

PRESS ADVISORY

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L to R: "Dog Walking" by Lance Corey; Jewelry Design by Deborah Dudley Max; "Reclining Nude" by Malcolm Blair

Corey/Blair/A Partial Portrait Opens at the Art League of Long Island July 13

Corey/Blair/A Partial Portrait opens with a reception on Friday, July 13, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Jeanie Tengelsen Gallery of the Art League of Long Island and runs through July 29th, when there will be a closing reception from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. This exhibit features the paintings of Lance Corey and his friend, Malcolm Blair, whose works share a similar artistic sensibility, experimentation and abandon—both joyous and ferocious. They will be joined by another friend, jeweler Deborah Dudley Max. Together their work, full of light and delight, captures the mood of the season.

With degrees in communication arts from Notre Dame, philosophy and theology from Truman State University, and history and international relations from LIU, along with two Fulbright scholarships to study in Egypt in 1988 and China in 1993, Lance Corey brings to his art a formidable intellectual grounding. His work experience ranges from lifeguard and broiler-man to house painter, gas station attendant, chauffeur and real estate agent, including twenty-two years teaching world history and geography in NYC schools. Primarily self-taught, inspired by pictures in his mother's magazines, Corey started painting in oils at the age of eight and was copying Rouault and Modigliani by age eleven. He has been influenced by the Impressionists, the Post-Impressionists, the Fauvists, Matisse, Picasso and Jackson Pollock. Not interested in a refined technique, his style is, as he puts it, "my own", coming from his heart and mind and informed by his life experiences and insights. A number of his paintings have been exhibited in the Art League's gallery over the years as part of its juried Long Island Artists exhibitions.

Malcolm Blair also discovered his love for art early in life and has sacrificed a life of comfort and security for that of the proverbial artist, struggling to survive day-to-day, sometimes by doing carpentry, other times by clamming in Great South Bay. Studying briefly at both the Art Students League and Pratt Institute, Blair turned to experimenting with different media and techniques, becoming a master printer in the process. While Blair also is mostly self-taught, Charles Entenmann, of the Entenmann baked goods family, sent him to Paris in the early 1980's to absorb whatever came his way. He did just that, as will be evident in the hints of Picasso and Matisse in the works on exhibit.

Like Corey and Blair, Deborah Max also showed an early interest in art, and her jewelry shares the spirit of inspiration and invention of the two painters. In her case, inspiration comes from nature—primarily the sea; and her invention springs from playing with various materials like clay, glitter, glass beads and her collection of oddments with various textures.

After studying at the School of Visual Arts in New York, she illustrated comic books, created murals, exhibited paintings, and worked in interior design. Her work as an illustrator led to a commission by the Island Nation of Palau to design a series of postage stamps based on seashells indigenous to the area. Her research for the project found its way into her subconscious and emerges in the design of her seductive necklaces and brooches evocative of seahorses, sand dollars, limpets and other forms of sea life.

The Jeanie Tengelsen Gallery is located at 107 East Deer Park Road in Dix Hills. The gallery is open to the public Monday to Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM and weekends from 11 AM to 4 PM. There is no admission charge. For more information call (631) 462-5400 or visit www.artleagueli.org.

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