

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum Announces
Far & Wide: Waiting for the Light
June 9 – July 23, 2023
Opening Reception: Saturday, June 10, 4-6pm



(Woodstock, NY) – The Woodstock Artists Association & Museum is pleased to announce *Far & Wide: Waiting for the Light*, on view from June 9 through July 23, 2023. This group exhibition is juried by Shazzi Thomas, Director of The Painting Center in New York City. WAAM will host a public reception to celebrate the opening of a new round of exhibitions on Saturday, June 10 from 4-6pm.

Far & Wide is an annual exhibition and the one time each year that WAAM calls for submissions from artists throughout the country rather than from the Woodstock region alone. This year's exhibition, *Waiting for the Light*, includes work of varying styles and formats, and borrows its title from a painting by Susan Barrett of the same title. After an open call for art, the juror recognized a shared sensibility among many of the artists who work in a diversity of styles and mediums. Throughout the 33 works on view, varying notions of light and darkness take shape: Craig Wood's *Alien Life Form* addresses the mystery of extraterrestrial life and searches for meaning; Samuel Fisch's *Empty Mirror* points to a deeply personal kind of darkness. Gretchen Mahnkopf's *Sugar And Spice And A Hello Kitty Rifle* searches for light amidst the senselessness of ongoing gun violence. Together, these works probe both literal and figurative ideas of darkness and light, and the dual sense of power and powerlessness inherent to the process of waiting.

EXHIBITING ARTISTS

Fern T. Apfel	Hana Gordon	Alan Richards
Gwen Bardon	Helen Hosking	Michele Riche
Susan Barrett	Polly Law	Corinne Robbins
Patricia Bellucci	Jennifer Leighton	Meredith Rosier
Virginia Bradley	Gretchen Mahnkopf	Donna Scarpa
Susan Carr	Tony Moore	Susan Sommer
Mary Delaney Connelly	Joyce Nicol	Margaret Still
Kirsten Doyle	Sandra Nystrom	Carol Struve
Samuel Fisch	Adi Oren	Marya Triandafellos
Richard Franklin	Tracy Phillips	jd weiss
Denise Giardullo	Betsy Podlach	Craig Wood

ABOUT THE JUROR

Shazzi Thomas is the Director of The Painting Center, New York, NY. An abstract painter, her work addresses the inter-relationship between design and chaos, and also the parallels between our external and internal environments. Her paintings have been exhibited at Longwood Art Gallery, Broome Street Gallery, Eleven Ten Gallery, Brooklyn Artists Gym and The Painting Center in New York City. Thomas received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Bard College in 2004.

At The Painting Center, Thomas curated the exhibitions *Cultivate Your Own Garden*, *About Face*, *I Am My Best Work* and *One in a Year*. In addition to her work at The Painting Center, Thomas has also curated numerous exhibitions at Broome Street Gallery in Soho. She also gives lectures at various institutions including a 2008 lecture at The Metropolitan Museum of Art on the artist Georgia O'Keefe in conjunction with the exhibition *Through Our Eyes: Wuppertal/New York*. Most recently, she lectured at The Maryland Institute College of Art, addressing making one's own luck in the art world and managing a non-profit organization. Additionally, she curated the *NYAE 2020 Members Invitational* at Equity Gallery. Thomas served as a juror for the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, and served as a juror for the Golden Educators Residency. In 2021, she was a guest juror for the 11th Biennial Alexander Rutsch Award which offers a solo exhibition for painting. In 2022, she was offered the opportunity to nominate an artist for the prestigious Heinz Award. Shazzi Thomas has been the Director of The Painting Center for 17 years. She is currently serving as the Co-President of the Drawing Rooms. She also works as an assistant at Michelman Fine Art.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Opening Reception

Saturday, June 10 | 4-6pm

WAAM will hold an opening reception, open to the public, to celebrate a new round of exhibitions on view throughout its galleries. At 5pm, the recipient of the Arthur Harris Award will be announced.

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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): Gretchen Mahnkopf, *Sugar And Spice And A Hello Kitty Rifle*, 2010, Oil on canvas, 22"x28"; Susan Barrett, *Waiting for the Light*, 2021, Acrylic on canvas, 36" x 36" x 1 1/2"; Craig Wood, *Alien Life Form*, 2022, Stoneware, underglaze, glaze, salt, 11" x 8" x 4".