NEW JERSEY impressions
NEW JERSEY IMPRESSIONS

W. Carl Burger | Myles Cavanaugh | Todd L. W. Doney | Amy Evans | Julie Friedman
Gary Godbee | Jeff Gola | Maria Mijares | Nancy Ori | Gerald Slota
Stan Sperlak | George Tice | Tricia Zimic

September 2013 – July 2014
It is a great pleasure to present at Drumthwacket through July 2014, a selection of landscape paintings by New Jersey artists who live and work throughout our great state. The exhibit is part of the Drumthwacket Foundation’s arts education initiative to introduce visitors to different genres of art created by recognized New Jersey artists both past and present.

Masterfully using a wide range of media including pastel, oil, egg tempera, acrylic, watercolor and photography, the exhibiting artists share their impressions of New Jersey’s vast array of landscapes – from urban to rural and industrial – capturing New Jersey in all its dimensions. These contemporary images are displayed alongside Drumthwacket’s collection of historic paintings on loan from New Jersey’s museums.

For their assistance in the planning of this exhibit, special gratitude is extended to Margaret O’Reilly, New Jersey State Museum, Dorrie Papademetriou, Noyes Museum, Giovanna Cecchetti, freelance curator, Don Ehman, New Jersey State Council on the Arts and Roy Pedersen, Pedersen Gallery in addition to the Fine Art Committee of the Drumthwacket Foundation, chaired by Board Trustee Jeff Haines.

I hope you enjoy the exhibit and your visit to Drumthwacket.

First Lady Mary Pat Christie
A naturalized American citizen, W. Carl Burger was born in Pforzheim, Germany in 1925. The following year his parents immigrated to the United States, settling in Irvington, NJ. Burger served during World War II with the U.S. Army’s 1651st Engineering Utilities Detachment and was later transferred to Military Intelligence serving in France and Germany. Honorably discharged in 1946, Burger resumed his college studies at New York University, receiving a BS and MA in Fine Arts Education. In 1993 he retired as Professor Emeritus of Art from Kean University in Union, New Jersey. The Butler Institute of Art, Youngstown, Ohio, the Noyes Museum of Art, Oceanville, NJ and the Morris Museum, Morristown, NJ have all done comprehensive solo exhibitions of W. Carl Burger’s artwork.

**Jersey Shore, Brielle**  
Watercolor  |  51 x 72 inches  
*Collection of the Noyes Museum of Art, Absecon, NJ.*
I believe in a “classical” approach to my work meaning that it not only has to be interesting but emotionally moving, well crafted and beautiful. These are the corner stones of my work. My technique and style are best described as American Impressionism. Though I have traveled and painted extensively abroad the focus of my work is distinctly regional; the Delaware Valley, Jersey shore, New York and Philadelphia.

www.mylescavanaugh.com
The works from *Nature Sublime* have their roots firmly entrenched in various landscape painting traditions including George Innes, John Henry Twachtman, and Claude Monet as well as contemporary landscape artists such as Wolf Kahn, Charles Yoder, and April Gornik. With a genre as long and accomplished as landscape painting, it would be truly difficult to make a nature painting that doesn’t either deliberately or subconsciously relate to the legacy of the landscape. Therefore, I admit that my recent work was inspired by all the artists mentioned above. However, when I make a painting, I want to create work that is different and unique to myself. I am looking for something new, something that just might have been overlooked by the greats of the past and aspire to create the best art that I can.

[www.todddoney.com](http://www.todddoney.com)
As an artist I rely on my native environment for the foundation of my work. Whether taking direction from a farmer’s field with perfectly aligned cornrows or the random design of discarded trash clinging to a chain link fence; New Jersey’s ever-changing palette has a direct imprint on my artistic process. The themes in my work often draw a connection between the past and present by forging together both reality and fabrication. I set the stage for my imagery by photographing early in the morning, using fog, rain and atmospheric light to create the backdrop for each scene. My photographs are momentary observations, dreamlike, more like a glance, or a faded memory. These images are reality remembered and reinvented. www.amyevansphoto.com
My focus as a painter is to continuously explore the pushing and pulling of color and space and how those elements help to support the intention of the painting. The landscape serves as a metaphor for what I am feeling and the color is how I choose to express or describe it. I love to explore the power that color has to influence mood and emotion. My goal is to leave the viewer with the experience of an emotional response.  

www.juliefriedmanart.com
The priority for me has always been the creation of a convincing illusion that makes my visual point, and the source material (often from multiple views and vantage points) is always subordinated to the necessities of that vision. Each painting is the result of a process of modification and distillation. The significance is that all of my paintings are based on an idea derived from direct experience and are attempts to create a painterly, personal equivalent for the immediate visual world. www.garygodbee.com
From my earliest memories, I have always been drawn to the rural and woodland landscape and have always had a strong interest in observing the elements that influence that environment; the cycle of the seasons, the changing skies and the weather it portends, the constant presence of the natural processes of life, decay and rebirth, and the fading remnants of distant history and past lives.

Egg tempera painting has a long tradition and its special qualities are uniquely suited to capturing the properties of light and exploring its interplay on texture. I have found that the slow and careful process that tempera requires to achieve its depth and luminosity suits my temperament and vision. The gradual building of form and the patient exploration of every surface nuance that is involved in tempera painting requires a meditative and reflective approach, one that I feel enables me to examine personal memories and feelings that these subjects evoke in me.

www.jeffgola.com

Sourlands Series I: #1
Egg tempera on panel | 29.5 x 29.5 inches
Whether looking at treasure or decay, my inclinations are quixotic, and visual content becomes philosophy. I find beauty in the commonplace as I reconstruct and color a world vibrant enough that I can live in.

I view reality as a collection of abstract shapes. Once representation is reasonably established, I start over looking for the grace of each mark, translating realism into a compilation of poetic vignettes. My method is a mix of technical and metaphysical means. After uncountable layers, the build-up begins to take on the authority of factuality, and the beauty of truth. I am balancing the attributes of each shape, pushing truth to the edge—just short of falling off. Rocking between accuracy and playfulness, I hope for the ‘real’ picture.

The painting is one of four commissioned by NJ Transit for the public art installation in the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Transit System’s Bergenline Avenue Station in Union, NJ. Monumental porcelain enamel on steel reproductions were made from the original works.
I have been photographing landscapes since the late seventies. At the time, I was studying with Ansel Adams and capturing the large landscape scenes of California and the Southwest in color. I later received a grant from the Union County Freeholders to photograph the county park system designed by the Olmsted firm. These are two of my favorite images from that series. They are printed on the now rare archival Cibachrome color print material that is exposed directly from color transparency film in the darkroom.

www.nancyorifineart.com

Passaic River Winter, New Providence
Ilfochrome color photograph | 39.5 x 41.5 inches
GERALD SLOTA

Paterson | Bergen County

From the series “Urbania” photographed exclusively in Paterson NJ, each image is shot in a documentary style and printed on small matt paper. The photograph is then altered by either cutting and/or drawing. It’s very important to me to change the original feeling and create a new surreal mood. I experiment with the mistakes and accidents that come about while manipulating the piece and “push” the images to another level by a hands-on method...very little photo shop is involved. I then keep reshooting the new photo until I get the vivid colors I want and achieve a new narrative that didn’t exist before. My ultimate goal is to have the viewer experience Paterson in a whole new way ... perhaps, similarly to how Dorothy is able to conjure up the Wizard of OZ, as in the world of fantasy or dream state.

www.geraldslotsa.com

CASTLE | Photograph | 22 x 22 inches
Stan Sperlak, PSA is a painter from Cape May whose works range from dramatic skies of twilight and storms, to serene and sublime marshes and fields. His pastel paintings have included references to working fisherman and the gentle history of the Cape while promoting the quiet luminescence of the seaside light.

“Painting opens a door for me to heighten my relationship with nature, simply taking the time to be present at the location, breathing the air and fully dedicating myself to the moment.

The gift from that moment is captured to be a record for others to play, for them to hear and see, to understand and share with me. It is a joy to portray a distinct view of my native area in ways that surprise people with the unexpected beauty, and encourage them to look and explore in ways that they may never have.”

www.stansperlak.com
My experience when driving with most passengers and coming upon something worth looking at was that they seldom understood my excitement, or the potential of what I was pointing out, until I made a photograph of it.

It takes the passage of time before an image of a commonplace subject can be assessed. The great difficulty of what I attempt is seeing beyond the moment; the everydayness of live gets in the way of the eternal.

I contemplate how this photograph will be seen in the future when the subject matter no longer endures. Taking a picture is, indeed, stopping the world.

from George Tice: Urban Landscapes, 2002

George Tice’s prints can be found in numerous collections including the Museum of Modern Art, the Getty Museum, the Newark Museum and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where in 1972 he was honored with a solo exhibition.
Tricia Zimic is a conservation artist dedicated to raising awareness of endangered animals through sculptures and paintings which highlight the juxtaposition of native wild animals surviving in urban areas.

www.triciazimic.com

The black bear is listed as “least concern status” and is currently living at 95% of its former range. Black bears usually eat grass, roots, berries and fish but they are highly adaptable. This adventurous family of black bear has roamed into the Meadowlands under I-95 to munch on garbage, finding the local pizza more delectable than grass.

Lost-n-Found | Oil on canvas | 36 x 24 inches
NEW JERSEY IMPRESSIONS

W. Carl Burger
Jersey Shore, Brielle
Watercolor, 51 x 72 inches
Collection of the Noyes Museum of Art, Abescon, NJ.

Myles Cavanaugh
End of Summer Seaside, New Jersey
2012, oil on canvas, 24 x 48 inches

Todd L. W. Doney
Swamp, October 18, 5:58 pm
Oil on canvas, 48 x 48 inches

Amy Evans
Clouds on the Ground #112
Photograph, 12 x 32 inches
Clouds on the Ground #103
Photograph, 13 x 32 inches
Clouds on the Ground #111
Photograph, 9 x 34 inches
Clouds on the Ground #118
Photograph, 11 x 35 inches

Gary Godbee
View of Jersey City from Ellis Island
Oil on linen, 24 x 60 inches
Railroad Bridge with the NJ Turnpike
Oil on masonite, 15.5 x 48 inches

Jeff Gola
Sourlands Series I: #1
Egg tempera on panel, 29.5 x 29.5 inches
Sourlands Series II: #5
Egg tempera on panel, 29 x 22.5 inches

Maria Mijares
Across the Street
Acrylic, 44 x 42 inches

Nancy Ori
Passaic River Winter, New Providence
Ilfochrome color photograph, 39.5 x 41.5 inches
Lone Tree, Watchung, NJ
Ilfochrome color photograph, 39.5 x 41.5 inches

Julie Friedman
Miller’s Mountain, Mendham, NJ
Pastel, 41 x 32 inches

Gerald Slota
Castle
Photograph, 22 x 22 inches
The Falls
Photograph, 22 x 22 inches

Stan Sperlak
The Harvesters
Pastel, 30 x 30 inches

George Tice
Water Tower, Rahway, NJ
1994 print: 2/28/95
Train Station, Plainfield, New Jersey
1996 print: 11/27/00

Tricia Zimic
Lost-n-Found
Oil on canvas, 36 x 24 inches
Fast Food
Oil on canvas, 36 x 24 inches