

ArT RoCkS

november 2023

kscarminach studio presents a quarterly newsletter tumbling with art inspiration, art invitations, and art conversation.

kscarminachstudio.com

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Madonna di Campiglio in the Brenta Dolomites of Italy

I'm bringing up the rear here behind Brian and our friend Marco in the Dolomites which are located along the northern border of Italy and Austria. The Dolomites host some of the highest vertical rock walls in the world. Before heading out, Marco asked if I was a hiker and I confidently responded with a boastful "yes". But, after six hours scaling rocks like the ones you see here I realized the term "hiker" has a different connotation in the Dolomites. Reevaluating my answer now in the same way that I consider myself a spring skier, I have placed myself firmly in the category of mountain meanderer.

Welcome to the ArT RoCkS quarterly newsletter! My intention here is to establish an on-going conversation that inspires and motivates you to reach for creativity as a way to make you feel more alive in the world. Here you will find museum shows, movies, books, restaurants and anything else that delights me. I am fascinated by art, travel and culture and I am always on the look out for the curious and adventurous. Thank you for coming on this journey with me.

ArT MuSiNgS

New Work



Admit Something

Acrylic & Mixed Media on Paper

Pine Box Frame

10" x 10"

\$250

All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB



Here is Where the Story Begins

Acrylic & Mixed Media on Wood Panel

Pine Cradle Frame

12" x 12"

\$300

All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB

ArT MuSiNgS

New Work



Shed the Amor

Acrylic & Mixed Media on Wood Panel

Pine Cradle Frame

12" x 12"

\$300

All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB



More Awake in Dreams

Acrylic and Mixed Media on Paper

Pine Box Frame

15" x 19"

\$650

All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB

ArT MuSiNgS

New Work



Poetry Makes the Universe Admit a Secret

Acrylic and Mixed Media on Paper

Pine Box Frame



Birth About to Happen

Mokuhanga Wood Block Print and Mat \$50

Pine Frame with Mat and Glass \$300

12" x 10" Framed or Matted

10" x 10"

\$250

All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB

ArT MuSiNgS

New Work



Enmeshment

Mokuhanga Wood Block Print and Mat \$50

Pine Frame with Mat and Glass \$300

12" x 10" Framed or Matted

All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB

All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB



Awaiting a Hurricane

Mokuhanga Wood Block Print and Mat \$50

Pine Frame with Mat and Glass \$300

12" x 10" Framed or Matted

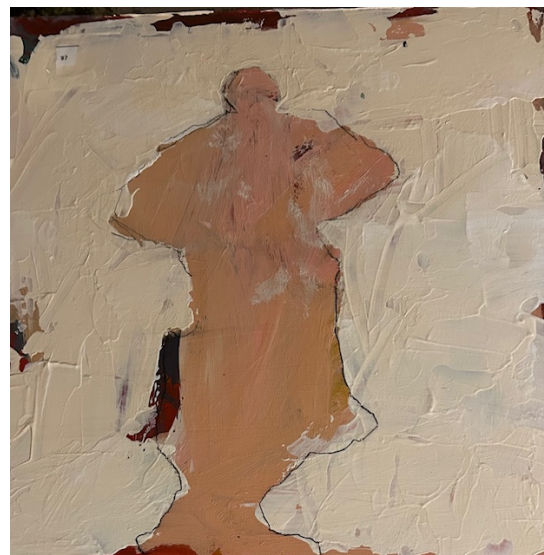
All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB

ArT MuSiNgS

New Work



Certainty



Acrylic and Mixed Media on Paper

Pine Box Frame

10" x 10"

\$250

All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB

Her Wild Light

Acrylic and Mixed Media on Wood Panel

Pine Cradle Frame

12" x 12"

\$300

All proceeds go to The Thriving Initiative at UCSB

Artist Life

Eccomi! Arrived on American soil the first week of November after 2 1/2 months in Italy and for the first time ever I want to say that I am glad to be back home in my own bed. With everything going on in the world I longed for the familiar and my loved ones near and dear.

I immediately jumped back into my studio, somedays as early as 3:00 am, (thank you jet lag) and got down to business. The reprieve in Italy did me good. While I sketched and fooled around with drawing my Italian ladies in Sardinia and Rome, the time away seems to have freed up my creative mind for the heavy lifting of my abstract figures and the non-representational. I've got lots of 1/2 finished paintings sitting on my studio tables still. I feel so happy to get back into the groove.

I am donating all proceeds from the sales of my work to the annual appeal for The Thriving Initiative at UCSB where I continue to teach a Visual Journal workshop to the student survivors of interpersonal violence (domestic violence, rape and stalking). The Thriving Initiative is another part of my life that brings me great satisfaction and stimulates my creative process. I hope you will consider either purchasing a piece of art from me or donating independently. They have an anonymous donor who is matching all financial gifts up to \$10,000 and donations are tax deductible. You can find The Thriving Initiative here:

<https://www.thethrivinginitiat...>

Alas, I have no pearls of wisdom to offer, neither poetry nor quotes by the infamous, but I will say this, living out of a suitcase for several months taught me something. I don't need much. And, in celebration of this newly realized spirit of which I have every intention of incorporating into my real life here, I have made this request and declaration to my beloveds, "No more gifts". "No more shopping". "No more stuff". "Please". Time together and/or genuine sentiment in a card is more than enough, in fact, it is everything I need to be reassured that I am seen and cherished.

But, art doesn't come under the category of "stuff". It fulfills a need, the need for pleasure derived from the visual. Just sayen' 😊

With that I wish you all a joyous holiday season with plenty of time for those who are most important to you.

What's New Out There in the Art World

Roman Gems Chiosstro del Bramante
Metropoliz Museum of the Other and the
Elsewhere



Rome Anti-Museum

Metropoliz Museum of the Other and the Elsewhere

I've been to Rome many times in my life particularly in the 2000's and had never heard of the Museo dell'Altro e dell'Altrove di Metropoliz, a museum and shelter for refugees. What a combination!

In 2009, several migrant and Roma families cleaned the empty complex what was then an abandoned salami factory and turned the factory's auxiliary buildings into homes. They'd already begun painting murals on the walls when Curator Giorgio de Finis found the place in 2011 and started organizing events and performances there.

What became a collaboration between de Finis and the factory's 200 squatters has led to murals, paintings, and installations made by more than 300 artists from around the world, even icons like Edward



Venus of Rags, 1967

Michelangelo Pistoletto

Two of my favorite periods in Italian art history are the Macchiaioli Movement and Arte Povera. The Macchiaioli were a group of painters around 1855 in Tuscany working similar to France's Impressionism artists. Arte Povera is a movement originating in Italy in the 1960s combining aspects of conceptual, minimalist, and performance art, and making use of recycled objects or common materials such as discarded objects or newspapers, in the hope of subverting the commercialization of art. Sorta the equivalent of what we may call Folk Art or Marcel Duchamp's readymades or even Rauschenberg's combines.

I saw an exhibition called *Infinity: A Retrospective of the work of Michelangelo Pistoletto* which was in the Chiosstro del Bramante. The

Kienholz, the American sculptor. Well known artists painted murals and left their work here so that the building became a designated National Museum and could not be demolished.

The warehouse spaces are full of art. A slaughterhouse hall once used for stripping carcasses now features a painting of hanging pigs. Other halls and some of the art installations serve as giant playgrounds for the children, who make up about 40 percent of its population.

Many of the people who live at MAAM (*Museo dell'Altro e dell'Altrove di Metropoliz*, or "Metropoliz Museum of the Other and the Elsewhere") are poor and unemployed, living in the factory illegally. Italy has been criticized in the past for its treatment of migrants and Roma people. But, as it stands now the popularity of the collective art space and quality of the art keeps its inhabitants from being evicted.

<https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2016/jun/02/rome-art-warehouse-museum>

contrast of a old and new, a cloister built in 1504 housing contemporary art and sculptures was an absolute thrill. One of my favorite pieces of his was the Venus of the Rags or Venere degli stracci, a sculpture from his Arte Povera period employing a copy of the classical sculpture Venus, Roman goddess of love, beauty and fertility, who is set up against a huge mound of colorful old clothes heaped on the floor like the bedroom of a rebellious teenager.

The Venus statue is positioned with its back to the viewer. The figure's face and body press lightly against the pile of fabrics that rises up before it, so that the front of the statue is hidden. For me this piece conjures up terms like consumption, consumerism, landfills, piles of stuff, stuff, stuff with history maintaining a ringside seat to the the waste we have created in our world. This work prompts a dialogue about the past and the present, about beauty and the everyday and wouldn't it be wonderful if we could stand still long enough to learn something from our past.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UW3333333333>



Caffetteria Bistrot

Love Trap at Pleasure Palace

Imagine walking into a 16th century limestone vault outfitted living room furniture and frescoed with cherubs, hummingbirds, witches, a variety of flora and fauna. In this vault is upholstered couches, reading chairs, chaise lounges all of the same genre. In a riot of color, oranges, chartreuse, crimson and fiery pinks this decor is actually a site specific work by the artists Fallen Fruit called *Love Trap at Pleasure Palace*. Reminds me of a B52 song ... Anyway, this masterpiece completely covers the walls floor to ceiling and all the furnishings allowing you to become part of the installation itself and the gran bellezza

If you want to do something truly unique in Rome, aka the eternal city, then you can't miss this the Sala delle Sibille Caffetteria Bistrot in the Chiostro del Bramante/Cloister of Bramante. It's not far from Piazza Navona.

There is no question that Rome is spills over with art and culture: The Colosseum, St. Peter's Basilica, the Vatican Museums which house the Sistine Chapel, the Imperial Forums, Trajan's Column and Piazza Venezia. Yet,



My Wall Space

Gallery Los Olivos

I sold four paintings yesterday and had to get my tail up to Los Olivos to replenish my wall space with new work. A good problem to have! Here is the new collection of work located in the second room of the gallery on the left hand side. My space is a little difficult to find, but I am surrounded by giants in the art world and consider myself very fortunate to be exhibited in Gallery Los Olivos which shows primarily California and Santa Ynez landscapes. I am one of the very few abstract artists in a group of kind, organized, creative and pro-active artists. Humbled and grateful.

<https://www.gallerylosolivos.com>

alongside the most iconic
ancient monuments of the city
you can also find cultural
spaces that
celebrate the present and the
contemporary.

The Sala delle Sibille bistrot is
just that! It takes its name from
the inspirational work of
Raphael kept in the Church of
Santa Maria next door.

Put it on your bucket list!

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Thank you for being part of ArT RoCks! I truly appreciate it.

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The conversation has officially started. Feel free to write me if you would like to
chat further.

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