



Linnea Toney Leeming

Linnea Toney Leeming's parents were both artists who provided their young child with vast resources of multimedia materials, which shaped the foundation of her unlimited creativity. Her father built her first real studio while in her pre-teen years, allowing her the freedom to express herself at an early age. More support came from her first mentor, John DeMelim, Chair of the Art Department of RIC, a family friend who encouraged her towards a career in the arts.

Linnea's art has always been about her exploration of new experiences, the visual excitement of new areas, new colors, and new attitudes. While in college, she hitchhiked across the country and back with friends and, after receiving her BFA, she made further travels to Europe to study art and architecture. Her journeys culminated in a large body of work that was exhibited at Hera, a Women's Cooperative Gallery of which she was among the first members.

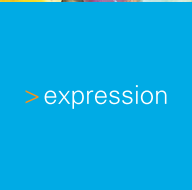
Becoming a photographer and prop stylist helped fulfill a need to experience new and exciting adventures, and Linnea eventually married an advertising photographer. As well as having a long, happy and supportive marriage, the relationship also gave her the opportunity to see and share new ideas with creative people from places like Paris, Montreal, Chicago, New York and even Pacific Rim countries like Japan and Taiwan.

All the while, Linnea continued her own personal art, studying at length with Mary Ann Santos, professor of art at NYU's MFA program, and Victor Lara, professor of art at RISD. Eventually, she abandoned prop styling altogether to become a full-time artist, allowing her time to travel and absorb the art and culture of America and Europe as well as attending residencies with other known abstract painters. She became passionate about teaching other adults her many skills in both oil and acrylic and still conducts classes today.

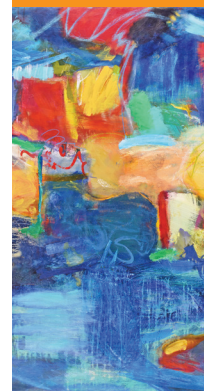
Linnea's vibrant and energetic abstract paintings can be seen in galleries and collections throughout the United States, as well as collections in Moscow, Shanghai and Madrid.



> texture



> expression



Linnea Toney Leeming

Artist Statement

Our love for a work of art is an intimate affair, which is why we long to own the work so we can live with it – touch it, move it around, and have it as our own. When the work is abstract, there are endless reasons for our attraction. Abstract art is an abstraction. It does not represent anything. It is nonobjective. Instead of depicting what we recognize in the world of objects, people and nature, abstract art is concerned with color, line, form, and texture. It is not reality-based but emotionally-based. It is expressive and gestural. When an artist paints or sculpts, they are driven to express what they see and feel.

“Of all the arts, abstract painting is the most difficult. It demands that you know how to draw well, that you have a heightened sensitivity for composition and for colours, and that you be a true poet. This last is essential.”

– Wassily Kandinsky

My poetry is creating beauty in expressionistic painting, always with great quantities of energy, humor and observation. My paintings are each a harmony of process and discovery, each a medium for passion, joy and excitement.

I focus my interest in creating a sense of space and time. I use the abstractionist’s process-driven approach to painting and the practice of listening to the unconscious. Large abstract paintings are conceived by making a series of considered decisions fueled by issues of color and space, where lines, patterns, and textures overlap and merge into unified compositions. Layering color, mediums and glazes, my compositions evolve of their own accord, acquiring their own presence and identity. I am relentless in using various media and experimentation to create the finished piece. I work intuitively and impulsively, always vibrant and energetic, creating paintings that burst with color; my mind and my hand work together to spark imagination.

Education

Aimone Art Residencies, Rockland, ME – 2017, 2018
Working Artist Residencies, New Symerna, FL – 2015
Golden Foundation, Mediums, New Berlin, NY – 2012
Encaustic, R&F Paints, Kingston, NY – 1997
Bennington College, Katherine Porter – 1995
Private instruction, Victor Lara – 1993, 1994, 1995
Vermont Studio Center, Fellowship recipient – 1991, 1993
Rhode Island School of Design
Mary Ann Santos – 1990, 1991, 1992
Abstract Expressionism, Lenny Long – 1991
Victor Lara – 1992, 1993
Boston Museum School, Painting – 1989, 1990
BFA, University of Rhode Island – 1974

Galleries

ArtProv Gallery, Providence, RI – 2014-present
Copley Society, Newbury Street, Boston, MA – 2011-present
Providence Art Club, Providence, RI – 2007-present
Charlestown Gallery, Charlestown, RI – 2006-present
Townley Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA – 2013-2016
LGOCA, Laguna Beach, CA – 2015-2016
Diana Levine Gallery, Boston, MA – 2010-2015
Bego Ezair Gallery, Madison Ave., NYC – 2011-2012
Bego Ezair Gallery, Southampton, NY
Bego Ezair Hotel-Gallery, Greenport, NY
Courtyard Gallery, Mystic, CT – 2008-2012

Selected Exhibitions

Solo Show, ArtProv Gallery, Providence, RI – Aug-Sept 2018
Solo Show, Providence Art Club, Providence, RI – May 2018
Four Group Exhibitions, ArtProv Gallery, Providence, RI – 2015-2017
LGOCA, Laguna Gallery of Contemporary Art, Laguna Beach, CA – 2015-2016

Solo Show, ArtProv Gallery, Providence, RI
– April-June 2014

Group Shows, Townley Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA
– 2013-2016

Annual Juried Exhibition, Newport Art Museum,
Newport, RI – Jan-May 2013, 2014, 2016

Solo Show, ArtProv Gallery, Providence, RI – June-July 2014

Solo Show, RISCA, Block Island Airport,
New Shoreham, RI – April-July 2014

Collections, Gallery Z, Providence, RI
– January-March 2014

Providence Art Club, Juried Members,
Charlton Goff Award, Providence, RI – February 2014

The Abstracts Show, Charlestown Gallery,
Charlestown, RI – May 2012

Engaging the Senses, Providence Art Club,
Large abstract paintings, Providence, RI – May 2012

Summer Summit, Bego Ezair Gallery,
Southampton, NY – June-August 2011

Summer Summit, Bego Ezair Gallery,
Greenport, NY – June-August 2011

Imago Gallery, Invitational, Warren, RI – January 2011

Solo Show, Atrium Gallery, One Financial Plaza,
Providence, RI – April-October 2010

14 Large Abstracts, Providence Art Club, *The Color of
Light*, Abstract paintings, Providence, RI – February 2010

Scenes of Rhode Island, Governor's juried show
– January 2009, January 2010

Members Show, Providence Art Club,
Providence, RI – June 2008, 2009, 2010

South County Art Association, Open juried and members
shows, Invitational, Kingston, RI – 2005, 2006, 2007, 2010

Abstract Painters Show, Charlestown Gallery,
Charlestown, RI – August 2006

Wickford Art Association, Juried abstract painting,
Wickford, RI – September 2005

Drawing in Charcoal: A Conversation Apart, Two-women
abstract drawing show, University of Rhode Island, Fine
Arts Center, Kingston, RI – October-November 1997

Subterra Gallery, Three abstract painters, Providence, RI
– July-September 1997

To Bloom in the Fire, Eight abstract painters (also acting
curator), Happy White Gallery, Barrington, RI
– September-November 1996

By Virtue of Excellence, Brown University, List Art Center,
Bell Gallery, Juried group show, National Museum for
Women in the Arts, Abstract painting, Providence, RI
– June 1995

Group Show, Fuller Art Museum, Brockton, MA
– April 1995

Group Show, Brown University, Sarah Doyle Gallery,
Providence, RI – March 1995

Juried Abstract Painting Shows, Warwick Art Museum,
Warwick, RI – October 1993, 1994

Anniversary Exhibit, Abstract paintings, Hera Gallery,
Wakefield, RI – June 1994

Paintings and Drawings, Vermont Studio Center,
Johnson, VT – August 1993

One-woman Show, Retrospective, photographs, film
positives, photo sculptures, Community College of
Rhode Island, Lincoln, RI – October 1980

Anyart Gallery, Three photographers show, Photographs
and photo sculptures, Providence, RI – May 1979

Photographs and photo murals, One-woman show,
Hera Gallery, Wakefield, RI – October 1977

Group Show, Loft Horizons Gallery, Photographs,
Providence, RI – May 1977

Space/Clay/Women, Ceramic show, mixed media, photos
on clay, Hera Gallery, Wakefield, RI – December 1976

Photographs, One-woman show, Hera Gallery,
Wakefield, RI – September 1976

Gallery Exchange Show, SOHO 20, New York, NY
– May 1975

International Women's Year, Rhode Island School of Design,
Woods Gerry Gallery, Juried show, Providence, RI
– November 1975

Photography Invitational, Anyart Gallery,
Warren, RI – October 1975

Awards

Charlton Goff Award, Providence Art Club, Juried by Peter Geisser, National Arts Education Association, Eastern Region Vice-President Elect – 2014

First Place, Providence Art Club, Juried by Andrew Raftery, Associate Professor and Former Department Head of Printmaking at RISD – 2010

Vermont Studio Center, Fellowship Recipient – 1986, 1993

Melissa Barbeau Grant, Intensive study at Center for Creative Imaging, Camden, ME – 1993

Publications

"Best of Worldwide Abstract Artists,"
Kennedy Publications – 2012

"Diana Levine Fine Art," Cybele,
Boston Design Center Magazine – 2011

"Bit of Inspiration," by Patricia Ann Chaffee,
Charlestown Press – September 2010

"Matunuck: Not Just a Place But a State of Mind, A
Collection of Interviews with Artists," by Sandy McCaw
– June 2009

"Painter Linnea Leeming Mixes Life and Nature to Create
Her Vision," *Smithfield Magazine*, by Douglas Hadden
– January 2009

"Drawing in Charcoal: A Conversation Apart," and Arts
and Culture Review, *The Good 5 Cent Cigar*
– November 7, 1997

"The Time is Now for Contemporary," by Bill Van Siclen,
Providence Journal – October 4, 1996

"Art Spotlight," by Bill Van Siclen,
Providence Journal – January 20, 1993

Career

Painting instructor:

Private Instructor – Summer 2011-present

Providence Art Club – 2009-present

South County Art Association – 2006-2011

Freelance prop stylist for advertising photographers:

Boston and Southern New England – 1999-2009

Photo stylist and co-owner, studio manager: Leeming
Studios, advertising photography studio in Providence,
RI – 1977-2005

Women's Advertising Club of RI,
Board of Directors – 1989-1991

Workshops Taught:

Nature Conservancy, *Abstract Landscape* – 2012

Providence Art Club, *Abstracting the Still Life*,
Two-day intensive – 2012

South County Art Association, Painting – 2006-2010

DeCordova Museum, Encaustic workshop – 1994

Hera Women's Cooperative Gallery,
Fine art photography – 1975

Johnson and Wales, Weekend College, Photography – 1973

Hera Women's Cooperative Gallery, Member – 1975, 1978

Freelance photographer:

Artists International – 1970-1977

RI State Ballet – 1970-1977



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HOURS

Check website for weekly hours