

INSIDE THE BREAK



FEATURING
the People's Choice
and Curator's
Choice Winners

Selected works that captured the attention of both
readers and curator alike | pg 32

SUM
MER
2026
Issue No. 1



A Special Reader Giveaway

Featuring an original painting created for this issue | pg 56



Inside the Break — Summer Issue 01



INSIDE THE BREAK

Part I

Salt stings her eyes.

But she doesn't blink.

Her jaw tightens, shoulders set,
already looking down the line
before the wave fully stands up.
She's not thinking about the beach,
or the people, or anything behind her.

Only what's coming.

The water rises fast.

Her board tips forward and she
commits without hesitation.
No second-guessing.
No slowing down.

Just go.

The drop hits her stomach
for a second...

Then everything clicks.

Then the wave folds over her.

Water wraps around her, loud
and contained all at once.
Light cuts through in flashes.
Everything outside of it disappears.

No voices. No noise. No past or future.

Just this.

And then it opens.

She rides out of it,
breathing heavily,
a laugh slipping out
before she can stop it.

It's over.

Just like that.

She's in her car, windows down,
board rattling softly in the back.

That moment wasn't today.

But it's always there.

Just close enough to remember.

Far enough to keep chasing.





The Green Room at 831 is a seasonal publication and curatorial space centered around art, coastal living, creative spaces, and the stories connected to them.

This is our first seasonal edition.

A collection of art and design inspired by a single moment.
That feeling of going all in, of being fully in it.

Each piece in this issue is part of that story.
Different perspectives, different mediums, all connected through one shared idea.

There's no one way to interpret it.
Only what it feels like to you.



This issue marks the beginning
of something new.

To the artists and creatives who
trusted this vision, thank you
for being part of it.

And for the ones reading along,
I'm really glad you're here.

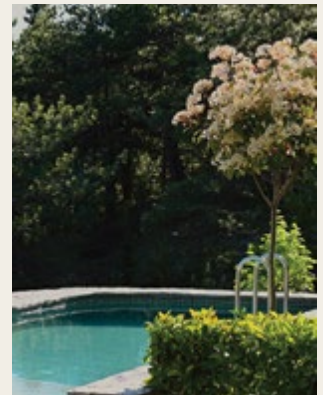
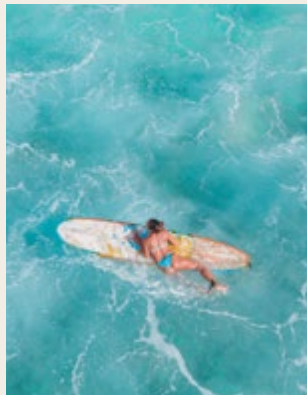
Love,

Tianna ♡



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and the moments that make us feel most alive.*

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Editor: Tianna DeNunzio
Graphic Designer: Iylana Nassiri



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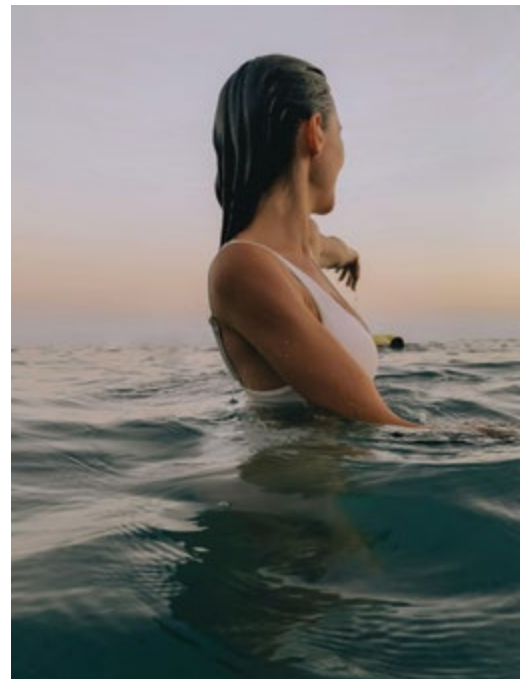
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FEATURED ARTIST

**Britney
Turner**

Byron Bay, NSW,
Australia
britneyturnerart.com
[@britneyturnerart](https://www.instagram.com/britneyturnerart)

Tide Rider
30cm x 20cm
Mixed media
on canvas

INSIDE THE BREAK

Part II

The water is colder than she expected.

It always is for a second.

She wades in anyway, letting it
hit her legs, her waist, her chest.
A sharp breath, then another.
Her body adjusts quickly.
It always does.

She climbs onto her board and
starts paddling.

Slow at first. Then steady.

Out past the whitewater.
Past the noise. Past the people
who stay closer to shore.

Each stroke pulls her farther from
everything she came in with.
Whatever was on her mind before
fades away.

Out here, it's different.
There's space.

She drifts just beyond the break,
the board rising and falling beneath
her. The horizon stretches out.

She watches.

Not looking for anything specific.
Just paying attention.

The water moves under her in small lifts.
Nothing worth chasing yet.

Other surfers sit nearby,
quiet, spread out.
They're all waiting.

Time slows down out here.

You can't rush it.
You can't plan it.

You just have to be ready.



STEPHANIE SIGNORELLI

Honolulu, HI
artiststephsig.carrd.co
@artiststephsig

I'm an artist inspired by the ocean, movement, and the experiences shaped by me growing up in the Florida Keys and now living on Oahu. Being surrounded by the ocean has deeply influenced my work in both literal and abstract ways.

"My paintings allow me to relive my favorite experiences in nature each time I look at them."



ABOVE

Surface Tension
4" x 4" · Acrylic on canvas

LEFT

Baby Waves Only
4" x 4" · Acrylic on bamboo



**WHAT'S BEEN INFLUENCING
YOUR WORK LATELY?**

I am currently inspired by the way
the ocean glows under a stormy sky.

**SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR WORK OR
PROCESS PEOPLE MIGHT NOT EXPECT?**

Most of my work starts with an experience
I have that I can't stop replaying in my mind
until I turn it into a painting.

A QUOTE YOU LOVE?

"Forgive yourself for not
knowing earlier what only
time would tell."

The Bay Will Call The Day
10"
Handpainted longboard fin

FEATURED ARTIST



Botanical and Beach Glass Surfboards
6' x 20"

Acrylic, Saltwash, pencil, and resin on a surfable form
Photographed by Erin Whittle

CAROL HUNTER

COASTAL LIGHT



WARM BREEZES



SALT AIR

Carol Hunter is a contemporary painter based in Wilmington, North Carolina, where coastal light, warm breezes, and salt air subtly shape her visual language. Her sun-drenched paintings are inspired by movement, memory, wanderlust, and the feeling of escape found in life near the water.

Influenced by both her coastal surroundings and travels around the world — from surfing waves in Hawaii and Easter Island to exploring Mediterranean coastlines and seaside towns — her work captures fleeting atmospheric moments through layered textures, luminous color, and painterly brushwork.

Created as intimate “mini-escapes,” her paintings are designed to bring warmth, joy, and the ease of carefree summer days into a space. Her collections are always a reflection of that spirit. A celebration of light, freedom, and coastal living.

Q&A

WHAT'S BEEN INFLUENCING YOUR WORK LATELY?

Sun kissed days and champagne sipped memories are always at the forefront of my inspiration. My sun-drenched paintings are inspired by movement, memories of travel, wanderlust, and the feeling of escape found in life near the water. I will always be influenced by the endless summer search and everything that goes with it.

TELL US ABOUT ONE ART SUPPLY YOU'D NEVER GIVE UP.

Saltwash®! This powder paint additive has sea salt as part of its recipe, and it is my number one go to product for creating the perfect texture and layers of paint that I use added into all my paints to help create the painterly strokes perfectly. Fun fact is that my husband and I created this product in early 2000's! This small garage-started product has a patent pending and worldwide sales (we've even been on HSN with it)! We have since licensed it and don't have as much involved in the business, which gives me lots of time to paint!



LEFT

*Three Surfers-
Diamond Head No. 1*
24" x 30"
Acrylic, Saltwash, pencil

Inspired by my time spent in Hawaii, the deep blue sea and how the sun dances along the surface no matter what time of day it is.

ABOVE

Endless Summer No. 1
30" x 40"
Acrylic, Saltwash, pencil

Inspired by the 90's ROXY campaigns, all about surfing, wild freedom and girl power.

Wilmington, NC
carolhunterart.com
@carolhunterart

"LIVE IN THE SUNSHINE, SWIM THE SEA, DRINK THE WILD AIR."
— RALPH WALDO EMERSON

What's Actually Working for Artists Right Now

REAL INSIGHTS
REAL BUYERS
REAL OPPORTUNITIES

The art world is constantly changing, but some things are becoming very clear. Here's what we're seeing work right now for artists building sustainable, fulfilling careers.

CURATOR NOTE

These are patterns
I see every day
through submissions,
collector and designer
conversations, and sales
data. Use what resonates.
Let go of what doesn't.
And keep creating.

XO.
Tianna

01 lifestyle context sells art

Collectors connect faster when they can picture the work in a space. Show your art in rooms.

02 consistency builds trust

Artists who present a cohesive body of work are perceived as more professional and collectible. This leads to more opportunities and stronger sales.

03 interior designers are powerful allies

They source art for projects constantly. Make it easy for them: clear pricing, dimensions, availability, and beautiful images go a long way.

04 your story matters— a lot

Collectors often invest in you before they invest in your work. Share your process, your inspiration, and what drives you.

05 repeat collectors = real growth

One collector who loves your work will do more for your career than a viral post. Nurture relationships.

06 your email list is your most valuable asset

Build a list. Share behind the scenes content, new work previews, and studio stories. People buy from artists they feel connected to.

YOU DON'T NEED TO DO EVERYTHING.
YOU NEED TO DO THE RIGHT THINGS CONSISTENTLY.



WHAT GALLERIES ARE LOOKING FOR

- A clear point of view and artistic voice
- Consistent body of work
- Professional presentation (images, bio, statement)
- Reliable communication
- Collectors already engaged with your work
- Artwork that photographs well
- Confidence and professionalism in pricing
- Ability to promote and share

WHY PEOPLE REALLY BUY ART



they see themselves in the work

It reflects their identity or the life they're creating.



it brings emotion to their space

Art adds feeling, depth and meaning to a home.



it's a memory or a place they love

Nostalgia is a powerful buying driver.



it feels timeless and personal

They want something meaningful that won't go out of style.



they trust the artist

Connection, consistency, and communication builds confidence.

What's fading out:

- ✗ Posting without a clear strategy
- ✗ Inconsistent branding and presentation
- ✗ Relying only on social media
- ✗ Undervaluing your time and work
- ✗ Competing on price

FOCUS ON THIS

Serve the right audience. Build relationships. Keep showing up. The rest will follow.

QUICK WINS

- ✓ Add your work to lifestyle photos this month.
- ✓ Create a cohesive collection or body of work.
- ✓ Reach out to 3 interior designers in your area.
- ✓ Set up or grow your email list.
- ✓ Share your process, not just the final piece.

REMEMBER THIS

The most successful artists aren't just talented. They run their art like a business while staying true to their creativity.

FEATURED
ARTIST

Goldie Cai

San Mateo, CA
goldiedraws.com
[@goldiedraws](https://www.instagram.com/goldiedraws)

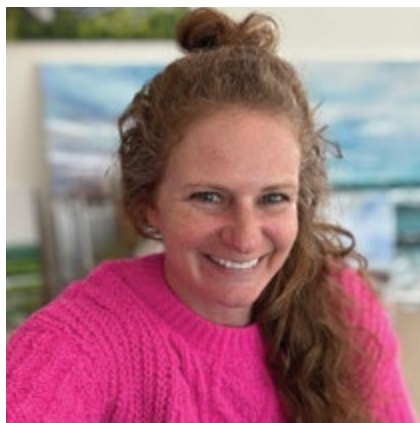
Coast Side
11" x 7"
Digital painting

a dedication to the
beauty of Big Sur



THREE ARTISTS TO WATCH

Three rising artists creating meaningful work and building lasting connections.



01

Jennifer Carney

Rye, NH
beachdogstudio.com
@beachdogstudio

"I love to dance while painting at my easel. That movement of the body translates into natural brush strokes that doesn't feel forced."

Rye Ledge 1

16" x 12"

Acrylic on canvas

Rocks at low tide just off shore south of Philbrick's Beach. Inspired by the feelings joy and freedom when you let go and trust.



WHY WE CHOSE THEM

AUTHENTIC VOICE

Their work reflects a strong point of view and honest expression.

GROWING MOMENTUM

Each artist is building a loyal following and gaining recognition.

COLLECTIBILITY

Their work resonates with collectors and designers alike.

THE FUTURE OF ART IS PERSONAL, INTENTIONAL, AND CONNECTED.



02 Jackie Koenig

Kitty Hawk, NC
jackiekoenigpainting.com
@jackiekoenigpainting

"Grumbacher brand French Ultramarine oil color is a staple in all my pieces!"



*Accidental
Renaissance
30" x 40"
Oil inspired*

The quintessential summer scene in the Outer Banks, basking in summer tidal pools.



03 Dorothy Gail Scott

Ontario, CA
dorothygailstudio.com
@dorothygailstudio

*Surfer's Retreat
14" x 11.5"
Oil on canvas*

The perfect surfer's sanctuary. A carefree day with sun, sand and good waves!

"My ideal beach day involves my French easel with a full array of painting supplies... Keeping the sand out of the painting is always a challenge, but, hey, texture!"



INSIDE THE BREAK

Part III

It starts small.

A slight lift under her board.
Easy to miss if you're not paying
attention.

She is.

Her posture shifts. Eyes forward now.

There.

A clean swell rising up, holding its
shape as it moves toward her.

This could be it.

One clean turn, nose pointed toward
shore. Arms hit the water harder now.

Faster.

There's a second... just one, where
it could go either way.

Too early and you miss it.
Too late and it rolls past.

You don't think about it.

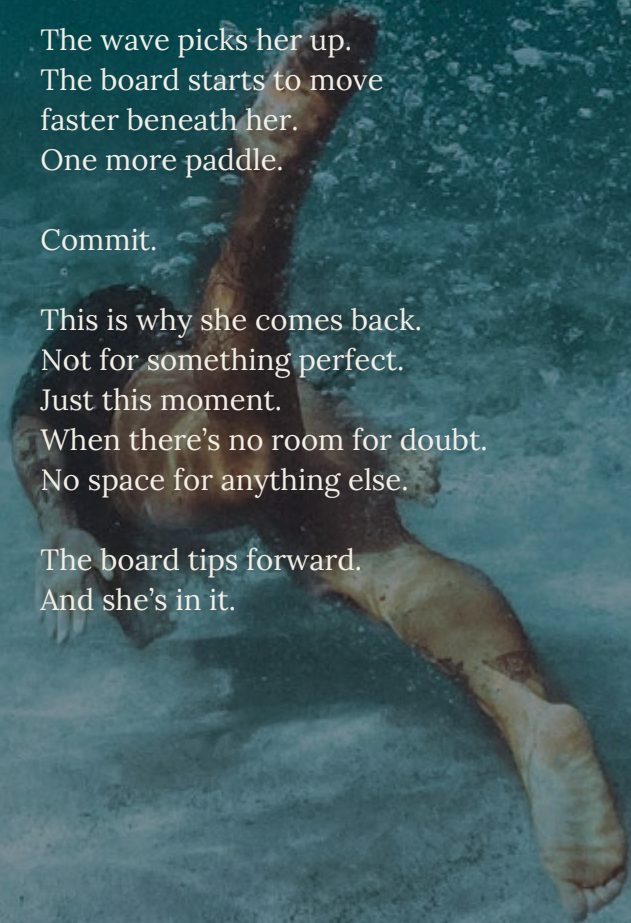
You just go.

The wave picks her up.
The board starts to move
faster beneath her.
One more paddle.

Commit.

This is why she comes back.
Not for something perfect.
Just this moment.
When there's no room for doubt.
No space for anything else.

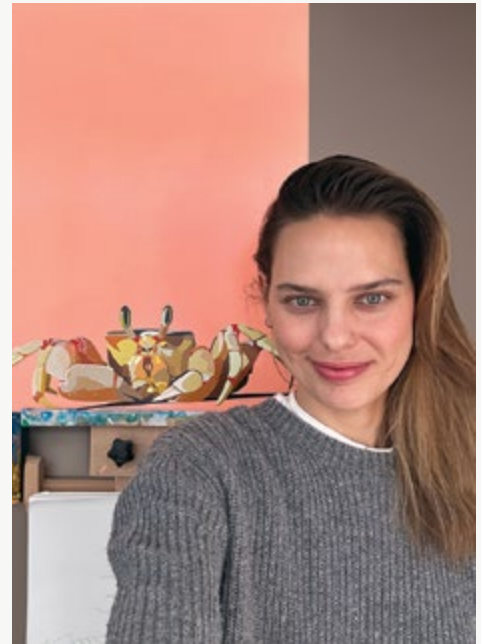
The board tips forward.
And she's in it.





JENNIFER FORREST

Jennifer's inspiration comes from the coastal ecosystems and marine biome she remembers from growing up in Florida. She attended Savannah College of Art and Design, but had already found an obsession with travel from modeling opportunities and ultimately decided to model and travel full time, living everywhere from Paris to Shanghai. The pandemic gave her the opportunity to paint again, and she has been inspired by the memories, old family photos, and books she used in the past to identify everything she had come across while diving, snorkeling, and fishing in the Caribbean. She primarily uses hard edge painting techniques, and recycles canvas bags into stretched canvas. It's an evocation of the beauty of our aquatic and coastal life amidst a worsening climate crisis.



Brooklyn, NY
jenniferforrestart.com
@jennifer.forrest.art

Q&A

WHAT'S THE ONE ART SUPPLY YOU'D NEVER GIVE UP?

My first palette knife. I have had it since high school. It's caked with so much paint on the handle, but it's perfect.

SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR WORK OR PROCESS PEOPLE MIGHT NOT EXPECT?

I love to use old canvas bags that have piled up. I love that so many places have stopped using plastic bags, but now there are way too many used canvas bags that come

with every purchase it seems, so instead of just letting them stack up or throwing them out, I put them to use as my painting surface.

DESCRIBE YOUR IDEAL DAY BY THE WATER.

My ideal day by the water would be spending all morning and afternoon paddle boarding and snorkeling, checking out any tidal pools if present or talking long walks looking for sharks teeth followed by fishing near the bridges after dinner.

WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU WOULD DO DIFFERENTLY IF YOU WERE STARTING AGAIN?

I would never have stopped painting in my twenties and would have followed through with my passion.

"Creativity takes courage."

- HENRI MATISSE

Dolphins

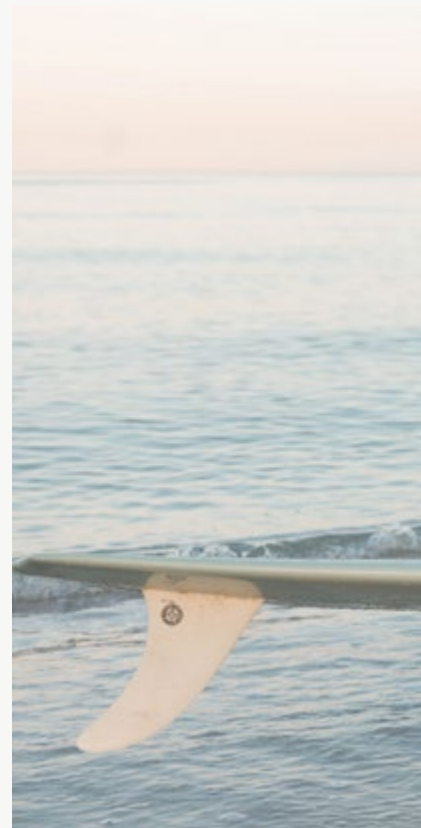
9" x 6.5"

Acrylic on canvas paper



ERIN VAARTJES

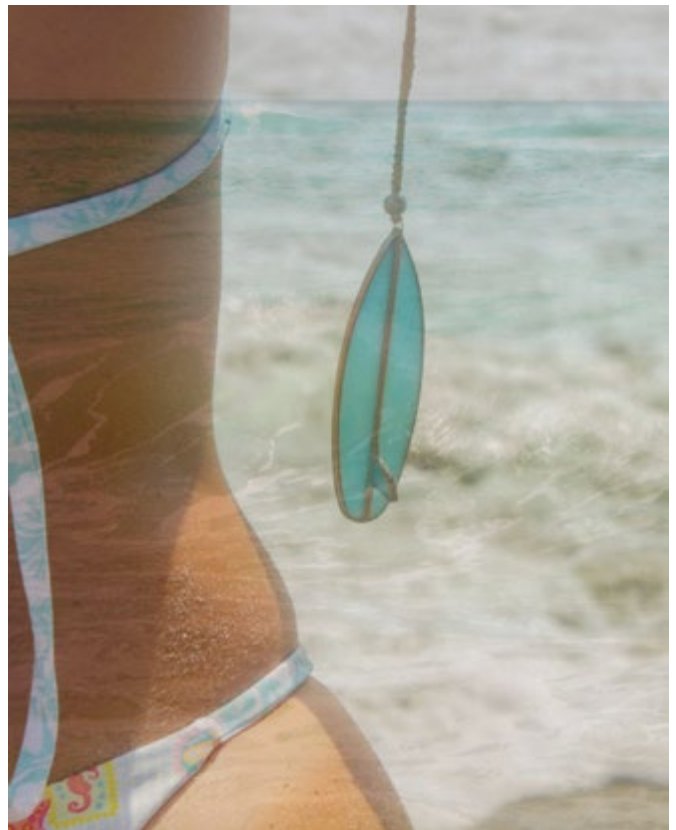
St. Petersburg, FL
suncarvers.com
@suncarvers



SunCarvers
let you take
the waves
with you,
no matter
how far you
may go.

4" x 2"
Stained Glass Art

Photographed by
@sunnydaywithlei



**WHAT'S BEEN INFLUENCING
YOUR WORK LATELY?**

Feeling sun-kissed by the summer sun while sitting in the sparkling ocean with nothing but time and endless surf. That endless summer feeling.

**IS THERE ONE ART SUPPLY YOU'D
NEVER GIVE UP?**

For my stained glass work I use old recycled credit cards instead of a fid tool to burnish my stained glass copper foil. I had to get super creative one day and I will never go back to the "proper" tools for this.

**SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR WORK
OR PROCESS PEOPLE MIGHT NOT
EXPECT?**

It roughly takes one hour to fully, start to finish, make one of my stained glass surfboards.

**WHAT DOES YOUR IDEAL DAY BY
THE WATER LOOK LIKE?**

My absolute perfect day by the water is one I dream about on the regular. A spring day here in Florida, surfing baby waves in a bikini (definitely not wetsuit season) with the sun shining and a full day to surf with the girls in the lineup.

"Don't be scared to put your work out there. Your work will find your audience, just keep being you and sharing with the world."

"THERE ARE NO MISTAKES, JUST HAPPY LITTLE ACCIDENTS."

- BOB ROSS

Gallery Insider Tips

WHAT GALLERIES LOOK FOR, HOW ARTISTS GET SELECTED, AND WHAT SETS SOME ARTISTS APART

We asked gallery directors and curators to share what really influences their decisions, and what artists can do to rise to the top.



HOW ARTISTS GET SELECTED

01 a strong point of view

Galleries look for artists with a unique perspective and a cohesive body of work.

02 cohesion

A recognizable style, color story, or subject creates confidence and makes your work easier to present and sell.

03 professional presentation

High-quality images, a clear artist statement, and a well-organized portfolio show you take your career seriously.

04 proof of demand

Collectors already engaging with your work, a strong following, or sold pieces show you have momentum.

05 ease of collaboration

Artists who communicate clearly, meet deadlines, and are open to feedback are artists galleries want to work with long term.

YOUR PATH INTO GALLERIES

ACTIONABLE

STEPS TO GET

NOTICED



Clarify your artist identity

Define your voice, themes, and visual language. Write a clear artist statement that tells galleries who you are and what your work is about.



Build a focused portfolio

Curate 10-20 of your strongest works that show range and cohesion. Quality over quantity. Make every piece earn its place.



Invest in professional images

Great images get your foot in the door. Work with a photographer who understands your work and can capture it accurately.



Research and target the right galleries

Look for galleries that represent artists similar to you or work in your medium. Study their program, past shows, and submission guidelines.



Tailor your approach

Follow submission guidelines exactly. Personalize your email and include why your work is a good fit for their gallery specifically.



Follow up (once)

If you don't hear back in 4-6 weeks, send a short, polite follow-up. Then move on. Respect their time.



Keep creating and sharing

Post your work consistently. Share your process, studio life, and wins. Galleries (and collectors) pay attention to momentum.



Attend shows and build real connections

Go see exhibitions. Introduce yourself. Relationships open doors. Especially when built on genuine interest and respect.

A Moment by the Water

CONTEST
RECAP

What started as a simple idea turned into something much bigger. “A Moment by the Water” began as a contest and quickly grew into a full collection! 95 works submitted by artists and creatives, each capturing their own interpretation of a moment near water.

This contest also marked the beginning of something new for me... our move into publishing.

Over just a few days, hundreds of votes came in from across the community, alongside our own curated review. Watching people connect with the work, share it, and support one another has been the best part of this entire experience.

THIS CONTEST BECAME THE BEGINNING OF
Inside the Break

95
SUBMISSIONS

HUNDREDS
OF COMMUNITY
VOTES

ONE
NEW PUBLISHING
JOURNEY

AND

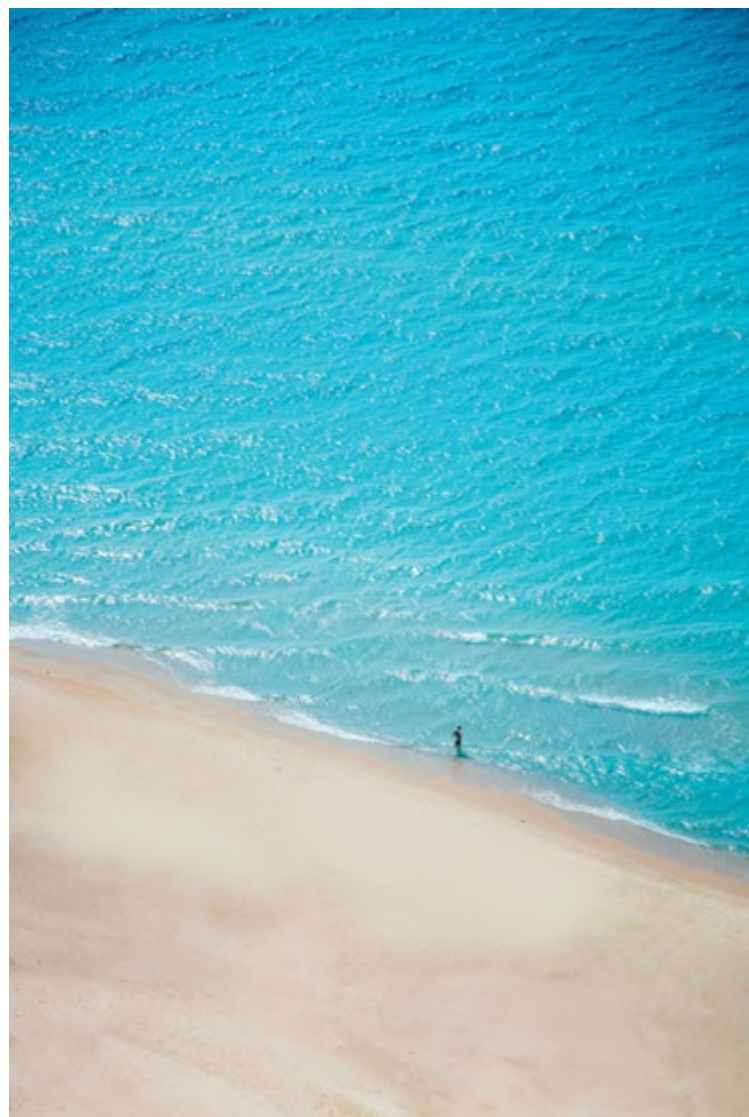
A
COMMUNITY
THAT SHOWED UP

PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER

Emma
@emmanorthmich

Chosen by community vote, this photograph resonated with readers for its color, atmosphere, and feeling of reflection by the water.

Perspective
Photograph



2nd Place
Kristin Fowler
@kristinfowlerart

Wild Grasses #1
9" x 12"
Cyanotype on watercolor paper



3rd Place
Becky Bennett
@beckybennettco

Break Through
30" x 40"
Oil on canvas

An abstract painting featuring a vibrant blue horizon line. Above the horizon, there are large, textured brushstrokes in shades of green, yellow, and white, suggesting foliage or a sky. Below the horizon, the painting transitions into a deep blue and green wash, possibly representing water or a distant landscape. The overall style is expressive and painterly.

FEATURED
ARTIST

Jaymie
Seabrook
Stryker

Santa Barbara, CA
seabrookart.com
[@seabrook.art](https://www.instagram.com/seabrook.art)

As The Tide Rises
36" x 60"
Acrylic on canvas

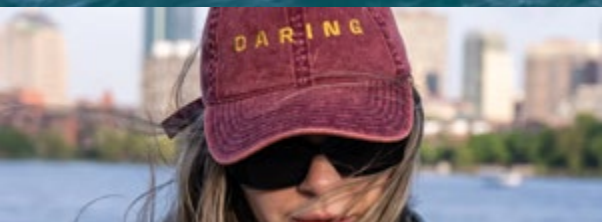


SAILER'S ADVENTURER: STORMY SKIES, BIG DREAMS & THE SPIRIT BEHIND THE SAIL

Some people spend their whole lives searching for freedom. Others quietly build it piece by piece. For Sailer's Co. founder and photographer **Erika Fernandes-Rusan**, adventure has never just meant traveling somewhere far away. It lives in everyday moments. In creating. In chasing ideas that feel bigger than fear. In building a life that feels true and full.

“Adventure to me is choosing to fully live. Being authentic, having big dreams, being afraid, doing it scared, looking back and smiling... no regrets.”

PHOTOS BY ERIKA FERNANDES-RUSAN



AFTER YEARS OF
BURNOUT AND
CHASING CREATIVE
FREEDOM, SHE NO
LONGER MEASURES
SUCCESS THROUGH
A NEVER-ENDING
TO-DO LIST.

“I’m not in a rush!

I’m finding
success in
my peace.
Not the other
way around.”



Originally from Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais in Brazil, Erika moved to America at twelve years old and grew up on Cape Cod, MA. By moving continents young, she learned the importance of being multicultural and authentically true to her nature. As soon as she could, she traveled far and filled her youth with all kinds of adventures, before eventually settling in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Today, home is filled with music, movement, art, animals, kids, gardens, storms, laughter, and beautifully chaotic energy, turning ordinary life into something cinematic.

One cinematic moment continues to live rent-free in her memory, during a 28-day Hawaii & Tahiti Cruise while working as a photographer aboard Holland America cruise ships: A skydive over Honolulu!

“I remember looking down from the plane window and thinking... there’s no looking back, nowhere to run, just jump.”

Then came sixty unforgettable seconds that felt like flying and standing still at

the same time. While the wind roared around her, she locked eyes with the Hawaiian mountains. “My smile was so real... I saw the edge of the earth among the most beautiful blue I had ever seen.”

And then something unexpected happened after the parachute opened. “We glided over Honolulu and I saw a whale in the vast ocean for the first time, from above.”

After months of missing whale sightings while photographing aboard the ship, that single moment stayed with her.

“The wind was slow and the sun was warm. It was like the best movie I have ever seen, in real life. I never wanted it to end.”

“I THINK EVERYONE HAS AN ADVENTURER INSIDE THEM.”

Being adventurous is not just hiking the tallest mountains, or skydiving on beautiful places... It’s in the day to day,... it’s standing on the edge, knowing the storm is near, it’s doing it scared.”

That philosophy became the heartbeat behind Sailer’s Co., Erika’s apparel company for big dreamers and risk takers. After years of creative dreams quietly brewing, starting the brand became the biggest leap of all.

“I had to stand up to myself, at a time when it was really hard to see clearly! Ultimately, I decided to believe in myself, to hold my young self tight, whisper it’s *okay to fall*, and to take the advice I’ve always given other people.”

What began as an apparel side project slowly evolved into a creative world built around storytelling, and intentional living. Though her *Sailer’s Adventurers Stories*, Erika hopes to connect people through shared vulnerability, courage, and creativity.

Some adventures happen across oceans. Others happen quietly, in the Shadow Work inside ourselves. In the moments where we choose to believe in our dreams before anyone else does. And maybe that’s what being a Sailer really means—taking the leap.

FOLLOW ERIKA @SAILERSCO AND SHOP AT SAILERSCO.COM

3

things artists swear by:



1. A GO-TO BRUSH

Every artist has a favorite brush that's seen absolutely everything. Somehow the worn out ones always work the best.

2. A STRONG COFFEE

Coffee before emails.

Coffee before overthinking.

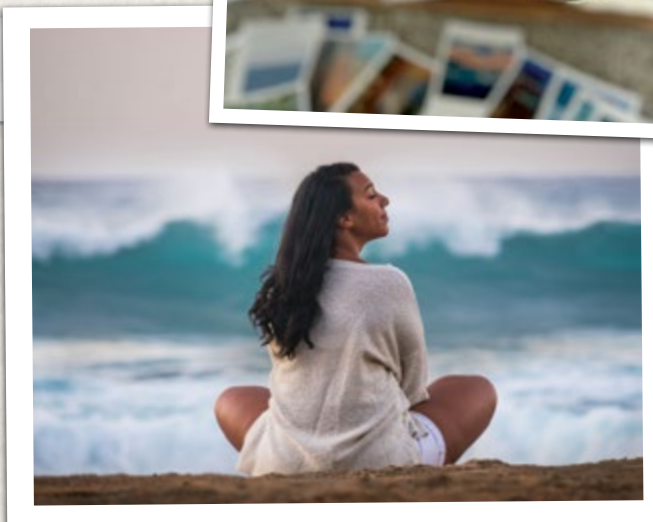
Coffee has basically become studio equipment at this point.

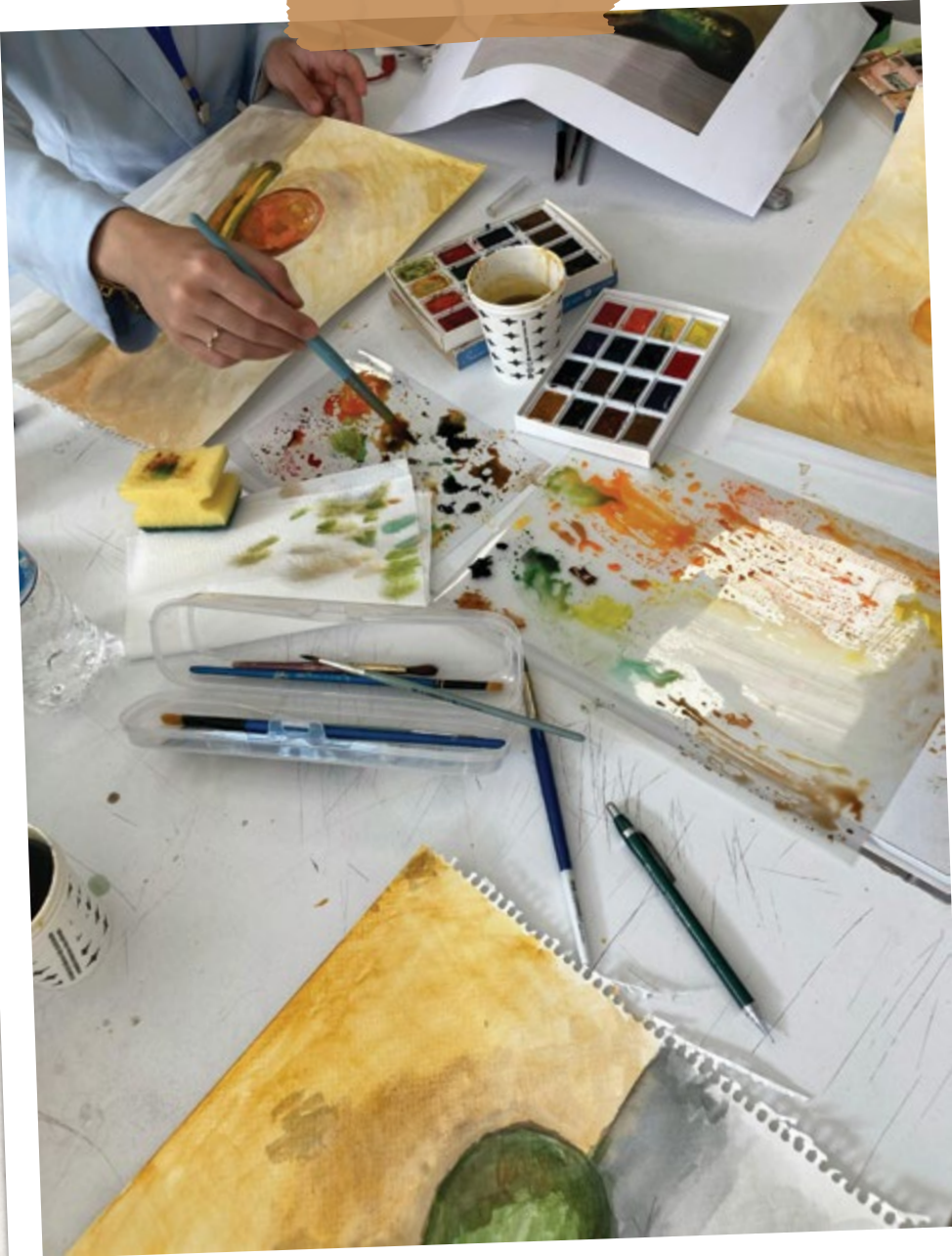


3. TIME OUTSIDE

Walks, ocean air, gardening, sitting on the porch, driving with the windows down... stepping away from the studio is usually where new ideas show up.

*the little things
make the work possible.*





PLAYLIST INSPO:

ISLAND IN
THE SUN
Weezer

MYKONOS
Fleet Foxes

SALTWATER
Geowulf

HOME
Edward Sharpe

OTHER HONORABLE MENTIONS:

- sketchbook nearby
- a good playlist
- space to make a mess



INSIDE THE BREAK

Part IV

Everything narrows.

The sound stays,
but everything else falls away.
No beach. No people.

Just the space inside the wave.

Her body knows what to do
before she does.
A shift in her weight.
A slight turn.

It doesn't feel fast.
That's the strange part.

It should, but it doesn't.

It feels steady. Controlled.
Like she's exactly where she's
supposed to be, even if it
only lasts a second.
She's not chasing anymore.
She's in it.

Then it breaks open.

Light floods in.

And it's gone.









FEATURED
ARTIST

Kati Droganov

Fort Belvoir, VA

To the Top
Photograph

“ Photography is
a small moment
of passion in
my life—Creating
a memory for
future me.”

BEN PACE

Ben creates psychedelic art whenever he's not outdoors enjoying Ventura, California. His surf and nature-inspired art blends vibrant colors, movement, landscapes and flowing patterns to create sensory immersive pieces.



“YOU ARE THE UNIVERSE EXPERIENCING ITSELF” –ALAN WATTS



WHAT'S BEEN INFLUENCING YOUR WORK LATELY?

My most recent trip to Southeast Asia. I came across so many places, cultures, and artists that I never even knew existed and they have brought me so much inspiration.

IS THERE ONE ART SUPPLY YOU'D NEVER GIVE UP?

Posca pens. I use them for almost all of my work and they allow me to use the vibrant colors that I enjoy working with.

SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR PROCESS PEOPLE MIGHT NOT EXPECT?

When people hear the term 'paint pens', they usually think of drawing without blending. In my work, however, I use the pens to blend colors together, either directly with the pens themselves or with brushes after I lay the colors down. It took a lot of practice, and I have to blend the colors before they dry, but the outcome is incredibly rewarding.



IDEAL DAY BY THE WATER?

Bringing a sketchbook to the beach and jotting down my ideas or going on long walks with my dogs along the shoreline. That's if the waves are bad. If they aren't, I usually try to find some fun ones on my longboard or step-up.

WOULD YOU DO ANYTHING DIFFERENTLY IF YOU WERE STARTING AGAIN?

Maybe I would try focusing on more mediums like acrylic or oil but honestly, I'm stoked with the path I already went down!



benpaceart.com | [@benpaceart](https://www.instagram.com/benpaceart)

OPPOSITE PAGE

Seaside Paradise
18" x 24"
Posca pens and
ball point pens

ABOVE LEFT

Sunset at Rincon Point
20" x 10"
Posca pens

ABOVE RIGHT

Turquoise Dream
14" x 14"
Posca pens and
paintbrush

A Moment by the *Water*
CURATOR'S CHOICE WINNER

Quiet
Distortions
30" x 24"
Oil on canvas

*"A painting of
my daughter in
a pool in Key
West. Photo is
taken by me."*

This work will
be featured in
our upcoming
book, *The Pool
House*.



Ruth Scotch
@scotch ruth · www.ruthscotch.com

There was something about this piece that we kept coming back to while reviewing submissions. It felt fully aligned with the direction we're building toward across both our upcoming book and summer publication.



— MORE WORK BY RUTH —



Staying Afloat

24" x 48" · Oil on canvas

Calm Waters (Let the Shadows Fall Behind You)

36" x 48" · Oil on canvas

ABOUT THE ARTIST

I have been a professional painter for over 40 years as well as an art professor and instructor.

Trying to find the color of light is something that I have always pursued in my paintings, no matter what the subject matter of that period.

I am fascinated by the way the color reflected on a person or thing is altered depending on the light and the environment. With the play of light on the figure in water, there is much to explore: the color of light, reflection, and distortion as well as a gesture that relates to a sense of place and moment.

Q&A

WHAT DREW YOU TO THIS THEME?

My pool paintings satisfy my aesthetic passions, while enabling me to explore a subject that gives me a sense of peace in these turbulent times.

THE ONE ART SUPPLY YOU'D NEVER GIVE UP (AND WHY)?

My palette knife. It helps me achieve the clean color I am always looking for in my paintings as well as enabling me to develop the texture in my work that I enjoy.

SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR WORK OR PROCESS PEOPLE MIGHT NOT EXPECT?

I use my palette knife to "carve" out the figures and water as I paint. I will start with a very basic drawing, but the rest of the painting is done using knives. These knives are always helping me search for form, gesture, and structure as I paint back and forth with different knife sizes that are loaded with color ideas.

YOUR IDEAL DAY BY THE WATER. WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

It must include a comfortable place to sit or lie down and it must include a good book to read.

"I have been looking for subject matter that challenges me, yet gives me a sense of peace."

An aerial photograph of two surfers riding a large, curling wave. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, and the wave's crest is breaking into white foam. The surfer on the left is on a yellow board, and the surfer on the right is on an orange board. Both are wearing dark wetsuits and are captured in a dynamic pose, leaning into the wave. The sky above is a deep, dark blue, suggesting a clear day.

YOU DON'T LEARN TO SWIM
BY READING ABOUT WATER.



SOME THINGS ONLY MAKE SENSE
ONCE YOU'RE IN THE WATER.

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THE WAVES
WILL FEEL LIKE UNTIL YOU TRY.

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE
CAPABLE OF UNTIL YOU BEGIN.



THE ARTISTS IN THIS ISSUE
REMIND US THAT CREATIVITY ISN'T
SOMETHING YOU PERFECT, IT'S
SOMETHING YOU PRACTICE.

IT GROWS IN MOTION.
IT GROWS IN PRACTICE.
IT GROWS IN THE DOING.



•
CAPTURING THE
ESSENCE OF MAUI
•

CARLA
GANGINI



Maui, HI
cganginiart.com
[@cgangini](https://www.instagram.com/cgangini)

Morning Calm No. 10
12" x 9"
Oil on linen canvas



Q&A

WHAT'S BEEN INFLUENCING YOUR WORK LATELY?

Definitely color, more intense, vibrant color.

ONE ART SUPPLY YOU'D NEVER GIVE UP (AND WHY)?

Oil Paint! My absolute favorite medium. Oil paint has so much life to it, the vibrant way it moves and the way layers play on one another. If I were starting again, I would start painting in oils sooner.

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEAL DAY BY THE WATER?

Family and friends gathered all day until sunset on a white sand beach, sunny with just a gentle breeze, and clear warm turquoise water perfect for surfing and swimming. Finding some beautiful shells would be a bonus too.

A QUOTE YOU LOVE?

"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" - Phil. 3:14

"My art is inspired by morning beach walks and my surfer girl daughters, who we raised here on Maui, surrounded by so much beauty."

LEFT ABOVE

Surfer Girl No. 105
14" x 11"
Oil on linen canvas

LEFT BELOW

Surfer Girl No. 108
16" x 12"
Oil on linen canvas

INSIDE THE BREAK

Part V

This feeling follows her
out of the water.
Not in a big way.
But just enough to notice.

In the car, windows down, music
up a little louder than usual.
She lets it run.
No rush to be anywhere else.

Later, it shows up again.
Not in big moments.
In small ones.

Sunlight hitting the floor just right.
The color of something
catching her off guard.
A moment where she stops
without needing a reason.

It's not the same.
But it's close.

That same clarity.
That same feeling of being
exactly where she is. Exactly
where she needs to be.

Most people miss it.
They move too fast.
They think too much.
They don't realize it's there.

She does.

And once you know
what it feels like...
you start seeing it everywhere.





opportunities for artists

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU GROW, BE SEEN, AND KEEP CREATING

The art world is full of possibilities! Exhibitions, grants, publications, and communities that can support your journey. The key is knowing where to look and taking that first step. Use this page as your starting point. Bookmark it, revisit it when you need to, and remember: every opportunity begins with showing up.

OPPORTUNITIES
DON'T USUALLY
ARRIVE BY
ACCIDENT. MOST
ARTISTS FIND
THEM BECAUSE
THEY'RE ACTIVELY
LOOKING.

ARTIST CHALLENGE CHECKLIST

- ☐ Apply to 3 open calls this month
- ☐ Submit to 1 publication
- ☐ Research 5 galleries that feature your style
- ☐ Update your artist statement
- ☐ Photograph 10 pieces professionally
- ☐ Apply for 1 grant
- ☐ Join 1 artist opportunity mailing list
- ☐ Share your work publicly 3 times this week

Open Calls & Features

Platforms with active calls for art, exhibitions, and curated features:

- **CaFE (Call for Entry)**
artist.callforentry.org
- **ArtConnect Open Calls**
artconnect.com/opportunities/opencalls
- **NYFA Opportunities Board**
nyfa.org/opportunities
- **EntryThingy Calls Database**
entrythingy.com/calls_list

Grants

Financial support to help you create and sustain your practice:

- **Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant**
pkf.org
- **Creative Capital**
creative-capital.org
- **Artwork Archive Grants Guide**
artworkarchive.com/call-for-entry/artist-grants

GRANTS CAN SUPPORT YOUR STUDIO,
SUPPLIES, PROJECTS, AND LIVING EXPENSES.

Residencies

Residencies offer time, space, and community to deepen your work:

- **Atlantic Center for the Arts**
atlanticcenterforthearts.org/mentoring-artists-in-residence
- **Artist Communities Alliance**
artistcommunities.org/directory/open-calls
- **Kala Artist Residency**
kala.org/residencies



TIME AWAY CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING.

Publications & Features

Getting your work published builds credibility and helps you reach new audiences:

- **Submit to magazines**
- **Pitch local publications**
- **Reach out to niche blogs**
- **Apply for curated digital features**
- **Build a press page on your website**

Stay Connected

Be the first to hear about new artist calls, upcoming magazine themes, coffee table book opportunities, artist challenges, giveaways, and future issues of The Green Room.

→ Join the mailing list at TheGreenRoomAt831.com



SCAN ME!

Summer Reader Giveaway

a celebration of simple summer joys



ONE WINNER WILL RECEIVE:



A 10x10 fine art
print by
Tianna DeNunzio

One copy of
The Art of Saltwater
Coffee Table Book

An original framed
8x10 mermaid painting
by Tianna DeNunzio

A LITTLE PIECE OF SUMMER, MADE TO INSPIRE

HOW TO ENTER:

Scan the QR code or use the url below to complete the entry form to be entered for a chance to win.

TheGreenRoomAt831.com/pages/summer-magazine-giveaway



GIVEAWAY TIMELINE

- Opens: June 21
- Closes: July 12
at 11:59 PM ET
- Winner Announced:
July 14

GIVEAWAY RULES

Must be 18 years of age or older to enter. One entry per person. No purchase necessary to enter or win. Winner will be selected at random. Winner will be contacted via the email address provided on the entry form. If the winner does not respond within 7 days, a new winner may be selected. By entering, participants agree to receive email communications from The Green Room at 831. You may unsubscribe at any time. Participants may receive one additional entry by sharing the giveaway to their Instagram Story and tagging @thegreenroomat831 before the giveaway closes. This giveaway is not sponsored, endorsed, administered by, or associated with Instagram, Facebook, or Meta.

The Art of SALTWATER

A COASTAL COLLECTION OF
COLORFUL, JOYFUL ART+
DESIGN INSPO



“Such a beautiful
celebration of nature and
artistry! Read for a delightful
getaway from the comfort of
your own home.”



A CELEBRATION OF THE SEA

The Art of Saltwater is a beautifully curated hardcover collection that brings together contemporary artists, photographers, and designers who are inspired by the ocean.

Through evocative artwork, personal essays, and visual storytelling, this book explores the emotions, memories, and moments that only the sea can hold.

Some people surf. Some collect shells. Some paint, photograph, write, or simply sit and watch the waves. This book celebrates the many ways we connect with the sea. _____



CURATED ARTWORK

Featuring painters, photographers, and visual storytellers.



MEANINGFUL STORIES

Essays and reflections that explore our connection to the sea.



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PERFECT FOR
OCEAN LOVERS
ART COLLECTORS
DREAMERS
AND DEEP FEELERS
♡

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TheGreenRoomAt831.com/products/the-art-of-saltwater-coffee-table-book



The POOL HOUSE

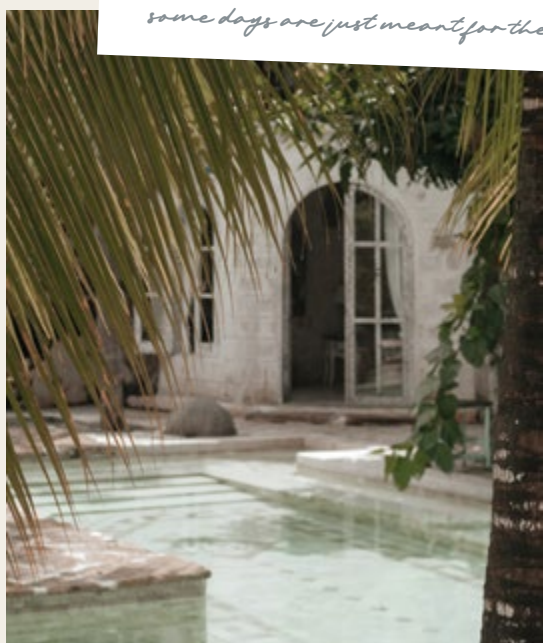
A BOOK ABOUT SUMMER ART, BEAUTIFUL HOMES, AND NOSTALGIC PLACES

COMING 2027

a glimpse inside...



some days are just meant for the pool



A BOOK IN THE MAKING

The Pool House will celebrate the timeless allure of pools, coastal home, and the art of slow living.

Featuring photographers, painters, writers, and interior designers from around the world.

CURATION IN PROGRESS

The selection process is currently underway.

We're reviewing a collection of homes, gardens, pools, and spaces from around the world for inclusion in *The Pool House*.

COMING 2027

Featured contributors, selected spaces, and additional details will be announced as the project develops.

THE POOL HOUSE IS CURRENTLY IN DEVELOPMENT.
For updates, visit: thegreenroomat831.com/pages/the-pool-house-book-submission

FEATURED ARTIST

NICOLE SEU

Honolulu, HI
studio3511.com
@studio3511aerials

Surf Session 3
Drone photograph

“As a photographer for over 20 years, I’m always looking for new angles. Found it recently with a drone and have been taking photos at the beach ever since.”





“Ocean views taken from above pull the viewer out of the normalness of being on a beach with a crowd of people. Overhead, people become little geometric shapes.

If I were staring again, I would try and start working on my art photography sooner.

I focused on taking photographs of others for a long time (the main part of my business) and taking care of my own ideas and art could have helped me be **MORE confident** and take bigger risks.”

JUSTINE PALKOWSKI

Justine is heavily inspired by moments that feel nostalgic or peaceful around the Great Lakes and the East Coast. The name *Second Shore* comes from that connection to both freshwater and saltwater.

Buffalo, NY | secondshore.co | [@secondshore](https://www.instagram.com/secondshore)

Surfer Girl Series

6" x 6"

Acrylic on canvas



WHAT'S BEEN INFLUENCING YOUR WORK LATELY?

This past April, I was back in South Carolina standing on Isle of Palms beach around 7:30 in the morning with a cup of coffee watching surfers out in the water. When I lived there, I took surf lessons for a little while but never really stuck with it, which I've always regretted a little. I remember thinking, "I wish I was out there." But I wasn't, so I came home, got Beach Boys lyrics tattooed on me, and started painting a whole new series inspired by that morning.

IS THERE AN ART SUPPLY YOU'D NEVER GIVE UP?

Not every artist varnishes their paintings, but for me it's one of my favorite parts of the process. The second that clear coat goes on, the colors get deeper, everything comes together, and little imperfections seem to disappear. It's also allowed me to do outdoor commissions for covered patios, which has been really cool.

SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR WORK PEOPLE MIGHT NOT EXPECT?

Even though all of my work is beach and water themed, I'm usually painting it at night, after my daughter goes to bed, in the dead of winter in Buffalo. Painting has become my way of reconnecting to that feeling of standing by the water with the sun on your skin, even when it's freezing outside.

ANYTHING YOU'D DO DIFFERENTLY IF YOU WERE STARTING AGAIN?

Somewhere between college and my late 20s, I stopped painting as much and got away from it for a while. I wish I could go back, bring a sketchbook with me on all my travels, and start treating my art like a real business a lot earlier.

"I'm drawn to anything that captures that feeling of being near the water and wanting to stay there a little longer."



THREE ARTISTS TO WATCH

Three rising artists creating meaningful work and building lasting connections.



01

Whitney Walker-Gill

Charleston, SC
whitneymade.studio
@whitneymade_

"I love to paint in tide pools! I will drag a canvas out there, surf board, paints, brushes and create for hours while floating around looking at the hermit crabs, starfish and sand dollars."

A FRESH
PERSPECTIVE TO
COASTAL ART,
EACH WITH A
DISTINCT STYLE,
POINT OF VIEW,
AND CREATIVE
PRACTICE.



Line Up
9" x 12"
Acrylic on canvas

Inspired by the calm in between sets. Salty air, skin and hair, tan lines and a deep breath. Photo by Anna Sherrard.



WHY WE CHOSE THEM

ORIGINAL PERSPECTIVE

Each artist brings a distinct perspective and creative approach to their work.

PERSONAL CONNECTION

Their artwork captures the landscapes, memories, and moments that inspire life by the water.

ONES TO WATCH

These are artists creating thoughtful work and building meaningful creative careers.



02 Sandra FitzSimmons

Ponte Vedra, FL
sandrafitzsimmons.com
@SandraFitzSimmonsArt

"I do not keep a sketchbook, I almost always see my entire painting in my mind's eye. I will create a collage of the painting I'm seeing, then it all takes off from there, often with even 3 brushes in my hand at once!"

Skimming the Surface
30" x 40"
Acrylic/Oil Pastel/Oil Stick

This painting was created from a memory of visiting my Aunt Margaret in Wakulla Springs, FL. She had a charming bungalow situated along a crystal clear creek. On a windy day when the daylilies were weakened and almost at the end of their bloom they would blow out over the surface and float down the stream. Those beautiful colors sparked a lifetime memory.

03 Cheryl Syminink

Manahawkin, NJ
thecglassstudio.com
@cglassstudio

Jersey Juice
24" x 20"
Glass Mosaic

Each piece of glass is handcut and placed. There are four different colors of grout used to accent this piece. Inspired by the cold, large jersey waves that happen in the winter here in New Jersey.

"The cure for anything is saltwater—sweat, tears or the sea!"



COMING THIS FALL

— *the next issue* —

NEW STORIES, FRESH PERSPECTIVES, TIMELESS PLACES.

Our next issue is almost here—filled with new features, artist stories, seasonal inspiration, and thoughtful moments to savor as the days grow cooler.

BE THE FIRST
TO KNOW

The next issue drops soon, plus behind-the-scenes, updates, and a little coastal inspiration. SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER!



Get Involved

We love collaborating with kindred creatives, entrepreneurs, and brands who share our love for slow living by the water.

ARTIST CALLS

Artist calls open seasonally throughout the year. Join our mailing list to be the first to hear about upcoming themes, submission dates, and publication opportunities.

COLLABORATE WITH US

Interested in working together on a feature, project or campaign?
We'd love to hear your idea.

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Connect your brand with an engaged audience that appreciates quality, creativity, and thoughtful living.

Let's create something beautiful together.

Scan to join our mailing list, explore collaboration opportunities, or inquire about advertising.
theGreenRoomAt831.com/pages/get-involved







FEATURED ARTIST

Kat
Cumberledge

Charleston, SC
thepaintedkatie.com
@thepaintedkatie

Party Wave
12" x 16"
Acrylic on canvas



INSIDE THE BREAK

A magazine for lovers of the
coast, slow living, and the
stories that bring us together.

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*Submissions, partnerships,
advertising and more*

