

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 10, 2022

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The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum Announces
Eric Banks: Reclamations and Reflection
November 25 – December 31, 2022
Opening Reception: Saturday, November 26 | 4-6pm



(Woodstock, NY) – The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum is pleased to announce *Eric Banks: Reclamations and Reflection*, on view in the Solo Gallery from November 25 – December 31, 2022. This exhibition is the last in a series of 2022 solo shows juried by Henry Klimowicz, and includes a selection of paintings and sculptural works from Banks’s 40-year career. WAAM will host a public reception to celebrate the opening of a new round of exhibitions on Saturday, November 26 from 4-6pm.

Throughout his body of work, Banks is concerned with the power of materiality to invoke a “primal unconscious state.” He remarks, “the paintings and wall reliefs are an attempt to wed the primacy and simplicity of forms and shapes to a process of thinking and emotion.” His more recent sculptural work is enveloped in a “skin” of fabrics that are treated with ash, lint and acrylic, pointing to the paradox of forms caught between the living and the dead, and the ongoing life cycle of materials. Ultimately, Banks sees his work as a means of advocating for freedom, dignity, and the rejection of tyranny and dehumanization.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Eric Banks was born and raised in New York City and currently lives and works in the Hudson Valley. His 40-year career as an artist has focused primarily on painting, but has recently evolved to include three-dimensional works, many of which function as wall reliefs. Banks attended the Hoffberger School of Painting at Maryland Institute College of Art where he studied primarily under Grace Hartigan and Sal Scarpitta. He spent many years working as an art teacher for underserved middle and high school students in Brooklyn, NY before retiring to the Hudson Valley five years ago.

ABOUT THE JUROR

Henry Klimowicz, founding director of the Re Institute, is also a working artist whose works have been exhibited at the Berkshire Museum, Wassaic Project and the Morrison Gallery in Kent, CT. He has been honored with residencies at Millay, Yaddo and MacDowell. He holds a BFA from University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and an MFA from Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Artist Talk

Saturday, November 26, 3-4pm

Eric Banks will discuss the works on view in the exhibition. Free and open to the public.

Opening Reception

Saturday, November 26, 4-6pm

WAAM will host an opening reception to celebrate a new round of exhibitions.

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Woodstock Artists Association & Museum

Founded in 1919, the Woodstock Artists Association & Museum (WAAM) is a not-for-profit membership organization featuring an historic Permanent Collection of regional art exhibited in the Towbin Wing, three contemporary art galleries, a dynamic Education Program and an Archives of materials associated with artists of the Woodstock region.

General Information

The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum (WAAM) is located at 28 Tinker Street, Woodstock, NY. Gallery hours are Thursday thru Sunday from noon-5pm. WAAM is closed during major holidays. For general information please call: 845.679.2940 or visit our website at: woodstockart.org.

Images (left to right): *Wanderer*, 2017, oil on canvas, 18" x 24"; *Casualty 2*, 2017, mixed media, 17" x 6" x 7"; *Catchers*, 2022, oil on canvas, 20" x 20".