

Upcoming Shows

**Chatham Township
Municipal Building
58 Meyersville Road**

Summer

**Continues through
Monday, Sept. 11**

Fall

Reception

**Friday, Sept. 15
6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Receiving

**Tuesday, Sept. 12
1-2:30 p.m.**

Winter

Reception

**Sunday, Dec. 3
2-4 p.m.**

Receiving

**Tuesday, Nov. 28
1-2:30 p.m.**



"Metronome 2," a 14 x 18-in. mixed media on canvas by Maia Kumari Gilman, will be in the solo exhibit in the Lundt-Glover Gallery at the ALC Fall Show.

ALC Fall Show to Feature 'Eterna' Solo Exhibit

The Fall Show of the Art League of the Chathams, which runs from Sept. 15 through Nov. 28, will showcase a solo exhibit of colorful abstract paintings by Maia Kumari Gilman, as well as an exhibit of artwork by the general membership.

The opening reception for both the membership show and "Eterna," the solo show in the Lundt-Glover Gallery, will be held Friday, Sept. 15, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Chatham Township Municipal Building.

Artwork by members will be received at the municipal building on Tuesday, Sept. 12, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Start With Geometry, Add Color

Maia Kumari Gilman is an architect, and drawing has been second nature to her from an early age. She has done many charcoal and pen and ink drawings since she studied architecture in Vancouver, British Columbia, where she grew up with a sister in a household that “married science and art.” (Her father worked as an engineer and technology management dean, and her mother as a special education teacher previously trained as an art educator.)

Maia dreamed of doing large, colorful abstract paintings and for a number of years, she grappled with bringing more color into her artwork, beyond the touches she adds to her precise architectural drawings with soft pastel. She studied oil painting at The Art Students League and at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey for a few seasons, “but it didn’t click. I didn’t really like working with oil paint.”

And then about a year ago, it did “click.” Her mother, who is now a full-time landscape painter, was visiting from Vancouver. Over a game of Scrabble, Maia mused: “Drawing for me is like breathing. I do it naturally; it feels good.”

As she said it, she realized she “wanted to push the limit,” and begin painting abstracts. Maia’s mother gave her advice on what art supplies she needed to get started, and they went shopping for acrylics, watercolors, and brushes. Then she gave Maia three days of intensive training in painting techniques.

Shortly after, Maia went into New York City and visited art galleries to get inspiration for painting abstracts. She took a sketchbook and began drawing on the train with her Pigma pen. “I realized as I was doing it that I was looking at form differently,” she said. “It was more curvilinear and less rectilinear.” With that epiphany, she made a transition. When she came back to her studio, she started creating abstract paintings.



“Green Epiphany,” a 16 x 20-in. acrylic and oil pastel on canvas by Maia Kumari Gilman, will be in the Lundt-Glover Gallery solo show at the ALC Fall Show.

Since then, Maia has created some 40 to 50 abstract paintings, which are ready for her solo show with the art league in September. Entitled “Eterna,” the show has the theme of what is eternal in form and in color. Underlying these paintings are sacred geometry forms that often remain hidden, and at the surface are represented by “rotations” —and a strong sense of form and balance.

Although she didn’t end up using many of the painting techniques from her mom’s crash course, she was inspired by them, Maia said. Most of her paintings are acrylics, some with oil pastels, on canvas. But she also uses materials like seashells and bits of paper collage, which she seals in multiple layers of varnish. She starts off with an under layer of gesso that builds a textured, or even a modeled, base. (See more of Maia’s paintings and links to her website and blog at the [ALC website](#).)

When she starts an abstract painting, Maia doesn’t always know what it will look like in the end, but she does know what feelings she wants to evoke. She finds it interesting to see which paintings resonate in what ways with different people. When looking at one of her own paintings,



“Convection 3,” by Maia Kumari Gilman, is a 16 x 20-in. acrylic and oil pastel on canvas that will be in her solo exhibit at the Fall Show.

“I always remember the mood I was in when I created it,” she said.

Often she will go for a walk or listen to music to tap into a mood for a painting. But, she said, it’s better to start painting if you happen to be in a bad mood than to wait for the right mood to strike. Painting can soften or change her mood; it can be a mood enhancer, she added. She also finds it “opens a doorway” for other creative endeavors, like writing and architectural design, and inspires connections between people working collaboratively on creative projects. She is now writing about that idea in another one of her creative projects: a novel. Actually it is her second novel. It involves architects, environmental issues, and medical marijuana. “It’s about creative states of consciousness,” she said. Painting abstracts has been an “amazing gateway” in this regard, she said. But so has meditation, which, she added, is her personal drug of choice.

She grew up in a meditating household, but until a few years ago

had been doing it only intermittently as an adult. Now she has a daily routine of getting up to meditate an hour before her husband and two sons wake up. She meditates and writes, and meditates and paints. And she sees it bringing together her painting and writing and architectural design work.

Her recently published first novel, “The Erenwine Agenda,” which is available from [Amazon](#) and will soon be available more widely, is a love story that involves fracking, environmental issues, and architectural design. “It’s about drawing as a transformative tool,” said Maia. “There’s a problem, and drawing is the tool used to move toward a solution.”

Green by Design

All of her architectural design work has been on green, or environmentally friendly, buildings. “It may be partly my training,” she said. When she moved to New York City in 1999, the architects there were just starting to tackle designing green buildings—and they were citing her professors from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver as references.

Her projects include historic restoration, the adaptive reuse of buildings, such as converting industrial buildings to other uses, and adapting structures to be resilient to changing climate conditions. She is the owner of her own firm, [Maia Gilman Architect PLLC](#), that specializes in green renovations and new construction.

This summer she will be teaching a class in architectural model building for children 11 years and up at the Library of the Chathams. The four-session series in July and August is aimed at students who want to become architects. (See [library website](#) for details.)

After finishing her architectural studies in Vancouver, Maia came to New York City on vacation and decided to live there. Before she made the actual move, “every night for two months, I dreamed I was in New York and painting big colorful abstracts, and everything worked out through the kindness of strangers.” Until this past year, she was beginning to wonder when the part of that dream about painting abstracts would happen. Maia’s artwork continues to evolve, and her next steps are to connect those large abstract interpretations with the refined line work of architectural drawing in a new series she is already contemplating.

Drip Coffee Exhibit Extended

The ALC group show at Drip Coffee in Chatham has been extended through July 30. Pickup day for artwork is Monday, July 31, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Open Position
The position of ALC secretary is currently open.

If you would like to volunteer, or learn more about the position, please contact:

[Magdalena Urbankova.](#)

Board

President

Magdalena Urbankova

Secretary

Open

Treasurer

Helena Axelrod

New Members

Please welcome our newest members:

Eva Meller of Morristown is a patron.

Louise Easton of Madison is an oil painter.

Arline Lloyd of Madison works in acrylics and watercolor.

Paul Kline of Madison works in encaustic oil/cold wax.

Chris Van Houten of Roseland is a watercolor painter.

Debra Fadil of Wayne is a watercolor painter.

June Fisher-Markowitz of Wayne is a watercolor painter.

Sandra D. Fiore of Chatham works in oil and graphics.

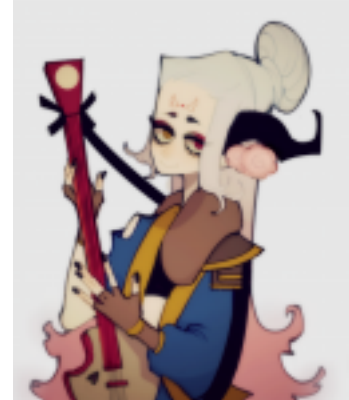
Ruth Zuman of Chatham works in watercolors.

Kelly Anderson Wins 2017 ALC Scholarship

Kelly Anderson has been named the recipient of the 2017 Art League of the Chathams Scholarship, which is given to a Chatham High School graduating senior who is pursuing further education in art.

Kelly will be attending Montclair State University as an art major, focusing on animation and graphic design.

The ALC sponsors an art scholarship each year. Funds for the scholarship come directly from the proceeds of ALC gala events, most recently the celebration of the league's 25th anniversary in 2013.



"Bard," by Kelly Anderson, who will be studying animation and graphic design at Montclair State University.

Want to Be President? (Training Included)

If you'd like to take on a leadership role at the ALC, now is a good time to volunteer.

Magdalena Urbankova has just passed the one-year mark in her two-year term as president, and she would be happy to train someone to take her place next year.

She "shadowed" Rosemary Howlett, the previous president, before taking the helm, and found it very helpful.

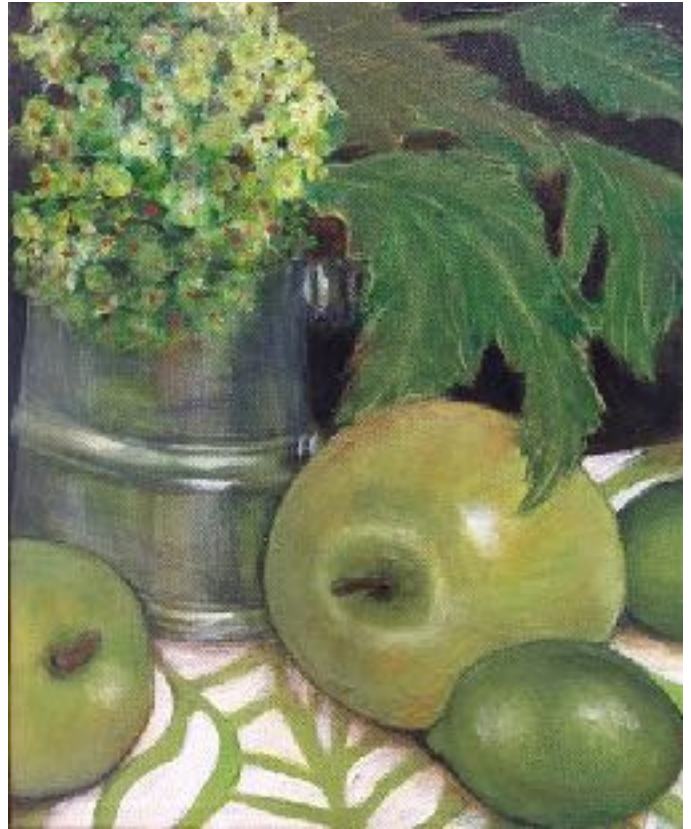
If you are interested in becoming ALC president next year, or want to learn more about the position, contact [Magdalena Urbankova](#).

Member News

At ALC Shows:

Sally Abbott has extended her solo show, “On the Road and Home Again,” which opened in March alongside the general ALC membership Spring Show, until Sept. 5. She has hung 11 new paintings in the Lundt-Glover Gallery to replace those she sold at her opening reception. The acrylic on canvas paintings in her show include many landscapes from her travels, still lifes, and several of her rooster series paintings. Among the landscapes she sold is “Sunset, Jersey Shore,” which will be in the collection of Morristown Medical Center in memory of Patricia Hutchison of Chatham, who was a member of its Twig chapter.

The paintings in the solo show, and the ongoing ALC group show in the adjoining strolling gallery, are on view in the Chatham Township Municipal Building at 58 Meyersville Road Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays during the summer.



“Study in Green,” an acrylic on canvas by Sally Abbott, is one of the new paintings she has added to her solo exhibit in the Lundt-Glover Gallery at the Chatham Township Municipal Building on view this summer.



“After the Bath,” by Louise Easton.

Three artworks were sold at the May 12th opening reception of the small ALC group show at Drip Coffee in Chatham.

John Howlett sold a photo giclee printed on canvas entitled “Summer Sun.”

Louise Easton sold an oil painting, “After the Bath,” (shown at left).

Yolanda Fundora sold “I Have a Car Who Likes to Wear Hats,” a digital print on paper (see next page). The show has been extended through July 30.

Yolanda Fundora sold a digital print in each of the last three ALC shows. She sold “Yosemite Suite: Olmstead Point” (lower right) an 18 x 24-in. digital on acrylic print at the Winter Show. She sold “Reading Naked on the Couch,” (next page) an 8 x 8-in. digital print on paper, at the Spring Show in the Chatham Township Municipal Building.

At the current group show at Drip Coffee in Chatham, she sold “I Have a Car Who Likes to Wear Hats” (right) a 13 x 19-in. digital print on paper. It is one of her recent works that combines words and images. She is now putting together a book of these works, which she hopes to have ready for an opening at MONDO in Summit in September.

Architect **Maia Kumari Gilman** will be teaching a class in architectural model building for children 11 years and up at the Library of the Chathams this summer. The four-session series in July and August is aimed at students who want to become architects. Models created in the workshop will be exhibited in the library at the end of the program. Registration opens Wednesday, June 28. Go to the [library website](#) to register or for more details.

Philla Barkhorn will be teaching a four-session intensive portfolio development class, “Painting for the College Bound,” July 24-27 at the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey in Summit. The workshop offers students an opportunity to develop their portfolios for submission to fine arts colleges. Based on the curricula and portfolio requirements of the top five leading art schools, a specific topic is covered each week. For more information, visit the [Visual Arts Center website](#).



“I Have a Car Who Likes to Wear Hats” by Yolanda Fundora.



“Yosemite Suite: Olmstead Point” by Yolanda Fundora.

Committee Chairs

Exhibits

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Celeste Fondaco

Rosemary Howlett

Hospitality

Alison Hooper

Sharon Remlinger

Membership

Ellie Culver

Membership

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Celeste Fondaco

Publicity

Harriet Kushins

Programs &

Workshops

Lidia Bendelic

CHS Liaison

Philla Barkhorn

Newsletter Editor

Nancy Kingman

Web Manager

Magdalena Urbankova

Web Editor

Nancy Kingman

Lundt-Glover Gallery

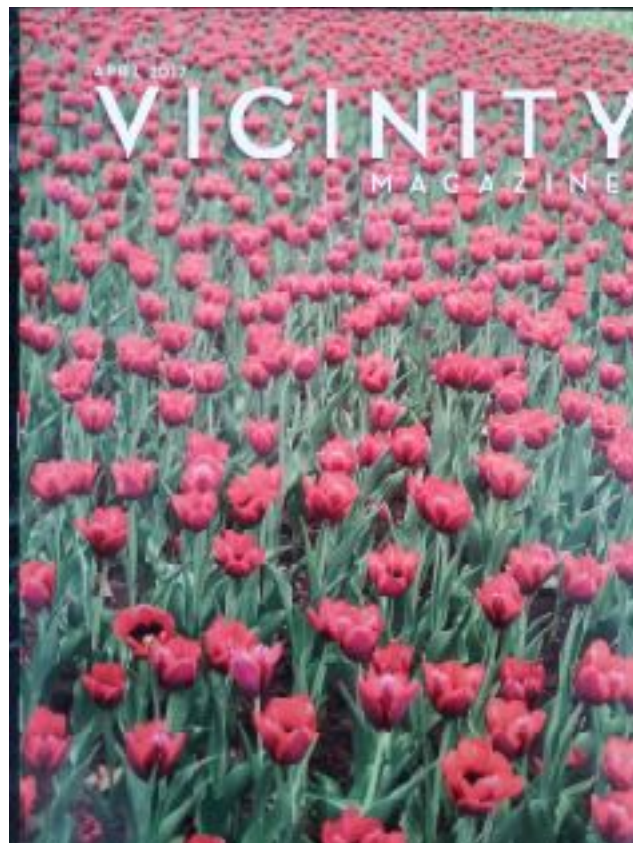
Ann Frommer

Showcase

Larry Kerner



"Reading Naked on the Couch," by Yolanda Fundora.



"Red Tulips," a photograph by **Ann Frommer**, appeared on the cover of the April issue of Vicinity Magazine. The photograph, which is now on view in the ALC summer show at the Chatham Township Municipal Building, was taken at the tulip festival in Ottawa, Ontario.

Sally Abbott is one of the “Independent Painting Students of Howard Nathenson at The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey” whose work is currently on view in “Discoveries: Paintings and Works on Paper” in the Renee Foosaner Art Gallery of the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn. Sally’s painting, “From the Bridge, Great Falls, Paterson, NJ,” is a 40 x 30-in. acrylic on canvas.

The show continues during the run of “Mary Poppins,” through June 25. The gallery is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.



Sally Abbott in the Renee Foosaner Art Gallery at Paper Mill Playhouse with her painting, "From the Bridge, Great Falls, Paterson, NJ," acrylic on canvas, 40 x 30 in.



Melanie Sze took the photograph “World Trade Center Station,” shortly after morning commuter hours in New York City. It will be in her solo show at West Caldwell Public Library.

Melanie Sze will exhibit her photographs in two upcoming solo shows. She will have a solo show at Drip Cafe in Madison during the month of October.

Melanie will have a solo show in the Richard Cass Art Gallery at the West Caldwell Public Library during the month of December.

Melanie’s photographs can be viewed at the [National Geographic website](#) and the [Outdoor Photographer website](#).



"Sunflowers," an oil painting by Celeste Fondaco.

Celeste Fondaco has a solo show at the Sotheby's real estate office on Main Street in Madison through the end of June. Included in the show are the oil paintings "Pink Peony" (right) and "Bleeding Heart" (below right). She recently sold an oil painting of sunflowers (above) and a copy of a Chardin painting of eggs.



"Pink Peony," an oil painting by Celeste Fondaco.

Helena Axelrod has two acrylic paintings on exhibit at the Morristown Medical Center. "A Childhood Memory: A Country Meadow" and "My Journey Through Cancer" are both part of the "Explorations through Art Therapy" exhibit. The exhibit features artwork by clients who have used different media to transform their feelings into formed expression. The show runs through August 1 in the Carol G. Simon Cancer Center.

Harriet Kushins will have a solo exhibit of her digital photography at the Millburn Public Library from Aug. 1 through Aug. 31. The show is titled "Nature's Landscape."



"Bleeding Heart," an oil painting by Celeste Fondaco.



"La Cage aux Folles" by Monique Hendricks.



"Alzheimer: Portrait of an Illness" by Monique Hendricks.

Monique Hendricks has two paintings on exhibit at the Bernardsville Public Library during the month of June. "La Cage aux Folles" (above left) and "Alzheimer: Portrait of an Illness," (above right) are both mixed media.



"Peek-a-boo" by Debra Fadil.

Debra Fadil won second place (nonprofessional) in the Passaic County Senior Art Show for her watercolor entitled "Peek-a-boo." The painting was on exhibit through June 23 at the Passaic County Department of Senior Services in Totowa.

Meet Us Online

Get the latest news and photos of league events at the [ALC Facebook page](#) and at the [ALC website](#).



ALC members at the annual picnic held at the home of Celeste Fondaco on June 9.



Opening Scenes:
To see more photos of the opening reception of the ALC group show on May 12 at Drip Coffee in Chatham, go to the [ALC website](http://www.artleagueofthechathams.org).