

Spring Juried Show

Judge's Statement

"The principle of art is to pause, not bypass." – Jerzy Kosinski

When jurying an open-media, open-theme show, a juror might wonder where to begin. *What's the direction? What do I want the show say?* As I reviewed over 350 submissions, a simple concept came to mind: In a modern world oversaturated by images, I thought, *what keeps me, the viewer, coming back?* The most valuable thing that we, as artists, can ask of a viewer is for their time. Once we have captured the viewer's attention, what holds it?

Whether it be a fresh interpretation of a common subject or a purely visceral/emotional response, I selected work that kept me coming back; work that kept me engaged, thinking, and looking deeper.

Thank you to everyone who submitted work to this exhibition and my congratulations to the participants and award winners. My sincere thanks to the wonderful team at RAC for the invitation to serve as juror.

It was an absolute pleasure and I wish all the very best in their creative endeavors.

Jill Sarver Rossi, Juror



Judge's Bio

Jill Sarver Rossi holds an M.F.A. in Painting from Western Connecticut State University, M.A. in Painting and Drawing from Eastern Illinois University, and B.F.A in Painting and B.A. in Spanish from Miami University. Along with her studio practice, Jill is Executive Director at Rome Art Program, a New York-based educational non-profit with summer sessions in Rome, Italy. She is also Senior Curator with Cynthia Byrnes Contemporary Art, Westport, CT.

Jill's work investigates feminine presence, derived from memory and observation of ancient Egyptian and Roman figures and artifacts. She uses shifts in tonality and light to explore the duality between solidity and air, linking present and past. Her recent series, "Anonymous," has been shown in Connecticut and New York City, and is in private collections throughout the U.S.