

Mosaic And Mosaic-Like, A Contemporary Art Exhibit At FUSION
Part of the Two Moons Exhibit Series

Friday, February 3, 2023 to Sunday, April 2, 2023

Mosaics have a long history, with evidence of their existence beginning in Mesopotamia in the 3rd millennium BCE. A traditional mosaic is a pattern or image of small regular or irregular pieces of colored stone, glass, or ceramic, held in place by plaster or mortar, and covering a surface. Today, mosaics are made by artists and craftspeople all around the world. Many materials other than the traditional are utilized by contemporary artists.

The exhibit, **Mosaic And Mosaic-Like**, features contemporary traditional **Mosaics** as well as work created in a **Mosaic-Like** style. All of the artists work and reside in Albuquerque, unless otherwise noted.

All of the artists chosen for this exhibit, who work in the traditional mosaic media and style, have a contemporary edge to their work. **Laura Robbins** from Placitas is familiar to many residents of New Mexico. Her work can be seen around Albuquerque including at the Bio Park and in Old Town. Several of her works in the current exhibit detail narrative stories from her family and related experiences. She, along with several other artists in the show, started *Mosaic New Mexico, A Collective*.

(www.mosaicnewmexico.com) Their work can be seen all over the state. **Pat Halloran**, from Rio Rancho, a founding member of Mosaic New Mexico, creates work that has a strong mythological and mystical focus and tends to take a very sculptural approach. Several of her low relief tableaux are included in this exhibit. **Lynx Lightning**, whose works combine elements of original ceramic tiling with her mosaic technique, uses the most subtle coloring in her work which explores botanical and symbolic imagery. Another tile maker is **Cirrelda Snider-Bryan**, who approaches her art from a raw, inner spiritual level, combining tiles and mosaics with poetry. **Terry Storch** has a unique personal edge to her often quirky sculptural compositions. Her inspiration comes from her connection to the earth and sky. **Holly Kuehn's** work has a transformative quality to its subject matter, a metaphorical response to her beliefs, spirituality and experiences. **Vivienne Riggio** from Santa Fe touches on quasi religious and sensual subject matter. Her reflective works reveal personal truths and mysteries. **Caroline LeBlanc** is an out-of-the-box artist who explores and travels through her psyche, creating a varied body of work touching on the known and unknown, revealing secrets and truths of the universe. **Erica Harding** uses a mixed media approach, and incorporates found objects in her work. She is fascinated by glittering sparkles and is inspired by elements of Pop Culture. She is also an educator and holds regular classes in her studio in Albuquerque.

Mosaic-Like artists are also included in the show. These are artists who are inspired by the millennium-old style of mosaic, but do not use traditional materials. **Betty Busby** is internationally renowned for her fiber art, and travels widely, exhibiting and educating. Several of her astonishing works are part of this exhibit, including a sculptural piece made of fiber. She explores the micro- and macro-world and works heavily with pattern and design to make visually moving work. The painter and poet, Corrales artist **Rudy J Miera**, has a number of his acrylic canvases in the show. Referencing a cubistic style, his intricate detailed work has a mosaic-like quality and his muted color moods reflect ancient Roman murals and pottery. **Larry Schulte** uses painted and cut paper weavings to create his cerebral works. The tessellations of color pop and whorl, creating movement reminiscent of the activities of life. Spending time with his work enables you to absorb this energy. The Santa Fe stained glass artist **Theresa Cashman** has several works in the show. Her graphic and architectonic approach to stained glass is magically transparent, glowing in the light. **Terri Lagerway** from Bosque Farms, a fiber artist, has one piece in the show that was made specifically for this exhibit. It is a geometric abstraction that can't stand still. It moves our eyes as well as our emotions, reflections of the ebb and flow of life. **Maria Jonsson** from Los Alamos creates art using metal and wire weaving, and lacing techniques that explore abstract emotional states, reflecting places and feelings that she has experienced. Placitas artist **Judith Roderick** is a well respected fiber artist, and her work adds a socially conscious element to the exhibit. She paints on silk and adds stitching methods and objects to her mosaic-like works. She makes us think and feel. Lastly, **Cassandra Shaw** adds beading to the mix of media in the show. Her carefully executed bead compositions have elements of mythology, fantasy and geometric abstraction.

My curatorial process includes, at first, a portfolio review of digital images followed by a studio visit. I meet with the artist, see the creative process, and choose work that fits the focus of the exhibit. Oftentimes, I find work for the show that was not sent to me on initial contact. I like to choose work that reflects the range of the artist's oeuvre.

There are seventeen artists in this exhibit, and over 90 pieces of art.

FUSION is a non-profit community arts organization located at 701-708 1st Street NW in downtown Albuquerque, just south of Lomas. The space is open during campus events, and by prior appointment with the site. The phone number is 505-766-9412; (FUSIONnm.org)

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The opening reception is Friday, February 3, 2023 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
A Poetry reading and performance is scheduled for the opening reception starting at 6:30 p.m.

Feel free to contact the Curator, Martin Terry, at martinartartstudios@gmail.com, or at 505-877-4503 [Home] 505-489-6885 [Cell]