MARY-ANN PRACK

PORTFOLIO

“FINDING BALANCE“ study for large scale outdoor sculpture







A Delicate Balance / Becoming / Open to Belief



BEING IN THE ABSTRACT

SELECTED QUOTES

Mary-Ann Prack's sculpture evokes both the graphic excitement of Piet Mondrian and the soft figurative lines of Constantin Brancusi and Henry Moore. She is both sculptor and painter, expressing the human condition in form and graphic design. I invite you to meet each of these pieces, observe them, listen to what they have to say, take time to get to know them. Your life will be richer for it.“
Celia Cerasoli, Guest Curator of STANDING STILL IN THE ABSTRACT, Solo Exhibition, City Gallery at Waterfront Park, Charleston, SC

“Your work spoke to me the first time I saw it several years ago. What struck me first was the innovative way you approached the human figure, in a somewhat abstract approach. Having a master's degree in ceramics and sculpture myself, I know the technical challenges you face with each piece and so I had (have) great admiration for that. Then of course your commitment to color in your work was the icing on the cake for me. Your work, in my mind, stands alone as a powerful personal statement and reflection of the singular path you follow.“
Ken Rollins, Owner of Ken Rollins Fine Art and past executive director of four Florida Museums of Art including the Tampa Museum of Art

"The figure has been the subject for sculptors since the beginning of human history, to interpret the figure in an artistically original way at this point in time is almost impossible. Mary-Ann has accomplished this. Her work is powerful from a distance, but the details make it quite exceptional up close."
John Henry, American Sculptor 1943-2022

M A R Y - A N N P R A C K — S T A T E M E N T

My sculptures explore the architecture of the human figure and reflect the joy of the human spirit. The transformation of raw clay into abstract figures that embody distinct human qualities and emotions is a process that continues to captivate me.

Supportively, my expressionist paintings ignite my creative energy, offering spontaneous and limitless possibilities. Layers of color and form suggest human, animal, and other life forces, blending fluid movement with geometric precision.

These artworks share a dialogue between structure and emotion, shaped by both architectural influences and the depth of human experience.



Sculpture details: The Shape of Color / Ouverture / Bubbles and Squeak



“FALLING INTO PLACE” acrylic + ceramic on cradled wood panel
24 x 24 x 1.in.

My series of 3d paintings intertwine the fluidity of paint with the tactile presence of ceramic elements, resulting in a dynamic fusion of two and three dimensions. Each piece conveys a depth of spirit and an architectural structure that invites viewers to explore the interplay between the elements of form, color, line and texture.

M A R Y - A N N P R A C K — B I O

Mary-Ann Prack was born in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. As a third generation member of an architectural engineering family, art and architecture were a strong component of her early life experiences and surroundings. Thus an appreciation of the arts was thoroughly instilled in her throughout her childhood. This richly creative environment became the essential basis from which Mary-Ann developed an appreciation, respect and love of art and her favorite period in art history — the Abstract Expressionist Movement.

Prack began her formal fine art education at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada and continued at the Art Institute of Ft. Lauderdale, FL and Florida Atlantic University, where she studied both fine art and interior design. Although Prack's interest and passion was always with fine art, she chose to practice interior design in order to make a living. By 1986 Mary-Ann was able to transition into creating art on a full time basis. She says, "It has been a challenge to balance the integrity of my artwork with the need to make a living. I feel I have not allowed my artistic growth to be compromised no matter what the circumstances nor challenges. I have been able to maintain my enthusiasm, commitment to high quality and focused energy that has been evident in my sculpture from the beginning."

Mary-Ann explains, "I was drawn to clay as a sculpture medium for many reasons, from childhood memories of modeling for my mother as she sculpted me in clay, to the discovery of its unlimited potential for creative expression and to the fulfillment that comes with having complete control over



every stage of the creative process." For over 40 years Mary-Ann has worked with clay as a pure sculpture medium. There is nothing traditional about her approach to or use of clay in terms of subject, design, scale or glazing techniques. Prack creates sculpture that is distinctive, precise, and with geometric purity of surface and form. She hand builds each piece using specially formulated clay that has a stone-like hardness, strength and consistency suitable for her large scale clay constructions. After bisque firing she glazes the surfaces and fires once again, and or uses cold-colors that are permanently sealed. The sizes range from approximately two to nine feet in height. Each of her sculptures are original and unique.

Prack began painting in 2004 after an illness briefly left her unable to do the heavy work sculpture requires. Since then painting has become as important to her artistic expression as sculpture. Though different in approach, the energy and artistic spirit is evident when her sculpture and paintings are experienced together.

Mary-Ann's home, studio and sculpture garden are located in the mountain community of Jefferson, NC.



“SEEING BEYOND” ceramic + steel
ASU - Turchin Center for the Visual Arts
Corridor Project — 2024 - 2026

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 Being in the Abstract - Sculpture + Paintings - Wilkes Art Gallery, Wilkesboro, NC
2019 The Shape of Color: Sculpture + Paintings by Mary-Ann Prack - Alamance Arts, Graham, NC
2018 The Shape of Color: Sculpture + Paintings by Mary-Ann Prack - The Imperial Center, Rocky Mt., NC
2015 Body Language - New Gallery of Modern Art, Charlotte, NC
2014 Standing Still in the Abstract - City Gallery at Waterfront Park, Charleston, SC
2013 Standing Still in the Abstract - ASU Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, Boone, NC
2012 Figures and Faces in the Abstract - ETSU Tipton Gallery, Johnson City, TN
2010 The Figure Anew - Hawthorne Gallery, Winston-Salem, NC
2009 Forms and Figures - Caldwell Art Center, Lenoir, NC
2007 Figures and Faces in the Abstract - Wilkes Art Gallery, Wilkesboro, NC
2004 Between the Eye and the Fire - Tyndall Galleries, Chapel Hill, NC
1992 Between the Eye and the Fire - Raleigh Gallery, Dania, FL

SELECTED TWO PERSON + GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 Figurative Art - The Naturalist Gallery of Contemporary Art, On-line exhibition, Washington, DC
2024 Alchemy of Abstraction - Harmony Unveiled, Carlton Gallery, Banner Elk, NC
2021 MONUMENTAL - ArtNXTlevel Sergio Gomez Curates, Chicago, IL
2021 OPENING Online Exhibition - ArtNXTlevel Sergio Gomez Curates, Chicago, IL
2021 REDis Online Exhibition - ArtNXTlevel Sergio Gomez Curates, Chicago, IL
2019 Drawing the Line - Florence Thomas Art School, West Jefferson, NC
2019 Abstractions - Florence Thomas Art School, West Jefferson, NC
2018 Sculpture + Paintings by Warren Dennis & Mary-Ann Prack - Carlton Gallery, Banner Elk, NC
2018 ArtMix - Florence Thomas Art School, West Jefferson, NC
2018 Outreach West - ArtMix - Women in Art - Foothills Arts Council, Elkin, NC
2017 ArtMix - Wilkes Art Gallery, Wilkesboro, NC
2016 Art You Love - InFocus Gallery, Greenhill Center for the NC Arts, Greensboro, NC
2016 ArtMix - Caldwell Arts Center, Lenoir, NC
2016 Distinct Voices from Around the World - Tyndall Galleries, Chapel Hill, NC
2015 Articulations - The Haen Gallery, Asheville, NC
2015 ArtMix - Ashe County Arts Center, West Jefferson, NC
2014 Alternate Realities Prack/Nichols - Wilkes Art Gallery, Wilkesboro, NC
2014 ArtMix - Fine Arts Center, Salem College, Winston-Salem, NC
2013 Some Wonderful Abstractions - Allyn Gallup Contemporary Gallery, Sarasota, FL
2013 Following Form - River Gallery, Chattanooga, TN
2013 Abstraction - Sawtooth School of Art, Winston-Salem, NC
2013 Winter Show - Green Hill Center for NC Art, Greensboro, NC
2012 Two Visions - Two Media - One Passion Prack/Nichols - Wilkes Art Gallery, Wilkesboro, NC
2012 ArtMix - The Jones House, Boone, NC
2011 50Fifty - Wilkes Art Gallery, Wilkesboro, NC
2011 ArtMix - Wilkes Art Gallery, Wilkesboro, NC
2010 All in the Approach - The Galleries, Cabarrus Arts Council, Concord, NC
2008 Prack / Trapp - Tyndall Galleries, Chapel Hill, NC
2008 Contours and Concourses - Prack/Durocher, Zenith Galllery, Washington, DC



“RAW SILK” ceramic with glaze + acrylic 31 x 16 x 9“

My titles are elusive, encouraging viewers to form their own opinions and emotional responses to my art. The metallic glaze looks like ‘raw silk’ and the words ‘raw silk’ subtly describe the sculptures emotional tone.



“UNPARALLELED UNIVERSE” acrylic on canvas 48 x 48 in.

In my vibrant, multi-layered abstract paintings, a world of possibilities emerge. Each composition is meticulously constructed with layers of color and amorphous shapes that evoke humans, animals, and unique life forms.



“YOKIMA” Ceramic 34 x 17 x 13 in.

“I hope people are inspired and uplifted each time they look at a sculpture or painting they have chosen to live with. I hope pleasure is found in the craftsmanship of my sculptures, the engineering involved, attention to detail, and precision of line work, glazing techniques and finishes. Years of experience are in each new sculpture I create. They have an energy and sense of timelessness with their own unique personalities. Ultimately I hope my art makes people feel good about humanity.”

Excerpt from my interview with Christy Birmingham-Reyes ‘When Women Inspire’ 1/18/23



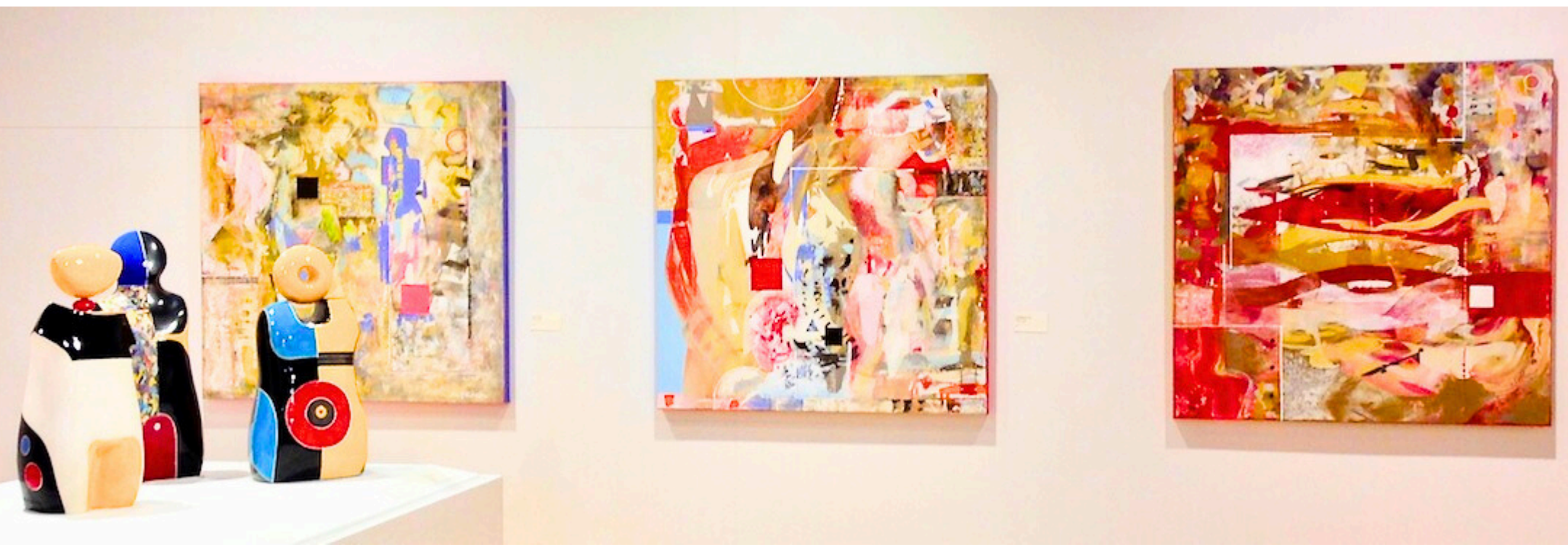
STANDING STILL IN THE ABSTRACT

Solo Exhibition - Turchin Center for the Visual Arts - ASU



M A R Y - A N N P R A C K — P R E S S

2023 **WhenWomenInspire.com/mary-ann-prack** by Christy Birmingham-Reyes
2022 **New South Finds meets Mary-Ann Prack,** by Author Linda Jerkins
2022 **Canvas Rebel Magazine meet Mary-Ann Prack** canvasrebel.com/meet-mary-ann-prack
2021 **The Art of Mary-Ann Prack** - Interview + Virtual Studio Tour, Sasse Museum of Art, CA
2021 **The Art of Mary-Ann Prack** - Catalogue - March 2021
2021 **Art Talks Zoom Edition:** Artists Chess Brodnick, Mary-Ann Prack, Sasse Art Museum,CA
2021 **Mary-Ann Prack - Guest Artist** - Season 1 Episode 12 - Thought Row Podcast 3/5/21
2021 **27 Brilliantly Creative People,** Thought Row Podcast Rod & Inci Jones
2018 **The Shape of Color: Sculpture + Paintings by Mary-Ann Prack** by Sergio Gomez, Amplified Art Network: Exhibition News, October 17, 2018
2015 **New Gallery of Modern Art : Two New Exhibits in Uptown Charlotte,** Mark Hames Observer, May 9, 2015
2014 **Sphere of Influence**, Artist Mary-Ann Prack brings her sculptures, paintings + drawings to City Gallery at Waterfront Park, by Kathleen Curry, Charleston City Paper, April 2014.
2014 **Kindred Spirits - Mary-Ann Prack & Tunde Afolayan Famous**, by Jeff Eason, Blowing Rock, July 17, 2014
2013 **Body Language - Mary-Ann Prack at Earls Court Gallery**, by Regina Haggo, Hamilton Spectator, Ontario, Canada January 4, 2013
2013 **Standing Still in the Abstract Exhibition** displays Ashe County Artist's scope of work, by Lovey Cooper, Senior A&E Reporter, February 25, 2013



REPRESENTATION

Anvil Arts Sculpture Garden & Gallery
Mirrorball Gallery, Tryon, NC
The Haen Gallery, Asheville, NC + Brevard, NC
The Carlton Gallery, Banner Elk, NC

COLLECTIONS

Sasse Museum of Art, Pomona, CA
SAS Institute, Dr. Jim Goodnight, Cary, NC
Stanford Medical Center, Helen Bing Collection, Palo Alto, CA
Duke University Medical Center, Chapel Hill, NC
Private collections in United States and Canada

C O N T A C T

M A R Y - A N N P R A C K S T U D I O

431 Sunnyside Park Road, Jefferson, NC 28640

www.prackart.com / prackart@gmail.com



"Life as an artist is challenging. Yet, for me, there is nothing more inspiring, rewarding or meaningful than creating art and ultimately sharing it with others."

www.instagram.com/prack_art

www.linkedin.com/in/mary-ann-prack