



GOD IN THE ABSTRACT EXHIBIT SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2017

Metuchen, New Jersey (September 2017) - "GOD in the abstract," an exhibit of all abstract art, opens with a reception Saturday, September 23, 2-5 p.m. With refreshments donated by The Metuchen Inn and live music provided by the Westerhoff School of Music faculty, the free-and-open-to-the-public event is designed to appeal to a broad audience. The opening will be carried by [Facebook Live](#), and then be archived both on the Gallery FB page and on the gallery website, www.NailsintheWall.org.

From a total of 300 submitted works, 31 pieces were selected from 27 artists, both local and from places as far-flung as Hollywood and Placentia, CA, Kalamazoo, MI, Georgetown, TX and Wenatchee, WA to name a few. While the theme focused on GOD, and artists were invited to consider their work in that regard, once the art came before the guest jurors, two professionals invited to review the work and select which pieces would actually be included in the exhibit, it was all about identifying the best abstract art in that group.

During the jurying process, one juror remarked to the other, "You know, I'm not thinking at all about GOD in this process." "Neither am I," the other confirmed. "I'm just looking for excellent work that will complement each other and develop a great show!"

The Gallery Director agreed Linda LaStella, "That's what we had hoped for in asking you to jury...the artists themselves saw the "God connection"...now we want you to select the highest quality art."

"What I find interesting, though," commented Gallery Director LaStella, "is now that all the work is selected, I do find a very clear 'point of view about God' that comes through in both the individual selections and in the show as a whole. I believe that reflects both the vision of the artists and, almost unwittingly, the vision of the jurors."

The exhibit includes work of every media, from bronze and glass sculptures to photography to painting as well as digital art. Since this exhibit marks the fifth anniversary of the gallery, the Board wanted to present a show that would invite its audience to stretch in its understanding of art. Abstract work is often shied away from as "not something people other than artists understand." In pairing that with the broad conceptual idea of GOD, the Gallery Board hoped the exhibit would invite viewers to really spend time, look long and dive deep, as it were, into the art.

Richard Light's male and female [totems](#) in bronze are among the few 3D pieces chosen. Sculptor Richard Light said, "For my totem series, I studied totems on five continents, including the Polish *rodnidze* totems, *dZi* beads in the Himalayas, the Catholic rosary, the Egyptian obelisk, and skyscrapers of today. Based on this, my definition of a totem is: an object that expresses the sacred values of the culture, and that binds its members together."

"GOD in the abstract" remains on view through December 31, 2017.

To learn more about the gallery, our mission, the kinds of exhibits and programs we have hosted in the past five years, visit www.nailsinthewall.org or call the Director, Linda LaStella 732.322.6512.