

RENAISSANCE:

Remembering the Future of the Gunnison Valley

The Quigley Gallery is pleased to announce the first exhibition of works by The Blue Thunder Circle ARTifactory, a subset of the greater South Main Gunnison Group.

“Renaissance: Remembering the Future of the Gunnison Valley” opens Friday, September 3rd and will remain on view until November. This is the third show in a trifecta highlighting the art history of the Gunnison Valley. The grand opening reception will be held on Friday, September 3rd from 5:00p.m. until 8:00p.m in correspondence with the First Friday ArtWalk.

“Renaissance” invites us into a mixed, creative zone working towards a collaborative culture of regeneration and revitalization within the Gunnison Valley. Blue Thunder Circle ARTiFactory, a collective based under the South Main Gunnison Group, facilitates a thriving community ecosystem providing networking opportunities and creating sustainable organizations that contribute to the Holonic Enterprise through artistic creation, educational workshops, and cultural festival production. As an introduction to Visionary Art, these works present and invite us to participate in the evolving contemporary movement. Visionary Art is an artistic practice aiming to transcend the physical world by portraying a wider version of awareness through spiritual and mystical themes. The Vision Train acts as a virtual and physical interactive art movement connecting the viewer to a collaborative global creative community striving to develop an inspiring and sustainable future.

Entering the gallery, the viewer is introduced to the visionaries and their microcosm and macrocosm plans for the Gunnison Valley beginning with their headquarters on South Main Street. Behind “Medicine Train” by Amanda Sage, a DNA strand represents cylindrical train tracks and the never-ending code for the universe that explores self-awareness to imagine the future through the past. Thus, encouraging us to reconsider something as iconographic as the train that once brought industry and expansion through the West, and bringing us to a further understanding of true sustainability and cultivation for the future. Within this Vision Train there is a drive to focus on the creative mindset fostered by visionaries that will shape the greater whole of society, leading to a utopia of love and enlightenment.

Olivia Jane’s empowering “Soul Retrieval” summons the divine feminine and calls for a greater spiritual awakening. In the middle of the gallery, Joe Bob Merritt’s sculptural piece “Feast Table” defined by upcycled and found objects, acts as an invitation to sit, and reflect on our subjective realities, and to develop those notions into ideas for furthering the future. The adjacent collaborative pieces offer a discussion on what it means to expand an ever evolving future as a Holdon to the Holonic Enterprise: meaning each piece is holding onto itself while simultaneously holding onto a greater whole. The exhibit’s culmination is The Blue Thunder Group’s call to sit at the interactive Vision Train station where thoughts materialize through drawing, and guests can connect to a global network of artists via Zoom to express our own meta-narratives and visions for the future.



JOE BOB MERRITT

Joe Bob Merritt is a professional Re-Creation-All-ist and a practitioner of Spirit-U-All-Material-All-ism, an Artkitect, and community conspirator functioning within an on-going life-design project called South Main Gunnison – a live/work habitat developed by Merritt on a revitalized industrial ground in Gunnison, CO.

He is currently special-eye-zing in the master crafting of therianthropic vision-air-y beings, transitive portals, and is active in the development of multi-disciplinary art-i-factories designed to facilitate explosive growth in the culture of the creative.

His large scale drawings, paintings, and sculptures often read like inter-dimensional diagrams or interstellar maps.

As a poet, designer, builder, sculptor and painter he expresses an easy interplay between the 2D and 3D.

Joe Bob is particularly interested in the intersection of the visual arts, mindfulness, and creativity.

He believes that art making provides one with innumerable opportunities to develop sensory clarity, strengthen concentration skills, and cultivate powers of equanimity.

Certainly, the efforts that we as artists make in the cultivation of these skills contribute to the possibility of having direct experiences of freedom from mechanical conditioning and habitual re-actions, thus increasing the probability of intelligent, response-able, and creative activity in the midst of everyday life situations.

<http://josephrobertmerritt.com>

<http://southmaingunnison.com>

Socials:

IG: <https://www.instagram.com/josephrobertmerritt/>



AMANDA SAGE

Amanda Sage is an artist driven to contribute to the development of regenerative culture by using painting as a tool for transformation within the individual and collective.

Besides lecturing and teaching transformational painting workshops, her work has been exhibited in galleries, art fairs, museums and festivals worldwide.

Passionate about artistic social experiments, her endeavors are focused towards building, facilitating and participating in platforms designed to experiment and explore creative solutionary activism within community.

<https://www.amandasage.com>

<https://www.amandasagecollection.com>

<https://www.visiontrain.org>

Socials:

<https://www.instagram.com/amandasageart/>

<https://www.facebook.com/amandasageart>

FB / IG: @amandasageart



OLIVIA JANE

My work reflects the love I have for the wild, for mystery, anthropology, and psychology.

Throughout my life I have been influenced by a multitude of cultures and religions, ultimately weaving my own unfolding story.

Our uniqueness is a vital part of diversity on Earth. I aim to uplift and celebrate contemporary activists and draw attention to their causes.

My work praises re-wilding, not only of the environment but of our souls.

My mission is to convey my awe for life, and to inspire others to live their own authentic truth.

<https://www.oliviajaneart.com>

<https://www.instagram.com/oliviajaneart/>

TOM CROSS

Tom Cross. Colorado resident. Born 1950. Life long artist. Painting, tattooing, drawing, costume, Doppelgänger, wood, glass, clay, stones, bones, photos, words, pit painting, geoglyph, URSUS cologne, Thermo-suck tubes, dance, Lemo-napalm drink, petro-glyphs, cave painting, Hair piece, puppets, satellite dishes, shopping cart gallery, clothes, water fountains, “ no guns, now what”(Erasurehead”), tipi painting, close friend of HUESO de Perro (famous Lucha Libre), and more. Love

<https://tomcrosssmartist.com>

<https://www.instagram.com/tomcrossgalleryfb/>

<https://www.facebook.com/hueso.deperro>

BRIAN STEWART

Brian Stewart's work expresses the versatility of steel and reaffirms its relevance in popular design. Through his Strive Art Company in Gunnison, Colorado, Brian continues to garner recognition for his innovative residential features, commercial furniture, and exterior signage.

<http://www.striveart.com>

<https://www.instagram.com/striveartco/>

MARIA MERRITT

The art I create grows from my inner child and my evolving relationship with myself. I love to borrow from the earth and hint at the wonderful nature which surrounds us. I grew up part-time at South Main Gunnison, surrounded by all the inspiring visionaries and artists who stopped by throughout the years. As I walk through my life, the stories and images of South Main follow me and remind me not only to create art but to do so with great joy and purpose in my heart.

<https://www.instagram.com/mariamakescoolstuff/>

JEFF MICHALEK

ULF wetplate photographer and Rawlins Oil Process printer, husband, stepdad, carpenter, sailor, and wrangler of one fussy chihuahua.

<https://www.instagram.com/blackarcherphoto/>

CURATED BY:

WCU M.A. in Gallery and Museum Management Students

Alejandra Nanishi

Alexandra DeBenedictis

Madelyn Arriaga

Rachael Stubbs

Sarah Cichon

WCU M.A. in Gallery and Museum Management Faculty

Jeff Erwin

Dr. Jeffery Taylor

EXPERT CONSULTATION:

Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum

Tiffany Fairall

Colette Pecenka

Frank Gonzales

Royal Museum for Central Africa - Belgium

Dr. Mathilde Leduc-Grimaldi

SPECIAL THANKS:

Exhibition Assistance

Liska Blodgett

LORDSCIENCE UNIVERSAL (David William Jones)

Videography

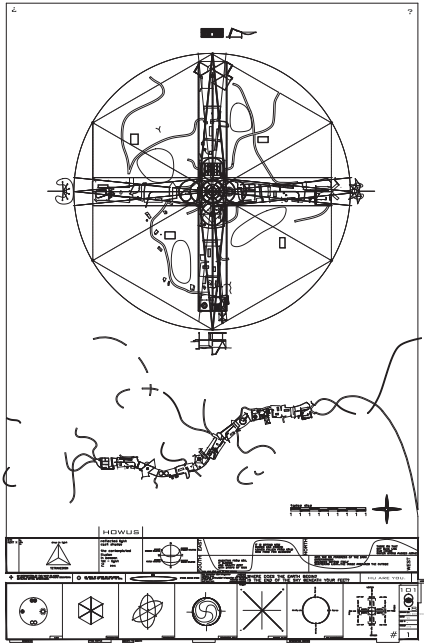
Dr. Bernadette Salem

Website | quigleygallery.com

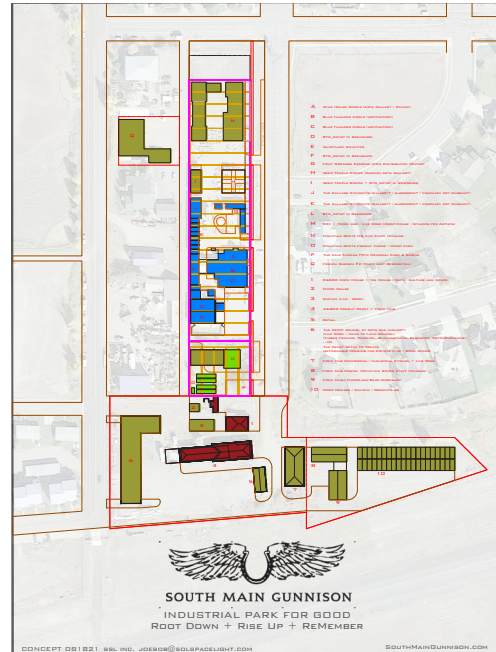
Bailey Backus



Round Trip through Matter-Reality
Dr. Bernadette Salem
Videography and Documentary
2:50 minutes
August 2021



Architecture of Remembrance
 Joe Bob Merritt
 Print
 H: 48in W: 36in
 1995
 \$500



South Main Gunnison
 Joe Bob Merritt
 Print
 H: 48in W: 36in
 2021
 \$500



Mind Field
 Joe Bob Merritt
 Mixed Media Collage
 H: 48in W: 36in
 2012
 NOT FOR SALE



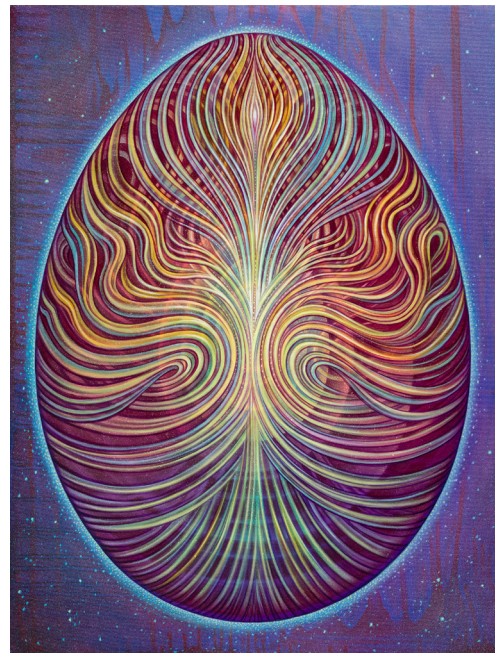
Him
Amanda Sage
Oil on Panel
H: 20in L: 16in W: 1 1/2in
2020
\$2,000



Her
Amanda Sage
Oil on Panel
H: 20in L: 16in W: 1 1/2in
2020
\$2,000



Healing
Amanda Sage
Giclee print mounted on wood
H: 30in L: 24in
2016
\$500



Freedom
Amanda Sage
Giclee print mounted on wood
H: 30in L: 24in
2016
\$500



Receiver
Olivia Jane
Mischtechnik on panel
H: 16in L: 12in W: 1 1/2in
2018
\$1,600



Mycellia
Olivia Jane
Oil on Panel
H: 20in L: 16in W: 1 1/2in
2020
\$2,000



Soul Retrieval
Olivia Jane
Oil on Panel
H: 31 1/2in L: 25in W: 3in
2020-2021
\$4,500



Pearl
Olivia Jane
Oil on Canvas
H: 30in L: 24in W: 1 1/2in
2016
\$2,000



Transformation 2020
Amanda Sage
Acrylic on Canvas
H: 20in L: 16in W: 1in
2020
\$3,333



Sonic Bloom
Amanda Sage
Giclee on Canvas (Print)
H: 32in L: 24in W: 1in
2019
\$400



Regeneration
Amanda Sage
Giclee on Canvas (Print)
H: 36in L: 24in W: 1 1/2in
2012
\$450



Cloud Nine
Amanda Sage
Casein and oil on canvas
H: 14in L: 11in
2007
\$900



Visitation
Amanda Sage
Acrylic, casin and oil on canvas
H: 11 L: 14in W: 2.5in
2019-2021
\$3,000



Hu Art Thou
Joe Bob Merritt
Mischtechnik on Canvas Board
H: 23in L: 19in W: 2
2016
\$2,000



Medicine Train
Amanda Sage
Acrylic on Canvas
H: 40 1/2in W: 11 1/2in L : 52 1/2in
2021
\$5,000



Fire Keeper
Amanda Sage & Joe Bob Merritt
Acrylic, casein, and Oil on Wood
H: 48 1/2 in L: 24in W: 1 1/2in
2017
\$5,000



Remembering the Fall of Scythia
Amanda Sage & Joe Bob Merritt
Acrylic, casein, and Oil on Wood
H: 18in L: 22 1/2in W: 1 1/2in
2017
\$4,000



The Wind in the Meat
Amanda Sage & Joe Bob Merritt
Acrylic, casein, and Oil on Canvas
H: 24in L: 36in W: 1in
2017-2018
NOT FOR SALE



They gave me Wings to Fly
Tom Cross
H: 24in L: 20in
Acrylic on Canvas
1996
NOT FOR SALE



Being Thunder Blew
Tom Cross, Amanda Sage, Joe Bob Merritt, Maria Merritt
Acrylic on Canvas
H: 60in L: 48in W: 1 1/12
2019
\$5,000



Ssergorp Nacirema
Tom Cross, Amanda Sage, Joe Bob Merritt, Maria Merritt
Acrylic on Canvas
H: 54in L: 64 in W: 1 1/2in
2021
\$7,000



Dancing in the Garden of Forking Paths
Joe Bob Merritt
Mix Media
H:85in & w/o 50in W: 44in L: 31
2008
\$4,000



Towards
Brian Stewart (Strive Art Co.)
Sheet Metal
H: 42in W: 20in L: 15in
2021
\$1,330



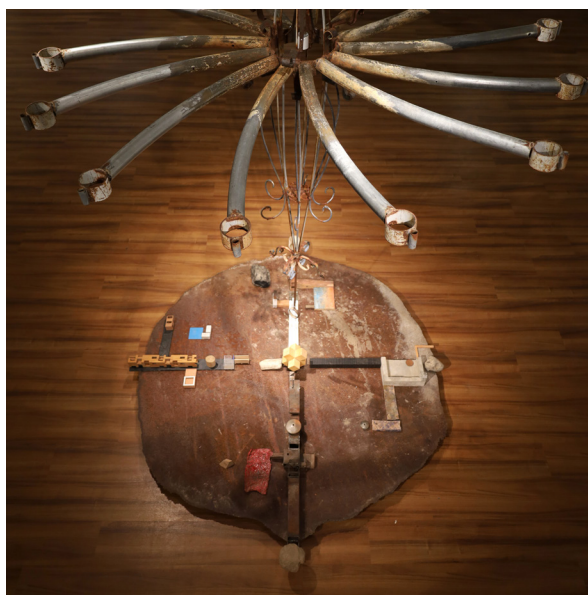
Altar Ego
Jeff Michalek & Joe Bob Merritt
Reclaimed Wood
H: 56in W: 14 1/2in L: 41in
2009
NOT FOR SALE



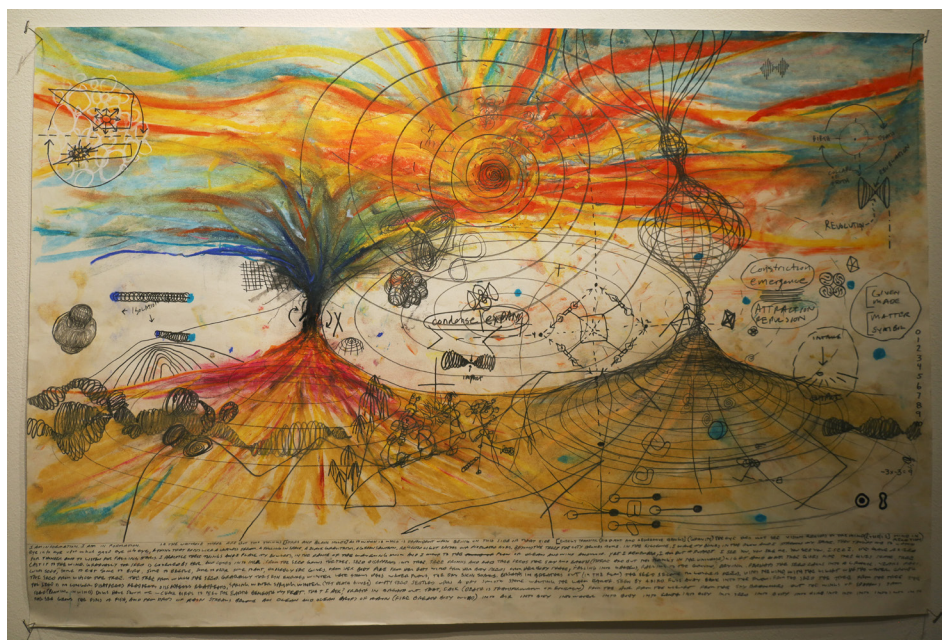
Mooring
Jeff Michalek
Wet plate ambrotype, Photography
H: 12 1/2in L: 10 1/2in W: 1 1/2in
2014
NOT FOR SALE



Deer Dream
Joe Bob Merritt
Pen on Paper
NOT FOR SALE



Wind Horse House & Matter Make Meaning
Joe Bob Merritt
Assorted sizes and materials
1969 - present
NOT FOR SALE

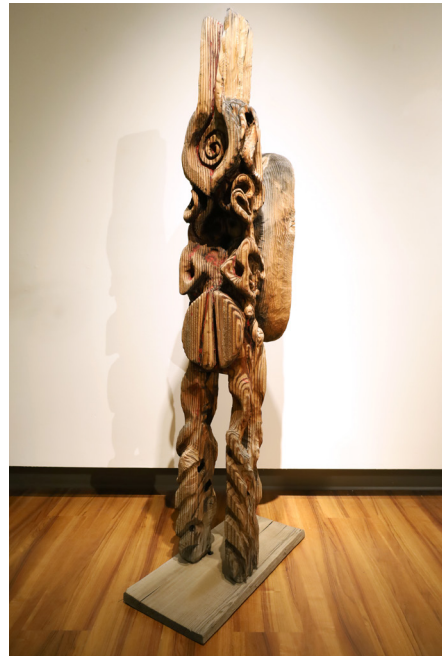


Conspiracy
Joe Bob Merritt
Mix Media on Paper
H: 23in W: 35
1993
\$500

For all sales and inquiries please contact info@bluethundercircle.com



Holy Mother Shrine
Joe Bob Merritt
Found Metal
H: 74in Diameter: 31in
2018
\$6,000



Grief Walking Holy Howus
Joe Bob Merritt
Wood
H: 67in W: 11in L: 25in
1999
\$5,500



Feast Table
Joe Bob Merritt
Wood
H: 32in W: 38 1/2 in L: 168in
2014
\$10,000