allow for daylight savings times and of course, leap years. I am always mystified by the changing of time when traveling. Within a few hours you can literally fly back in time or forward into future time.

In my Time Zones piece, I continue to experiment with book manipulation by folding, tinting and cutting. When I altered the size of the pages this time, they reminded me of clocks.

As an artist, time is a relative thing. When I am in "my zone", I have little regard for anything around me. I am not constrained by EST, CST, DST, PST, UTC 7, 8, or 10, the earth's gravitational pull, the solar eclipse, or a call to dinner.

UnFROGetable

Beth Swider

Fiber

NFS

I decided to just pretend I was back in the pandemic with no resources beyond what I already owned. Relying on my stash for materials, I found several frog prints that I adopted from Mary Lou Smith's generous donation to the Heard-Craig Center for the Arts and started playing with cutting them out and spray starching them down, so they could easily be removed and relocated if I didn't like how they were relating. I finally got all 24 frogs down when my dear husband entered the studio and immediately loved the "dog" I was assembling! Needless to say, I was flabbergasted! "What dog?" I asked. He showed me what he saw. He didn't even see the frogs at all!

After looking at the canvas again, I not only saw a racing dog leaping over rocks but another dog peering backwards at the competition in the background. That's when I decided to just go ahead and KISS it, the art and the husband. For anyone not familiar with this mnemonic, KISS stands for "keep it simple sweetie", or is that stupid? Additionally, I discovered that the canvas can be hung in two ways! What I mean by that is it can nicely be hung diagonally, or with the canvas as a square on its side. So, for installation there are two wires across the back. I do so like making items that have built in options. Now, having said all that, I do have lots and lots and lots of blue & green solid and print fabric swatches that can easily be added to minimize the white background if the buyer isn't interested in the racing dogs and would prefer a 24-frog jungle.

Time is Money

VET

Acrylic on canvas

1200

We are obsessed with thoughts of managing time. We either don't have enough time or have too much time on our hands. The notion of managing time is really an abstract concept, since time is passing while we are planning. Unlike a watch, we cannot regulate "real time" by just move the hands backward or forward with the twist of the dial.

In this montage of clock numbers and names, I wanted to show the various brands of time pieces from the least expensive (\$7) to the most outrageous arm candy (599K).

However, no matter how much we spend on a time piece none of them can buy one extra minute of time to our life.

Gold Rush

VET

Acrylic on Canvas

1200

The Earth has so many hidden treasures beneath the surface. These elements have been forged by wind, rain, heat and time. It is hard to predict what is below the surface of these gems of the earth until they are cracked, sliced or polished to reveal the beauty inside. Just like these stones, the human spirit is not always revealed. Until we are permitted to look deep inside and observe the true beauty that exists within, no one can know for sure.

***Cinderella Dressed in Yellow
and 24 Pink Blossoms***

Jacque Forsher
Acrylic on Canvas
NFS

Artists are inspired by many things - nature, people, animals, music, sunsets, and sometimes even a simple bowl of fruit. This painting was influenced by one of my three grandchildren, all of whom continually supply an energetic flow of fanciful inspiration! The girl in the painting, a self-proclaimed princess (the best kind!) happens to be a big fan of Cinderella. The final touch of the pink blossoms pulled the "24" theme together adding a sort of exclamation point to the vibrant garden, befitting of her majesty.

Do the Math

VET

Acrylic on Canvas

1200

There are numerous mathematical equations that add up to the number 24. This numbers game is a fascinating exercise practiced by numerologists, accountants, bank tellers, bookkeepers, tax collectors, creditors and anyone who enjoys working with digits. There is a sense of satisfaction that only they seem to feel when crunching those numbers. For me, using these symbols as mark making these are more about the patterns created to form with repetition and spacing. Accuracy in the equations is not necessarily my goal. I just love the random beauty of numbers.