

For Immediate Release
February 19, 2024

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Main Gallery Exhibition: *Inclinations* [solo] by Ann Royer



1.

1. Ann Royer. *Woman in Motion*. Mixed media on paper. 30" x 22"



2.

2. Ann Royer. *Moody Blues*. Acrylic on canvas. 24" x 30"

2nd Floor Exhibition: *The Idea of Color* [solo] by Julia Kottal



3.

3. Julia Kottal. *Turquoise Lake*. Oil on canvas. 24" x 30"



4.

4. Julia Kottal. *Sea of Cortez #4*. Watercolor on paper. 9" x 12"

Public Reception for the Spring Exhibitions: **March 15, 4:30-7:30pm**
Exhibitions on view February 19-May 11, 2024.

Gilded Pear Gallery

808 3rd Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
(319)-366-0205

Description: Gilded Pear Gallery is excited to present two spring solo exhibitions: "*Inclinations*" by Ann Royer in the main gallery- and- "*The Idea of Color*" by Julia Kottal, on view in the 2nd floor gallery.

"Inclinations" Main Floor Exhibition

Artists tend to gravitate to familiar inspirations. As a multidisciplinary artist with over 60 years of creating artwork, Ann Royer has developed distinct bodies of work that, at times, overlap with similar content and execution. This exhibition focuses on the evolution of these themes over periods of time and what

compositions return to the forefront of ideation. Ann's process doesn't revolve around reviewing past creations and expanding upon them. Rather, each work begins with a fresh slate driven by the innate push to make and be beholden to her inclinations. On display are parallels drawn between new paintings and selections that span decades.

Ann Royer was born in Sioux City, Iowa. She began taking classes at the Sioux City Art Center as a young child, shortly after the Art Center opened in 1938. After studying at the Colorado College Fine Arts Center and the University of Minnesota, she began creating art professionally in Duluth and quickly achieved wide acclaim. Her works have been exhibited nationally and internationally, with permanent collections across the U.S. in homes and corporations. Her paintings are best known for growing tendrils, sweeping bold blocks of color, voluminous shapes filled with patterns, and sharp geometry. Her wide repertoire consists of abstracts, female figures, florals, and her beloved horses. She says of her work, "I have always thought each person looks at art bringing with them their own experiences, which governs what they see- no one should interfere with that process."

www.gildedpeargallery.com/inclinations

"The Idea of Color": 2nd Floor Gallery

"This statement is in particular to the last few years of painting," Julia says when discussing the writing for this exhibition. It's significant. The recent few years have been a lot to process for all of us, let alone what happens at a smaller scale in our personal lives. "I feel I've had to reacquaint myself with painting."

Julia Kottal is a true painter's painter. Her love of the medium and the action of painting shows in the work—the effortless blending of pigments and the deliberate, yet unrestrained gestural marks. "The '*Idea of Color*' is powerful", she says. "Communication between the color and the composition are so important to me. I see color next to each other as blocks or shapes (like stained glass or quilting) and how I develop those shapes into the composition is vital. How the hues converse with each other is how I proceed." The completion of the painting is dictated by an emotional call and response with the artist. They are tethered, coexisting, responding to one another.

Julia is a native mid-westerner born in Michigan. She studied art in Florida, Maryland and California before moving to Iowa in 1992. She has a B.A., with painting as her emphasis, from Coe College. Her work has been exhibited nationally and found in private and public collections including Alliant Energy, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Coe College, Miami University, Millhiser Smith, Terry Lockridge and Dunn, and United Fire Group, among others. Her works are characterized by the loose interpretation of the landscape as abstract oil on canvas and watercolor on paper. She is currently a full-time artist.

www.gildedpeargallery.com/the-idea-of-color

Gallery operations and features:

Event: Receptions are open to the public and there are no admission fees.

Visit Us: Drop in anytime during gallery hours: Monday-Friday 10:00am-5:00pm, Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm, and CLOSED on Sunday. Appointments for our services (i.e.-custom framing, art appraisals) are preferred.

Features: A limited parking lot is available with 1 handicap space. On street parking is available on 3rd Avenue and 8th Street- non-metered. The MedQuarter features protected bike lanes and bicycle "parking" can be found on the opposite side of the building by the Pocket Park on 3rd and 8th.