

Studio Montclair Presents “Portfolio Series: Imaginary Places,” an exhibition at the Montclair Public Library Gallery, 50 South Fullerton Ave., Montclair, NJ

November 2 to November 29, 2016

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Montclair NJ (September, 2016) – Studio Montclair presents the exhibition “Portfolio Series: Imaginary Places” from November 2 to November 29 at the Montclair Public Library, 50 S. Fullerton Ave., Montclair NJ. A panel discussion featuring the participating artists and moderated by Curator Linda Streicher will be held on November 7 from 7:45 to 8:45 pm.

This exhibition features the work of six artists who draw on their experiences, cultural heritage, and individual inspirations to create highly personal, fictitious worlds.

Curator Linda Streicher states: “In a world fraught with havoc and stress, a place of refuge where one can escape, contemplate, and detoxify is vital. Art, like dreams, has that power. They both alter reality and create imaginary places where the mind is offered an alternate and enlightened view of the world.”

The artists in the exhibition use a variety of means and techniques to accomplish this objective. Julie Friedman and Joan Lesikin transform landscape to investigate internal perspectives with highly emotional and mystifying results. Marianne Trent’s assemblages and Nancy Ori’s photographs examine details of their everyday environment to express an inner spirituality. Both Santiago Cohen and Zahra Nazari confront unsettling emotions in regard to their bicultural identities. For Cohen, his Mexican heritage and contemporary American life unite in his art to form surreal, figurative scenes loaded with social commentary. For Nazari, the conflict between her native Iranian culture and her modern New York life finds expression in her work’s merging of archeological and modern architectural forms.

Featured artists:

Santiago Cohen, Julie Friedman, Joan Lesikin, Zahra Nazari, Nancy Ori, Marianne Trent

Listing information about the exhibit:

Curator: Linda Streicher

Exhibition Dates: November 2 to November 29, 2016

Gallery: Montclair Public Library, 50 S. Fullerton Ave., Montclair, NJ

Gallery Hours: Monday to Thursday 10am to 8pm; Friday and Saturday 10am to 6pm; Sunday 1 to 6pm

Reception: November 7, 6 to 8:45pm

Panel Discussion: November 7, 7:45 to 8:45pm

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Images for press:

Santiago Cohen, "Earth," oil on canvas, 52 x 58"

Julie Friedman, "Early Spring," pastel on board, 30 x 30"

Joan Lesikin, "Along the Golden Sea," oil on linen, 48 x 84

Marianne Trent, "Meadow Walk," mixed media assemblage, 20 x 34"

About Linda Streicher:

Linda Streicher is an oil painter and architect who currently practices in New Jersey and paints out of her studio in Morristown, NJ. She received her Masters in Architecture from the University of Pennsylvania, a BA degree in Fine Art and a BS degree in Business from the University of Pennsylvania. Streicher has shown her work throughout the New York Metropolitan area and has won several awards. Her work is in corporate and private collections in NJ, NY, IN and FL. She co-curates art exhibits for the Hyatt at Headquarters Plaza and conducts workshops at ArtSpace in Morristown. For more information visit: www.lstreicher.com

About Studio Montclair:

Studio Montclair Inc. is a nonprofit organization of exhibiting professional artists and others interested in the visual arts. Its mission is to promote culture and education in the visual arts and encourage emerging artists. Founded in 1997, the organization includes over 300 members, including artists from around the United States.