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# PRESS RELEASE

# PAINTING IN PLACE FEBRUARY 1-28, 2020 On-line exhibition

The five artists exhibiting in "Painting in Place" stay with subjects they are familiar with. But, in this time of uncertainty, social isolation and even mortal risk, Flavia Bacarella, Elizabeth Higgins, Arthur Levine, and Wendy Shalen have found new urgency and meaning in their artistic pursuits. Frequent solitary states due to the pandemic have led to closer, more intimate relationships with their work. The work of Yookan Westfield, painted in Japan some years ago, during another quiet and reflective time, conveys a deep and personal sensibility that has long been a characteristic of her art.

### Flavia Bacarella

My return to painting in the time of Covid was inspired by the absolute rightness and sanity of the natural world...in contrast to the frightening reality we face in the human domain. The colors and forms of the landscape I know quite well took on a new vividness and value. I wanted to capture this apparent self-awakening on canvas.

## **Elizabeth Higgins**

My work as a painter and printmaker explores the abstract relationships of color, rhythm and form found in the world around me. Nature is a starting off point for me to begin a painting. I also try to capture the impact of the figure on the landscape. This often evokes a sense of isolation and loneliness.

## Arthur Levine

My work continues to be about ships, planes, bridges and harbors. While the subjects are familiar, the results are more intense and denser and hopefully, more perceptive. I am currently working on a painting called "Light at the end of the Tunnel."

#### Wendy Shalen

In my studio since March, I have been drawing and painting figures in ink, silverpoint, charcoal, watercolor and gouache, then transposing the images using glass frits and enamels on to sheets of glass, which I fire in a glass kiln. My figure models pose virtually, at L'Academie de la Grande Chaumiere in Paris and through Chris Tate's Portrait Party Club.

#### Yookan Westfield

I am a cat lover. I depicted the cheerful little life of my white cat on canvas...painted in Japan about twenty years ago.