



Art4Gaza

Fundraiser for Palestinian students

Live Zoom Event

12 April 2026
5-6PM

In-person Viewing

11 April 2026: 1-8PM
12 April 2026: 10AM-4PM

Redwood Studio Gallery (*above*
Redwood Theatre)
1298 Gerrard St



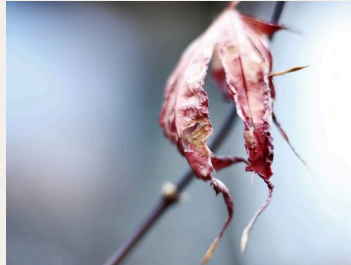
Artwork Showcase (Individual)

1



Patrizia Brasch
Eclipse
Mosaic
12x12" (14x14" framed)
Est. value: \$500
Donated by artist

2



Hélène Grégoire
In the Quiet Before Renewal
Photograph
11x15" (20x24" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

3



Ismail Shammout
Steadfast as a Rock
Print
19x24" (25x37" framed)
Est value: \$500
Donated by Henry Zaccak

4



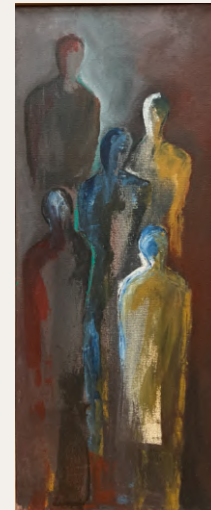
John Kameel Farah
Flowers of Resilience
Ink on Paper
14x17" (16x20" framed)
Est. value: \$1000
Donated by Dianne Patychuk

5



Hisham Saab
Peace & Solitude at the Port of Gaza
Acrylic Painting
18x24" (19¼x25¼" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

6



Lynn Kain
We Are Still Here
Acrylic Painting
8x20" (9½x21½" framed with
lathe wood from the 1910s)
Est. value: \$250
Donated by artist

7



John Kameel Farah
Luminous Olive Tree

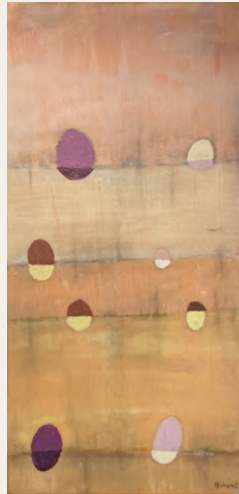
Archival giclée print of ink drawing on cotton rag paper

14x17" (16x20" framed)

Est. value: \$350

Donated by artist

8



Hisham Saab
Staying Above Water
Acrylic and Charcoal
12x24" (19¼x25¼" framed)
Est. value: \$250
Donated by artist

9



Dahlia Sawwan
The Dream
Ink & Watercolor
9x12" (12x15" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

10



Vaidehi Kale
Inquilab (Resistance/Revolution)
Oil painting
24x26"
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

11



Gloria Michaels
Sunset on Rocky Cliff
Acrylic painting
18x24" (19x25" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

12



Catherine Cachia
Leather Cutouts
Leather Cutting
9 ½. diameter
Est. value: \$300
Donated by artist

13



Gloria Michaels
Lighthouse at Peggy's Cove
Acrylic painting
16x20" (21x28" framed)
Est. value: \$400
Donated by artist

14



MakeArt4Gaza Group
SUMUD
Watercolour painting
12x16" (21x25" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

15



Nicole Breane Shabada
Citrus
Premium Lustre Photo Print
18x24" (19x25" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

16



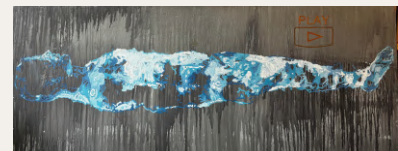
Hisham Saab
The Return: Going Back Home 2023
Acrylic painting
16x20" (17x21" framed)
Est. value: \$300
Donated by artist

17



Gloria Michaels
Poppy
Watercolour
13½x15" (17x17" framed)
Est. value: \$300 (plastic sleeve)
Donated by artist

18



Matt Bahen
Play
Acrylic and oil on canvas
30x72"
Est. value: \$2,000
Donated by Anonymous

19



Gloria Michaels

Boats in France

Watercolour

15x22"

Est. value: \$250 (plastic sleeve with archival backing board)

Donated by artist

20



Ismail Shammout

The Road to Nowhere

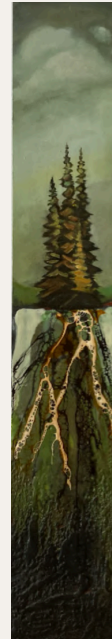
Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est. value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

21



Jenna Westphal

Tree

Encaustic Painting

4x24"

Est. value: \$300

Donated by artist

22



Catherine Cachia

Outburst

Watercolour

14x20" (19x25" framed)

Est. value: \$350

Donated by artist

23



Ismail Shammout

For Survival

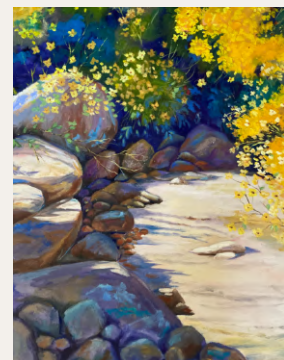
Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est. value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

24



Gloria Michaels

Sunny Rocky Path

Acrylic

16x20"

Est. value: framed \$350

Donated by artist

25



Barbara Goodwin
Once Upon A Dream
Acrylic, Collage
14x21"
Est. value: \$350
Donated by Dr. John Sloane

26



Steve Driscoll
Stillness
Silkscreen on styrene
18x25" (24x30¾" framed)
Est. value: \$3,000
Donated by Anonymous

27



Jacquelyn Sloane Siklos
Celestial Interference #1
Archival giclee, face mounted
to plexiglass
20x30"
Est. value: \$700
Donated by artist

28



Ismail Shammout
Palestinians...Refugees
Print
19x24" (25x37" framed)
Est value: \$500
Donated by Henry Zaccak

29



John Kameel Farah
Thunderous Olive Tree
Archival giclée print of ink
drawing on cotton rag paper
12x16" (16x20" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

30



Franklin Norwood
Pale Moon Dance
Etching
11x17" (framed 20x27")
Est. value: \$950
Donated by Dr. John Sloane

31



Ismail Shammout

The Nightmare and The Dream

Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

32



Margalit Zomer

Flight

9½x13" (20x27" framed)

Est. value: \$350

Donated by Dr. John Sloane

33



Gloria Michaels

Cactus Flowers

Watercolour

15"x22"

Est. value: \$250 (plastic sleeve with archival backing board)

Donated by artist

34



Ismail Shammout

Life Prevails

Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

35



Dianne Patychuk

Home

Mixed Media

30x40" (31½ x 41½" framed)

Est. value: \$700

Donated by artist

36



Gloria Michaels

Crocuses

Watercolour

15x22"

Est. value: \$250 (plastic sleeve with archival backing board)

Donated by artist

37



Ismail Shammout

Resistance

Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est. value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

38



Sharon Dembo

SMA II

Encaustic monotype with charcoal rubbing on Japanese paper

12x15" (17x 21" framed)

Est. value: \$350

Donated by Anonymous

39



Vaidehi Kale

After the Tides Clash

Oil painting

22x24"

Est. value: \$350

Donated by artist

40



Dianne Patychuk

Palestinian Children with Flag

Acrylic painting

8x16" (9x17" framed)

Est. value: \$250

Donated by artist

41



Ismail Shammout

Homage to the Martyrs

Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est. value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

42



Ismail Shammout

Intifada

Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est. value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

43



Jurika Shakya/MakeArt4Gaza Group

Sunbird and Watermelon

Acrylic on tree trunk slice

9x13"

Est. value: \$250

Donated by artist

44



Ismail Shammout

Jaffa - Harbour of Abundance

Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est. value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

45



Dianne Patychuk

Studying in Gaza Rubble

Oil, wax, sand

14x18" (15x19" framed)

Est. value: \$300

Donated by artist

46



Ismail Shammout

Unholy Alliance

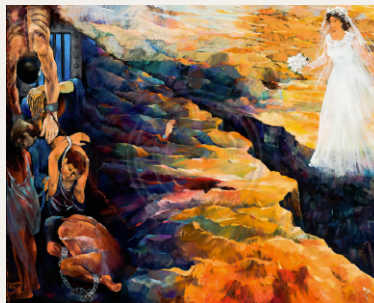
Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est. value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

47



Tamam El-Akhal

The Rift

Print

19x24" (25x37" framed)

Est. value: \$500

Donated by Henry Zaccak

48



Jacquelyn Sloane Siklos

The Desert Road

Oil painting

8x10" (11x13" framed)

Est. value: \$300

Donated by artist

49



Tamam El-Akhal
Don't Forsake the Steed
Print
19x24" (25x37" framed)
Est. value: \$500
Donated by Henry Zaccak

50



Ismail Shammout
Uprooting
Print
19x24" (25x37" framed)
Est. value: \$500
Donated by Henry Zaccak

51



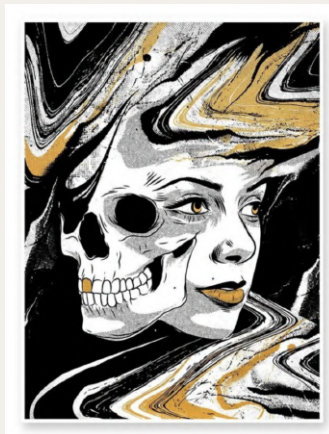
Tamam El-Akhal
Challenge
Print
19x24" (25x37" framed)
Est. value: \$500
Donated by Henry Zaccak

52



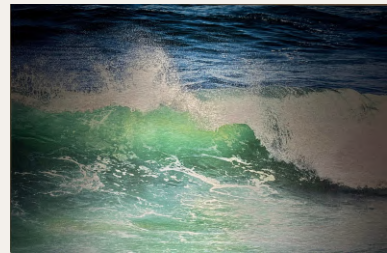
Layla Shakya/MakeArt4Gaza Group
Peace Please
Acrylic
9½x10½" (12x16" framed)
Est. value: \$300
Donated by artist

53



Lucas Young
The Weight of Being
Screen Print
18x24" (21¼ x27¼" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

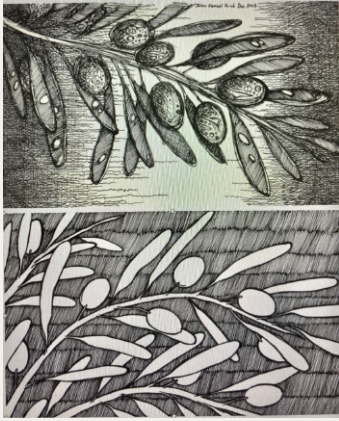
54



Jacquelyn Sloane Siklos
The Wave
Archival giclée on plexiglass
20x30"
Est. value: framed \$850
Donated by Dr. John Sloane

Artwork Showcase (Sets)

55



John Kameel Farah

Golden Olive Branch & Olive Branch

Archival giclée prints of ink drawing on cotton rag paper (set of two)

8x10" (each)

Est. value: framed \$350

Donated by artist

56



Gloria Michaels

Red Poppies

Watercolour (set of two)

11x14" (each)

Est. value: \$300 (plastic sleeves)

Donated by artist

57



Gloria Michaels

Happiness and What's to See

Pencil drawings (set of two)

8 ½x11" (each)

Est. value: \$300 (plastic sleeves with archival backing boards)

Donated by artist

58



Gloria Michaels

Jane Goodall & Chimpanzee

Pencil + pastel drawing (set of two)

8½"x11" (each)

Est. value: \$300 (plastic sleeves with archival backing boards)

Donated by artist

59



Gloria Michaels

Fishing Boats

Watercolour (set of two)

11¼x15" (each)

Est. value: \$300 (plastic sleeves)

Donated by artist

60



Gloria Michaels

Camel and Desert Walkers

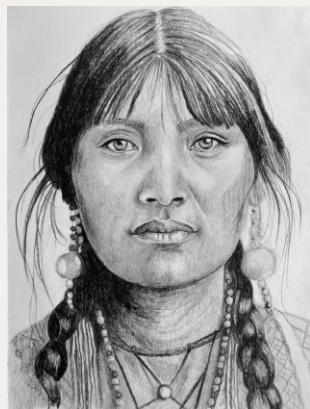
Watercolour (set of two)

11¼x15" (each)

Est. value: \$300 (plastic sleeves)

Donated by artist

61



Gloria Michaels

Drawings of 4 Indigenous People

Pencil Drawing (set of four)

8 ½x11" (each)

Est. value: \$400 (plastic sleeves with archival backboards)

Donated by artist

62



Gloria Michaels

Old Trucks

Watercolour (set of two)

11¼x 15" (each)

Est. value: \$300 (plastic sleeves)

Donated by artist

63



Dianne Patychuk
Palestine Demonstration
 Acrylic
 9½x9½" (10x10" framed)
 Est. value: \$300
 Donated by artist

64



Rima Noureddine & Nadia Bensouda
Pinched Vessels (set of two) (1) and Yaffa Orange Tree (2)
 (1) Pottery (2" & 3" high)
 (2) Acrylic on wood panel (8x10" x 10x10" framed)
 Est. value: \$250
 Donated by artists

65



Dianne Patychuk
Palestinian children carrying heavy water jug (set of two)
 Acrylic, sand
 9½x9½" (10x10" framed)
 Est. value: \$300
 Donated by artist

66



Meredith Blunt & Gloria Michaels

Backyard Birds of Waterloo (1) and Feeding the Birds (2)

(1) Print of drawing 18x24"; framed without glass

(2) Pencil drawing 8½x11"; suspended in glass frame

Pencil drawing

Est. value: \$300

Donated by artists

67



Dianne Patychuk

Running from Bombs

Acrylic (set of two)

9½x9½" & 8x10" (framed 10x10" & 8½x10½")

Est. value: \$300

Donated by artist

68



Gloria Michaels

Yellow Flowers

Watercolour (set of two)

11x14"

Est. value: \$300 (plastic sleeves)

Donated by artist

69



MakeArt4Gaza Group
Memories of Palestine AB
Watercolour (set of two)
12x16" (16x20" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

70



MakeArt4Gaza Group
Memories of Palestine CD
Watercolour (set of two)
12x16" (16x20" framed)
Est. value: \$350
Donated by artist

Registration

Tickets are available for purchase on-line through the following link:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/art4gaza-fundraiser>

Please note: Zeffy is CEPAL's trusted, 100% free fundraising platform. Note that Zeffy does not charge admin fees, enabling your dollars to go farther in supporting Palestinian students. This means that Zeffy relies on individual contributions to keep running.

When purchasing a ticket, the "Summary" page may automatically add a 15% to support Zeffy. Please note, this is completely optional and can be reduced to 0 by clicking the drop-down box, and selecting "Other" → Contribution: \$0.

What to expect during the draw

After purchasing a ticket, you will receive a Zoom link the day before the event, along with a reminder on the day of the event. Participants will be able to enter the Zoom room at **4:45 pm**, and the **art draw will begin at 5:00 pm**.

We recommend preparing a list of your **5-10 favourite artworks** in advance so that when your name is called, you can make your selection quickly. You will also receive a **grid sheet** with the Zoom link that you can print and use to track the artworks as they are chosen by crossing them off your list.

You can pick up your selected artwork within two weeks of the event (pickup address to be shared with attendees).

Thank you to all artists

Finally, a sincere thank you to all contributing artists and donors, who made this event possible. Learn about the artists whose works are featured in this event, and read their artist statements (where available) below:

Jacquelyn Sloane Siklos

Jacquelyn is a Toronto based artist. Her work is inspired by the landscape, and explores the colour and space of wide open vistas, and the peace of the distinctive Canadian lake landscape. Trees and water are often reduced to abstracted shapes, as are her collages which are inspired by the shapes and memories of the built cityscape. She works across various mediums including photography, painting and mixed media collage. Jacquelyn trained at OCADU, graduating in graphic design and illustration. She is represented in Toronto at Canvas Gallery - www.canvasgallery.ca, and online at www.minted.com. Updates can be found on instagram @sloanesiklosart.

Dianne Patychuk

Dianne was born on the Prairies into an immigrant and refugee farming community. In her life, work and art she challenges settler colonialism, and health and social injustice. Dianne has a lifelong commitment to supporting refugees. Dianne says it is truly inspiring and humbling to learn and work with other activists and artists to make art for Gaza and to fundraise for access to education for Palestinians. Most of her pieces included here are composed from her photos she took from news coverage on current events in Gaza. Of particular relevance is the situation of over 130 Palestinian students in Gaza who have been accepted into Canadian universities but face bureaucratic barriers to getting student visas. For example; <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/palestinian-student-accepted-to-canadian-university-stuck-in-gaza-9.7042613>

Ismail Shammout and Tamam El-Akhal

Ismail Shammout and Tamam El-Akhal are widely recognized as pioneering figures in modern Palestinian art. Both experienced displacement during the Nakba of 1948, an experience that profoundly shaped their artistic practice. Their work documents Palestinian history, identity, and resilience through powerful figurative and narrative imagery. Together they created an important visual record of Palestinian life and collective memory that has been exhibited internationally.

Matt Bahen

Toronto-based painter Matt Bahen is known for his thick impasto paintings, which have many layers of interpretation. Influenced by literature, primarily the writings of fiction authors such as Cormac McCarthy, T.S Eliot, and Joseph Conrad, Bahen aspires to emulate the power of metaphors and allegories with paint. He received his BFA from the Ontario College of Art in 2002. Bahen is represented in Toronto, Edmonton, and New York.

Gloria Michaels

Gloria Michaels is an artist with thirty-three years experience teaching art classes to students where she has instilled the love of painting and drawing in many. Gloria has encouraged many to pursue their dream to become artists. She has been a member of various art clubs in Ontario and has won a number of acclimations throughout. Gloria works in many mediums, watercolour being a primary love, acrylics and oils, coloured pencils and pastels. She loves to draw and paint portraits, animals, still life and landscapes. Her diverse style will have something to appeal to all.

Hélène Grégoire

Originally from Quebec, Hélène Grégoire settled in Tkaronto (Toronto) almost 24 years ago and feels grateful to have been able to live, work and play in this very special place. While working mostly in education, she has remained grounded and connected to social issues by volunteering in different capacities. For Hélène, photography is a contemplative act that allows her to be present in the moment, and appreciate the natural beauty around her.

Art: In the Quiet Before Renewal

Looking out her kitchen door one day after the rain, Hélène's attention was caught by the sparkling raindrops on a Japanese maple planted three years earlier. She grabbed her camera to capture the magic of the moment. The next day, the sun shone once more after the rain and there she was, eager to reconnect with the tree from new perspectives. Fall came, and the tree transformed with vibrant colours. By winter, only a few leaves held on, holding promise of the life ahead.

Steve Driscoll

Steve Driscoll creates vibrant depictions of the Canadian wilderness, expanding on the revered national tradition of landscape painting. His signature approach creates a fluidity that captures and heightens the emotional experience of being in the Canadian landscape. He received his BFA from OCAD University in 2002. His work is included in numerous museum, corporate and bank collections in Canada.

Franklin Norwood

Franklin Norwood started his career as a printmaker specializing in etchings printed from copper plates in 1967 under professor Charles Morgan at the University of Georgia. For a period of over 50 years, Norwood has honed his craft and created a following for his whimsical intricate etchings through galleries throughout the country. Traditionally, he prints on French-made white etching paper, but has recently enjoyed adding color to some of his prints using transparent watercolors, which allow the delicate etched lines to show through. Through the skills of his very talented daughter and son-in-law he has launched this web site to share his love of etchings with long-time collectors and to those new to his work. <https://www.franklinnorwood.art/>

Dahlia Sawwan

The Dream, the artwork presented here, draws from a recurring dream from Dahlia's childhood. In this dream, her friends return to their homelands, gardens flourish once more, and fertile lands again sustain their people. Love fills the world with light, peace, and possibility. Now later in life, as cynicism grows and ongoing conflicts in Palestine and Lebanon continue, this dream visits her less and less. Fearing that its memory might one day disappear, Dahlia chose to preserve it through art. Through this work, she reflects on the fragile persistence of hope. When hope cannot easily be summoned from within, perhaps it can be rediscovered through art—reminding the soul of its capacity to dream again. Dahlia hopes her work will serve as a quiet source of inspiration, inviting viewers to reconnect with imagination, optimism, and the enduring power of hope. Her most recent art work is on Instagram @splashofdahlia

Barbara Goodwin

Barbara Goodwin is a multidisciplinary artist whose work reflects a strong interest in colour relationships, form, and texture. Working across painting and mixed media, she develops compositions that invite reflection on the emotional qualities of colour and abstraction. Her work often balances bold visual presence with subtle surface detail.

MakeArt4Gaza Group

The MakeArt4GazaGroup includes women (age 13-75) who brought their passion for art to this opportunity to support access to education for Palestinians. Each contributed in multiple ways to the composition and making of a series of Palestinian-relevant art in varied materials including acrylic, ink and watercolour on wood panels, tree slices, paper and canvas. The group includes: Dianne Patychuk, Jurika and Layla Shakya, Nadia Bensouada, Gloria Michaels Ann Di Nardo (Cobourg) and Sharon Keith (Alberta).

John Kameel Farah

John Kameel Farah is a Palestinian-Canadian composer, pianist and visual artist based between Toronto and Berlin. His music embraces aspects of Baroque and Early Music, Arabic Music, Improvisation and Electronic Music, a unique mixture he calls "Arabic-Baroque-Futurism". He studied at the University of Toronto, where he received the Glenn Gould Composition Award twice. He continued studies with Terry Riley in California, and at the Arabic Music Retreat in Hartford.

Also a prolific visual artist, Farah creates intricate ink line drawings, often exploring themes of the ancient Near East, and the symbolism of Palestinian olive trees. He often projects slides and animations of his drawings during his live concerts.

Follow John Farah's work on Patreon:

www.patreon.com/johnkameelfarah or

Instagram:

www.instagram.com/johnkameelfarah

Art: Luminous Olive Tree

As many of us know too well, nearly ten per cent of Palestine's olive trees have been destroyed, burned or uprooted since 1967. And yet I have read that even if a few shafts remain, an olive tree may grow again. Palestine holds some of the world's oldest olive trees - the oldest reported to be some 4,500 years old. So while I worked on this larger drawing, I took a picture for every few lines, to assemble into a time-lapse animation. I often improvise music to this video during my concerts, also using it as an opportunity to share one more facet of the occupation with the audience. In the end it took approximately 4,500 frames to make the movie, about a frame for every year, to make a tree that could not be uprooted. The video is online: search for "john kameel farah olive tree" on Youtube.

Art: Thunderous Olive Tree

The symbolism of olive trees can manifest so wildly, just as they can take such a seemingly endless range of shapes. This tree was a manifestation of power and exuberance. Subtly woven into the fabric of the tree are written in Arabic script: "Houb" (love), "Ya Falastin" (O Palestine) and my own name.

Art: Flowers of Resilience

Sometimes I think of the land itself in Gaza, the rocks, vegetation and sand, how like the people, they have absorbed so much, it is incomprehensible. I marvel that light, tenderness and beauty still grow, both in reality and symbolism, through the mourning soil.

Hisham Saab

I had always doodled on every piece of paper that came my way, using bright colours and funky shapes. I never imagined myself an artist. My journey into this world started when I retired. Abstract painting was a new phase of my life that I had never explored before.

As someone who grew up in Lebanon, I have lived through multiple wars, invasions and incursions. Painting became my way of meditating and immersing myself into a world where paints and brushes became an extension of my inner self.

Art: Staying Above Water

Survival during war and conflict is an hourly milestone, daily at best. This piece 'Staying Above Water' commemorates the resilience of survivors who continue to resist despair, to breathe, to hope, despite the hardships. Here water is a symbol of a basic need for survival but a medium that offers balance, and a brief sense of calm.

Art: The Return: Going Back Home

Displacement is not a mere physical experience. It is the stripping of one's family, lineage, and community. Displacement is the ripping of one's roots to land, traditions, culture, and history. Going back home is not a mere physical longing, but a reclaiming of who we are, and our right to justice.

Art: Peace and Solitude at the Port of Gaza

The sea and port of Gaza have witnessed the brutal and heartless killing of fishermen in their boats and of children playing at the beach. Flotillas attempting to bring necessities for survival have been ruthlessly and violently prevented from reaching the port of Gaza. This piece imagines a serene, peaceful, sea and port that the people of Gaza can reclaim.

Patrizia Brasch

Patrizia Brasch is a contemporary mosaic artist, living and working in Toronto. She works with different types of materials and uses their colours, textures, reflection, and transparencies to convey a message or express any of the wide range of emotions and sensitivities we experience as human beings. As a result, her mosaics come with their own narrative to tell their unique story. Materials in the mosaic include: stones, beach glass, corroded metal, glass beads, pearls, stained glass, nails. Patrizia's mosaics have been shown in juried exhibits and galleries in Canada, the US, and Germany. Her work is in private collections across Canada, the United States, Germany, and Italy. Patrizia is a founding organizer of Ontario Mosaic Artists, a member of Mosaic Artists of Canada, Society of American Mosaic Artists, Contemporary Mosaic Art, an Elected Member of the Society of Canadian Artists, and a past board member of the Artists' Network, Toronto. Contact info: www.patriziabrasch.com; info@patriziabrasch.com; [@patriziabraschmosaics](https://www.instagram.com/patriziabraschmosaics)

Art: Eclipse

"Eclipse" is an abstract mosaic rendering of a solar eclipse. The colours, textures, and contours of the stone circle depict the volcanos, craters and lava flows of the lunar surface. As the sun is eclipsed by the moon, its brilliant corona, in yellows, gold and flashes of red, flares out in all directions against the dark sky encircling the moon in its halo.

Rima Nouredine

I am a potter and Art Therapist (RP Qualifying) based in Tkaronto. Born and raised in Lebanon, my relationship with clay is process-based and political, grounded in community care and a commitment to decolonizing practices in both my work and everyday life. "Healing happens in community" - Andre Lourde

Art: Golden Olive Branch & Olive Branch 2

Although my artist range used to be quite diverse, I had felt artistically frozen since late 2023, which I imagine this is the case for many or most Palestinian artists. Whenever I would draw, I could only bring myself to draw simple images of olive trees or branches. This piece was a series of approximately 20 olive branch drawings of roughly the same dimensions, in varying textures and atmospheres.

Lynn Kain

Lynn is an interior designer and artist whose life's work is to bridge the vibrant interplay of aesthetic form and emotional resonance. Originating from Lebanon, where the rich tapestry of culture and history colors every corner, Lynn has been drawn to both the canvas and the living space, finding in each a profound medium for expression and transformation. Her journey in design and art isn't merely about creating visually stunning spaces or compelling artworks, but about delving into the deeper narratives of those who will live within and interact with them. As an artist, Lynn's work is a visual exploration of emotion, memory, and identity. Her journey began in the world of design, but art has always been at the core of her creative expression. From abstract portraits to installations inspired by personal and collective experiences, Lynn's art is a reflection of both my internal world and the external forces that shape it. Instagram [@echoes_of_lynn](https://www.instagram.com/echoes_of_lynn) and [@studio.7](https://www.instagram.com/studio.7)

Art: We Are Still Here

"We Are Still Here" depicts a group of faceless, layered figures standing together, bathed in shifting hues of shadow and light. Each silhouette suggests both individuality and anonymity—a quiet but unyielding presence. The painting reflects resilience amid displacement, echoing the Palestinian spirit of Sumud—steadfastness. Through the abstract, the message is clear: no matter the shadows cast, we remain.

Meredith Blunt

Meredith Blunt is a Canadian artist based in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, who loves working in ink and watercolour. Her art celebrates the birds around us. Her drawings have delicate but energetic detail and the big personalities of the birds. Every piece starts with observation: watching how a bird holds its head, the way light catches a feather, the attitude in a glance. Her process is to sketch in ink then bring the bird to life with watercolor. The result feels both precise and alive. She is also an advocate for a bird friendly city. See her work at <https://birdnerd.art/> or on <https://www.instagram.com/missus.blunt/>

Catherine Cachia

Catherine is a multidisciplinary artist in Toronto who works in mural painting, hand lettering, illustration, documentary photography, and more to create art that can bring a sense of healing and balance to unburden and uplift. The thread that runs through her work is embracing what's imperfect, messy and human. She considers art making to be a spiritual practice that can bring a sense of healing and balance to both artist and viewer. She aims to unburden and uplift people, if only for a moment, when someone encounters her work. <https://www.catherinecachia.com/contact>

Jenna Westphal

Encaustic: The art form of painting with hot bees wax and oil paint combined with shellac. Using a blow torch and brush I create dreamy, organic, paintings on long wood panels. Each encaustic piece is a combination of three of my passions, art, science and my love of nature. With each richly textured wood panel layered with wax and oil I explore the dichotomy of the world we see versus the world we imagine. I experiment constantly with this diverse medium, studying the intertwined relationship between humanity and nature, Macro vs Micro, Above and Below. With studios in Toronto and Muskoka. Website: <https://www.jennawestphalart.com/> Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/jennawestphalencaustic/>

Lucas Young

Lucas is a designer, illustrator and lettering artist in Toronto. A graduate of the York/Sheridan joint program in design - his work infuses digital and hand techniques to tell stories through texture, typography and illustrative collage. A proud Torontonionian, his illustrative work has been seen on the city's largest sports franchises, local breweries, and helped grow small businesses to find their visual voice. His personal work explores themes of reflection, wordplay and ephemera.
@lucasyoung
lucasyoung.co

Art: The Weight of Being

This artwork presents a haunting meditation on coexistence—of beauty and ruin, of breath and silence, of what endures and what is lost. It reflects a reality where life persists under the constant shadow of death, where identity and humanity are fractured but not erased. The skull is not just an end—it is a witness. The living face is not untouched—it carries the weight of survival. The turbulent black-and-white forms evoke a world marked by devastation, while threads of gold cut through that darkness like veins of light—subtle, but deliberate. It touches her lips, her gaze, the currents around her, as if insisting that even in the darkest rupture, something luminous refuses to be extinguished, that hope will always find a place to shine.

Nicole Breanne Shabada

Nicole Breanne Shabada is a photographer drawn to the interplay of light and shadow, capturing the quiet, everyday moments that often go unnoticed. Born and raised in Calgary and based in Toronto for the past 18 years, her work is shaped by both place and presence. When she isn't photographing, she's spending time with her two daughters in the east end of the city. @nicolebreanne
www.nicolebreanne.com

Art: Citrus

Citrus was captured in Los Angeles in March 2020, where clusters of ripe oranges glow against dense, glossy green leaves. Soft, intentional light gently illuminates the fruit while the surrounding foliage falls into a deeper, moodier contrast—creating a palette that feels both vibrant and grounded, and transforming a simple tree into something cinematic, holding warmth and stillness in a single frame.

Vaidehi Kale

Vaidehi is a 27 year old artist from South Asia who immigrated to Canada in 2023. She utilizes form, colour, and pattern through a contemporary visual language to create ethereal yet biting and critical pieces which represent her own psyche as a bystander of an ever-changing world. Vaidehi's latest pieces are a gentler exploration of the grief and turmoil faced by the innocents of Gaza yet infused with hopeful elements hidden among the chaos. Her Instagram is @vaidehixkale

Art: "Inquilab"

"Inquilab" echoes a rallying cry from the struggle for Indian independence. Inquilab Zindabad—"long live the revolution"—was once shouted by those who refused to bow to the weight of colonial rule.

This painting reflects on the quiet tragedy of colonization and the futures taken from the young and the innocent. At its centre rests a watermelon, a symbol often used to evoke the Palestinian struggle for freedom.

Perched gently atop it is the Palestinian sunbird, a quiet witness and reminder of the land's native people, their culture, and their identity.

But the fruit beneath it is not whole. It has been violently torn open by flechette shells once fired from tanks—munitions that scattered destruction among civilians and are now banned. The shattered flesh speaks to the carelessness of war and the ease with which lives and landscapes are broken. And yet, even here, life insists on returning. Amid smoke, debris, and ruin, seeds fall into the soil. From ground once shaken barren, fragile shoots begin to rise—quiet promises that memory, resistance, and hope cannot be so easily erased.

Art: After the Tides Clash

The entire field of the painting is submerged in red—crimson and burgundy spreading across both sea and sky. Two bolts of lightning cut through the atmosphere, briefly illuminating a restless body of water below.

The waves churn and collide, their deep blue-green undertones surfacing through the red like hidden currents resisting the storm. Nothing here is still. The tides press against one another, folding, breaking, and reforming in a constant state of motion. The red speaks of urgency and alarm—a moment when the world feels suspended in crisis. Yet storms, however violent, are never permanent. Water remembers its rhythm. Beneath the clash of currents and the weight of the sky, there remains the quiet certainty that the tide will turn, the lightning will fade, and the sea will eventually find its calm again.

In that understanding lies the painting's quiet promise: that even in the height of turmoil, time continues to move, carrying the storm with it.

Nadia Bensouda

This piece reflects a personal connection to the symbolism of Yaffa oranges as an enduring expression of Palestinian identity, land, and resilience. Growing up, I became aware at an early age of the meanings carried by everyday choices—shaped in part by my family's decision to boycott products like Jaffa cakes in response to the appropriation of Palestinian land and culture. Through this painting, I return to the image of the Yaffa orange tree as something deeply rooted: a reminder of heritage, belonging, and the resilience of a people whose connection to the land cannot be erased.