

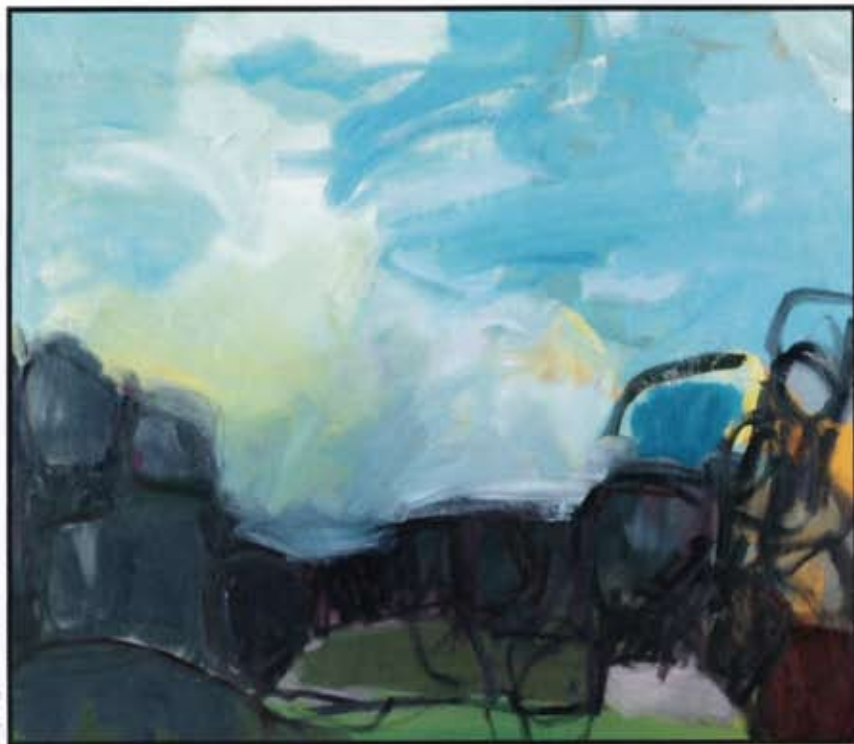


LONG ISLAND PULSE MAGAZINE 5th ANNUAL ARTIST VIP LIST

by nada

When the thoughts come instantaneous, like the speed of light, sharp, like a scream, heavy, like a tractor trailer, there's only one thing the artist can do: unload. it might happen slowly, with measured brooding, equal parts pleasure and pain. it might be a gold medal. or a losing lottery ticket. it doesn't matter. the simple expression of the compulsion is the high. * he knows his art will not go inviolate. but he doesn't care. he knows it could be his canon. but he doesn't care. he might even know it will be great. but he's sure it doesn't matter. * the hungry voyeur watches from the corner, the gallery or the mall, and judges, sweaty and anxious. raining the artist with his words. pumping his fists in misunderstanding. * along comes a writer. a nurse. a roadie. a slice of dry toast. reckoning. * art will not save the world. it will not improve quantum physics. it will not remedy injustice. but it does remind us of our humanity. it makes us witness. * there are a multitude of ways to be an artist. these pages celebrate ten of long island's brightest modern artists. because they have done all of these things. they have sometimes failed. or so we say. but they advance in their pursuits. and they will continue to invent, bolstering the infinitely expanding spirit of man. they interpret. message. reflect us into ourselves. they translate. and they restore a little of what is lost everyday. * they must have shows. somewhere, somehow, at least once per year. they must have history. they must be nominated by curators, art hounds, journalists and other artists. they must live by art, their own, and others'. they must be doing something different. and they are. all of it.

to be considered for next year's list, please mail or email your attention to li pulse headquarters attn: artist list.



Sky Against Rocks III 36" x 42"



Solid Air 60" x 96"



Born in a Storm 48" x 54"

Rachelle Krieger
 Port Washington
 Solid Air

It takes a pretty bold person to attempt to capture the sky. And a pretty humble artist to catch it. It's a gentle balance and it is the aim of this painter who uses sumi-e ink and watercolors, drawing, scraping and scratching at the boards that host her exploration of surrealism: "I'm trying to get a little lyrical." Her work has been primarily about nature, grouping series in periods of a couple of years to a handful, but it is the recent shifts in technique and approach that have brought a new direction to her renderings.

Fundamentally, change first manifested in the focus of her subjects. Krieger went from concentrating on structured and organized formal gardens to the "chaos and decay" that time brings about in nature. The shift happened as a matter of serendipity, while the artist was painting at sands point preserve, but it took hold viscerally for a woman whose main life events have coincided with storms. The very essence of nature's yin-yang is now at her wrist as she couples the formalism of landscape plein air painting with evocative abstraction.

Her springboard is "the power of the storm, and of nature, as a metaphor for our lives." The panels are her interpretations of breadth and "the expansion of breath" that is physiologically experienced when contemplating the sky, whether it be moody or gentle; though her tendency is towards the stormy. The works are not sad, though, and Rachelle feels "people will relate to the storminess—on a personal level—and also respond to the expansiveness."