

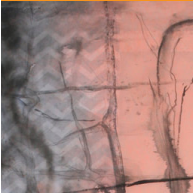
Mara Metcalf

My interest is in exploring the complexity of the natural world. Rather than depict a particular place, I want to reveal the intangible sensations and relationships that are hidden within our surroundings. While rooted in direct experience of the urban environment, it's important that my works suggest concealed energies using the language of abstraction.

On a recent walk, I noticed a ruptured chain-link fence with grasses and trees pushing through the broken boundaries. Surprisingly, several damaged sections were repaired with brightly colored wire. I see this as a heartfelt attempt to make something whole again. In my art, entwined marks and lattice networks become a visual equivalent for life's journey, full of twists and turns and the willingness to keep going anyway.



> texture



> expression



"I want to reveal the intangible sensations and relationships that are hidden within our surroundings."

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HOURS

Check website for weekly hours

Mara Metcalf

Biography

Mara Metcalf has been exhibiting professionally since completing her BFA at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) ('80) and an MFA from Tufts University/Museum School Boston ('88). Originally from Portland, Oregon, Mara moved "east" to Rhode Island to pursue her art studies at RISD.

In October 2017, Metcalf had a solo show at Harper College, near Chicago, where she was invited to give an artist talk. The show was titled "Between the Shadow and the Fence." And, Mara curated an exhibition of four New England artists whose art explores the fragile connections people have with nature. Titled "de-natured," it features work in video, installation, sculpture and painting. The exhibit was at Salve Regina University in January 2018.

Additional recent exhibitions of Metcalf's art include: "If it's not you, it's me," Metcalf + Napolitano," at the Bannister Gallery, RI College, in 2016; a solo show in the AS220 Project Space in 2015; "Arcadia" at Krause Gallery in the Moses Brown School; and "On Nature" at Chazan Gallery in Providence, RI. Mara's paper collages are currently in the Boston Drawing Project at Carroll and Sons Gallery, Boston, MA. Her work is in the collection of the RISD Museum in Providence, RI.

For over 25 years, she has been a member of the faculty at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. She received the Excellence in Teaching Award in 2010 and was nominated again in 2015.

Metcalf has been awarded a travel grant to study Giotto frescos in Italy and a faculty enrichment grant to revisit famous waterfalls in Oregon. Mara teaches "Advanced Painting Concepts" and Mixed Media workshops through the RISD CE program and has her studio and home in Providence, RI.

Education

M.F.A., Tufts University/School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA, Painting and Drawing – 1987

B.F.A., Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, Painting – 1980

Exhibitions

2017

Solo Award exhibition and Artist Lecture at Harper College, Palatine, IL

2016

If it's not you, it's me, exhibit with my partner, the painter Maria Napolitano, at RI College, Bannister Gallery, James Montford, director, Providence, RI

2015

Birds Eye View, AS220 Project Space, solo show of ink paintings and scrolls, Neal Walsh, director, Providence, RI

2011

Arcadia, Krause Gallery, Moses Brown School, Kristin Street, gallery director, juried, Providence, RI

2010

On Nature, Chazan Gallery, Sue Carroll, director, juried, Wheeler School, Providence, RI

I-95 Triennial, an invitational, University of Maine, Museum of Art, Bangor, ME

2007

Drawing Now, an invitational, Grimshaw-Gudewicz Gallery, Bristol Community College, Fall River, MA

2006

Five Rhode Island Artists, an invitational show, South County Art Association Invitational, Kingston, RI

2005

Mara Metcalf, *New Work*, Lenore Gray Gallery, Lenore Gray, director, Providence, RI

2003

Paintings, Lenore Gray Gallery, Lenore Gray, director, Providence, RI

2002

Complex Changes, Mt. Ida College Gallery, an invitational two-person show with Ben Anderson, Newton, MA

As Far As the Eye Can See, Hunt-Cavanagh Gallery, two-person juried show, Providence College, Providence, RI

2001

Wok on Paper, Lenore Gray Gallery, Providence, RI

Surface and Space, a drawing invitational, Lynn Curtis, curator, Hunt-Cavanagh Gallery, Providence College, Providence, RI

2000

The Essential Gesture, Montserrat Gallery, invitational curated by Barbara O'Brien, Montserrat College of Art, three-person show with catalogue, Beverly, MA

New Work, a two-person show, juried, Wheeler Gallery, Providence, RI

Professional Art Projects

2018

Curatorial Project for a show featuring constructed and artificial worlds at Salve Regina University, Newport, RI

2014 – Current

Boston Drawing Project, Flat File, Carroll and Son Gallery, Boston, MA

2014

Flat File at Yellow Peril Gallery, Providence, RI

Review of Works on Paper with Jan Howard, curator, at RISD Museum

1999-2001

Slide Registry, The Drawing Center, New York, NY

1997

Artist Residency, Contemporary Artists Center, North Adams, MA

Critiques and Lectures

2016

Senior Art Seminar, Guest Critic, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

2015

Artist's Talk, AS220 Project Space, Providence, RI

2014

Guest Artist Speaker, Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI

2011

Studio Visits RI, critique and presentation, RI

2010

Juror, Visual Arts SEA Grant, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

2006

Mid-Semester Critiques, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, duties: progress reports, Boston, MA

1996

Visiting Artist, Brown University, Providence, RI

1995

Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Gallery Talk on the Contemporary Drawing Exhibition, Boston, MA

Additional Group Shows

2016

Assembly Required, Project Space and artists' talk at University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

2014

RISD Summer CE Faculty show, Woods-Gerry Gallery, Providence, RI

2013

Locally Sourced, Yellow Peril at Craftland, curated by Robert Stack, Providence, RI

PRV_TLA, Studio 1504, curated by Maya Allison, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Drawing Area Faculty Show, SMFA, Boston, MA

19 on Paper 25th Anniversary, Newport Art Museum, Newport, RI

2012

RISD Alumni Show, juried by Judith Tolnick-Champa, Jamestown Arts Center, Jamestown, RI

GPS, Invitational show, ColoColo Gallery, New Bedford, MA

Summer Show, Candita Clayton Gallery, Pawtucket, RI

2011

Creative Collections, one-year anniversary show celebrating Candita Clayton studio and commitment to sustainable living, Pawtucket, RI

2010

Water, a group show at Candita Clayton, Pawtucket, RI

19 on Paper, Judith Klein Gallery, Fall River, MA

2009

Beyond the Surface, works on paper, Spring Bull Gallery, Newport, RI

19 on Paper, AS220, Providence, RI

Multiplicity, Cotuit Center for the Arts, Cotuit, MA

2008

Eclectic Abstraction, Spirol Gallery, Quinebaug Community College, Invitation, Danielson, CT

Memory and Transformation on Paper, Krause Gallery, invitational, Providence, RI

2007

19 on Paper, Green River Gallery, Warren, RI

Diversity in Paper, Breslin Fine Art Gallery, East Greenwich, RI

2006

19 on Paper VIEW, Bristol Art Museum, Bristol, RI

2005

RISD Summer Faculty Show, (05, 04), Woods Gerry Gallery, Providence, RI

2004

Group Show, Summer 04, Lenore Gray Gallery, Providence, RI

Artists of Collage, CCRI Gallery, Lincoln, RI

2003

Synesthesia, Hera Gallery, juried Wakefield, RI

2002

Print & Drawing Competition, Providence Art Club and Fidelity Investments, Providence, RI

Summer Group Show, Lenore Gray Gallery, Providence, RI

2001

Faculty Art Exhibition, Mount Ida College, Newton Centre, MA

Space, Sarah Doyle Gallery, Brown University, invitational, Providence, RI

2000

Sites and Areas, a solo show Greenville Public Library, Greenville, RI

Group 2000, Summer Show, Lenore Gray Gallery, Providence, RI

1999

Critical Support, Atrium Gallery at One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

Gallery Artists, Lenore Gray Gallery, Providence, RI

1998

Faculty Show, Grossman Gallery, Boston, MA

1997

The Dainty Hand, Tisch Art Gallery, Tufts University, juried, Medford, MA

Gender Power, McKillop Gallery, Salve Regina University, Newport, RI

Painting, recent paintings, Native Gallery, Providence, RI

1996

The Anxiety of Influence, Cambridge Art Association, juried, Cambridge, MA

1995

Passion, Providence Art Club, Prize Recipient, juried, Providence, RI

Is this POST-Modernism?, The Copley Society of Boston, Boston, MA

Stupid About Love, Gallery 28, invitational, New England School of Art and Design, Boston, MA

1994

Lunatics and Lovers, Bromfield Gallery, invitational, Boston, MA

Juried Anniversary Exhibition, Aidekman Arts Center, Tufts University, Medford, MA

1993

Layered Voices, Piano Factory, Boston, MA

Summer Faculty Show, Grossman Gallery, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

1992

Women in Art – Statements of Self, Setting the Stage Gallery, juried Alexandria, VA

Group Show, Gallery Per Tutti, Boston, MA

1991

Elements, Set-Ups, Departures, Hydrangea House Gallery, Newport, RI

Rhode Island Contemporary Masters, juried invitational, Turks Head Gallery, Providence, RI

Awards

Excellence in Teaching Nomination, 2015

Excellence in Teaching Award, 2010

Faculty Enrichment Grant, 2009, for research on waterfalls in the Columbia River Gorge

Travel Grant SMFA Faculty Award, 1999, to Florence and Asissi, Italy

Collections

RISD Museum, Providence, RI

Ritz Carlton Hotel, Washington, DC

Hasbro Children's Hospital, Providence, RI

Private Collections

Bibliography

Art New England, Feb/Mar 2011, listing with photo

"Art review," *Providence Phoenix*, March 4, 2010, Greg Cook

"Spotlight Reviews," *Art New England*, Dec/Jan 2007, Doug Norris

"Art Review," *Providence Journal*, June 2003, Bill Van Siclen

"Art Scene," *Providence Journal*, February 24, 2000, Channing Gray

"Regional Reviews," *Art New England*, February/March 1998, Alicia Faxon

"Layers of Paint," *South End News*, January 28, 1993, Cate McQuaid

"Where The Real and Abstract Converge," *Newport This Week*, September 1991, John Pantalone