



Judy Nimtz
Intermedium

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September 11 - October 9, 2021

GEORGE BILLIS GALLERY 

2716 S. La Cienega Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90034
310-838-3685 | www.gbgl.com

JUDY NIMTZ: INTERMUNDIUM

Intermundium: space between worlds.

In the summer of 2019, I traveled to Ireland for an extended painting trip, renting a cottage for a month on the rugged Sheepshead Peninsula in West Cork, and then driving the circumference of the island for more exploration and painting. Along with my husband, also a painter, I've been going abroad to paint for many years to focus on plein air. This trip was different: it was the first time where I planned on gathering inspiration and taking references for my figurative work.

In my figure paintings I veer from strict naturalism toward the poetic, emphasizing minimal environments, lost edges, and transparent passages. My flesh palette is purposefully high-key and desaturated giving my figures a marble-like sense of solidity while also embodying the ethereal. I hoped Ireland would evoke the poetic and ethereal imagery I seek in my work. My hopes were realized in the megalithic sites and the vast landscape of West Cork—I saw sleeping dragons in the stony hillsides, and felt I was straddling different ages when standing before the ancient stones. I returned with a bounty of references and studies from life to begin my work.

As I worked the long hours in the studio during the pandemic, these paintings of Ireland served as an escape from current affairs of the world, and at the same time forced me to think deeper about issues such as my identity. A smaller work, of a single standing stone for example, would serve as an escape—I loved to get lost in building up the textures layer by layer. Or I could escape into the ancient stone circles and imagine a connection to a culture long disappeared. Then there was me. I'm the person in all these figurative paintings, and I spent countless hours staring at myself. In past work I am just one of many muses for any given series, with the overall feeling always outweighing portrait likeness. I'm pretty good at separating me from my painted image, but this time it was harder. I found myself thinking more about my own identity – how I see myself vs. how the world sees me. I am of mixed race—neither fully in one world nor the other. I wondered if I would lose my culture when my mom (the clear link to my Chinese heritage) is gone. This brought me, in one painting, to incorporate her features into my own. In other works, I found my technique of obscuring the lines of the dress with overlapping clouds taking on new meaning, expressing the veiled complexity of who I am.

Ireland has always had a magical hold on me. Since I was young and immersed in fantasy books, I often pictured them taking place in lands that looked like Ireland. I'm one-fourth Irish, and though I wasn't brought up with a personal connection to that culture, it exerts a mythic pull on me. The hours spent creating this body of work has bridged my imagination with the actual power and beauty of this land.

Judy was born in Taipei, Taiwan and grew up in Hawai'i. While attending the University of Hawai'i she studied art as well as geology and Hawaiian studies where she expanded her love of nature and understanding of her home. She then transferred to the Art Institute of Southern California for a more formal art education. After receiving her BFA, she attended Cal State University – Fullerton's MFA program before completing her MFA at Laguna College of Art & Design. When Judy's not in her studio she combines her love of travel and art by plein air painting around the world, her native Hawai'i and adopted home of Venice Beach.





Intermundium, 2021

Oil on panel

37 x 23 inches



Kealkill Enshrouded, 2020

Oil on panel

16 x 24 inches



Boreas, 2021
Oil on panel
37 x 27 inches







Hireath, 2021

Oil on panel

30 x 68 inches



Temporária in Béarra II, 2021

Oil on panel

48 x 24 inches



Temporária in Béarra I, 2021

Oil on panel

48 x 24 inches

Private Collection









Prepare for Battle, 2021

Oil on panel

48 x 24 inches



Dragon Spine, 2021

Oil on panel

30 x 13.25 inches



Path to Drombeg, 2021

Oil on panel

18 x 12.5 inches





Flóra, 2021

Oil on panel

30.5 x 13.5 inches





Altar Wedge Tomb I-VI, 2021

Oil on panel

6 x 6 inches each





Ahakista Stone Circle, 2019

Oil on canvas board

7 x 5 inches

Private Collection



JUDY NIMTZ

Born

1973 Taipei, Taiwan

EDUCATION

2008 MFA - Laguna College of Art & Design, Laguna Beach, CA
2006 Figure Painting Workshop, Angel Academy of Art, Florence, Italy
2000-04 Post Baccalaureate, California State University-Fullerton, Fullerton, CA
2000 BFA - Art Institute of Southern California, Laguna Beach, CA
1996-97 University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021 Intermundium, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2018 *Littoral*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Seattle, WA
2015 *New Paintings*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Culver City, CA
2013 *Terra di Sienna—Paintings of Southern Tuscany*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Culver City, CA
2012 *How We See: The Process of Observation to Realization* (two person show with Kenny Harris), Pete and Susan Barrett Art Gallery, Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, CA
2011 *Transfixed*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Culver City, CA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2020 *The Cityscape Show X: Concrete and Sky*, George Billis Gallery LA, Culver City, CA
2020 *Women by Women: Depictions and Interpretations by Greater Los Angeles Women. Curated by Sharon Allitcotti with Curatorial Advisor Fatemeh Burnes, SoLA Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA*
2019-20 *Winter Salon*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Seattle, WA
2019 *Perennial: Pop-Up Exhibition*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2018 *Gesture*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Seattle, WA
2018 *The Figure: In Paint and Line*, Steele Gallery, Gage Academy of Art, Seattle, WA
2018 *The Cityscape Show VIII*, George Billis Gallery LA, Culver City, CA
2018 *Artwork from 29 Venice Artist from the @BeforeTheyGo project*, The Hångar, Los Angeles, CA
2017 *Liberty*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Seattle, WA
2016 *Identity - Method: Degrees of Separation*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Seattle, WA
2015 *Subjective Truths*, Carnegie Art Museum, Oxnard, CA
2015 *Observing Observing (a white cup)*, Prographica Gallery, Seattle, WA (curated by Eric Elliott, Michael Howard, Norman Lundin)
2014 Group Exhibition, Malaga Cove Library Gallery, Palos Verdes Estates, CA (curated by Sara Balough Designs)
2014 *Venice Made*, FABstudio, Santa Monica, CA
2013 *Wunderkammer: Miniatures & Curiosities*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Culver City, CA
2012 *Self-Possessed: Examining Identity in the 21st Century*, Koplin Del Rio Gallery, Culver City, CA
2012 *Visual Tales from Éire and England*, LCAD Gallery, Laguna College of Art & Design, Laguna Beach, CA
2008 *Contemporary Realist Painting & Drawing: 16 Graduates/19 Mentors*, Koplin Del Rio, Culver City, CA

- 2007 *The Storm Before the Calm: A Night of Music and Art*, Mamiya Theatre, Honolulu, HI
- 2003 *Contemporary Art and Design: Faculty Exhibition 2003*, Laguna College of Art and Design, Seven Degrees Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA
- 2001 *Faculty Collects Exhibition*, Ettinger Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA
- 1996 *Ka Moana Nui: The Vast Ocean*, Gallery 'Iolani, Kāne'ohe, HI

JURIED EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 *LCAD Alumni Exhibition 2019*, LCAD Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA
- 2015 *Figurative Movement*, Poets and Artists Online Exhibition, May 20 2015 Issue 63 (curated by F. Scott Hess)
- 2011 *50th Anniversary Juried Alumni Exhibition*, Seven Degrees Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA
- 2006 *Laguna College of Art & Design Alumni Invitation Exhibition: 45th Anniversary Celebration*, Seven Degrees Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA

RESIDENCIES

- 2015 Borgo Finocchieto, Artist-In-Residence, Siena, Italy
- 2013 Borgo Finocchieto, Artist-In-Residence, Siena, Italy
- 2012 Monteverdi, Artist-In-Residence, Tuscany, Italy
- 2012 Borgo Finocchieto, Artist-In-Residence, Siena, Italy
- 2011 Borgo Finocchieto, Artist-In-Residence, Siena, Italy

TEACHING

- 2018 Laguna College of Art & Design, Laguna Beach, CA
- 2004 Portfolio Development Workshop at Windward Community College, sponsored by Laguna College of Art & Design, Kāne'ohe, HI
- 2004 Art Teacher assistant 1-5th graders, Le Jardin Academy: College Preparatory School, Kailua, HI
- 2002 Laguna College of Art and Design, Laguna Beach, CA

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

- 2017 Artist Talk, Ryman Arts, October 29
- 2010 Artist Talk with Kenny Harris, Jon Swihart Artist Slideshows, January 16

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