

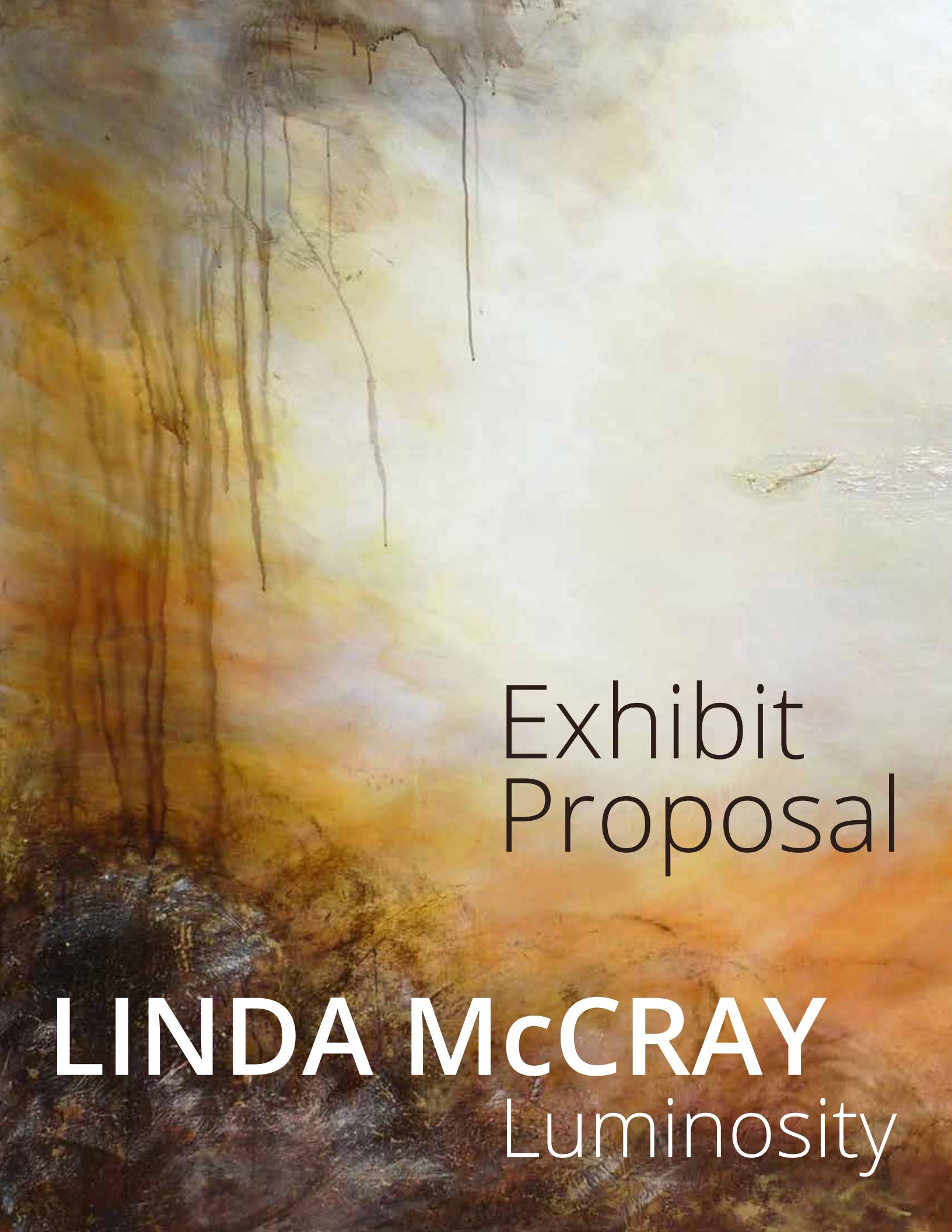
An abstract painting featuring vertical drips of dark brown and black paint over a background of warm, textured brushstrokes in shades of yellow, orange, and white. The drips are most prominent on the left side, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall composition is layered and expressive.

Exhibit Proposal

LINDA McCRAY
Luminosity

LINDA McCRAY

Luminosity

Exhibit Proposal

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CONTACT INFO

Linda McCray, MFA ■ Visual Artist based in Montana
406.439.2073 ■ LindaMcCrayStudio@gmail.com

LindaMcCray.com
Facebook, Instagram & YouTube @ Linda McCray Studio



Holter Museum of Art, Helena, Montana, 2020 Solo Exhibition

Description

LINDA McCRAY: Luminosity, features boundary-transcending abstract spiritual paintings by Montana-based artist Linda McCray. McCray's ethereal abstraction and soulful conceptual work brings up-to-date the oldest theme in art, the spiritual. While her provocative paintings have specific meaning to herself, McCray underlies her transcendent illuminations with cross-cultural sensibilities to ignite spiritual curiosity and unique experiences for all.

Our aspiration for this exhibition is for viewers to truly discover the profound significance of luminosity within McCray's vast array of paintings. Each of her conceptual paintings sparks the mystery of light in a visually distinct way.

Webpage

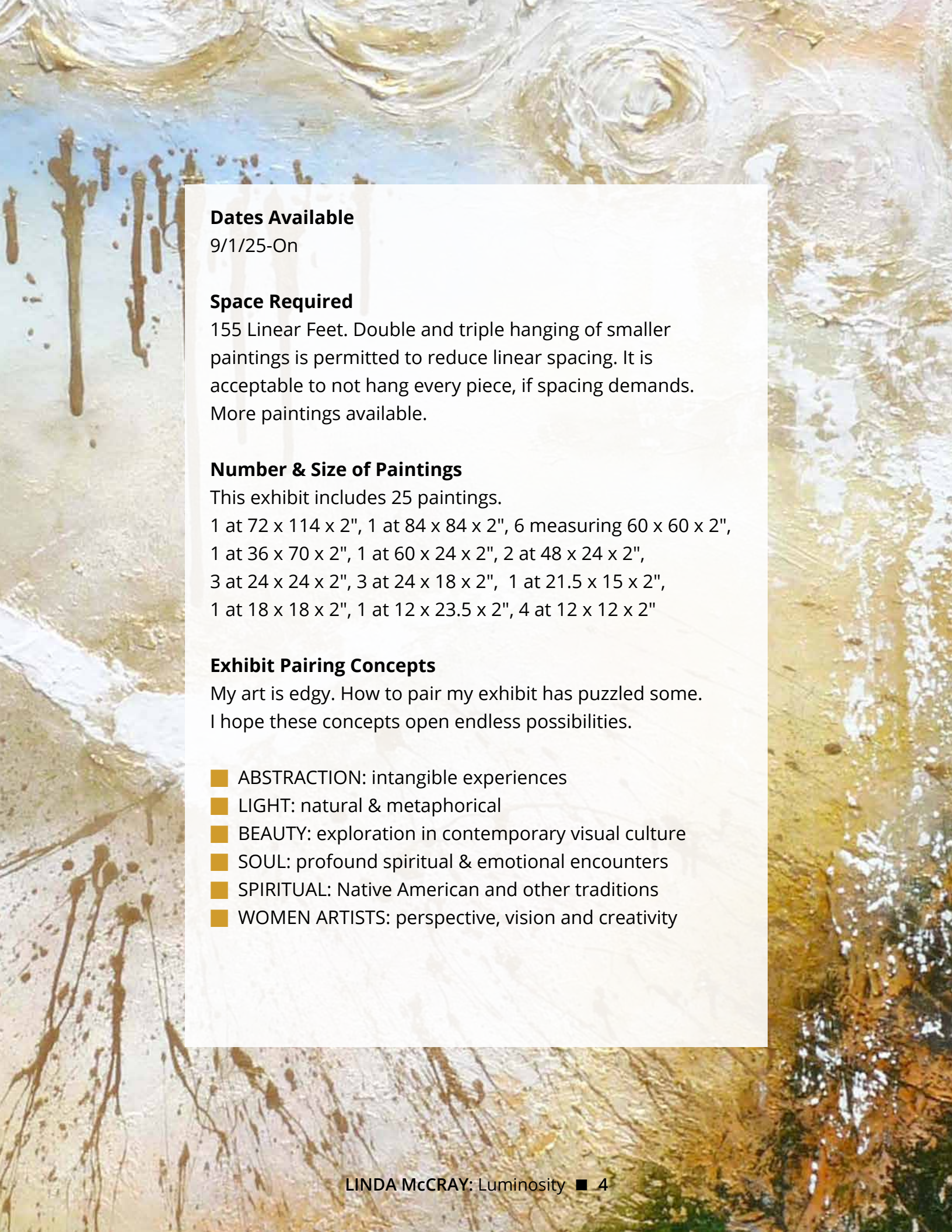
lindamccray.com/luminosity_exhibit.html

- Preview Video, 2-minute
- Catalog
- Artist Talk Example: Holter Museum of Art



Education

- Artist Talk
- Workshop: Abstract Painting—Expression & Appreciation



Dates Available

9/1/25-On

Space Required

155 Linear Feet. Double and triple hanging of smaller paintings is permitted to reduce linear spacing. It is acceptable to not hang every piece, if spacing demands. More paintings available.

Number & Size of Paintings

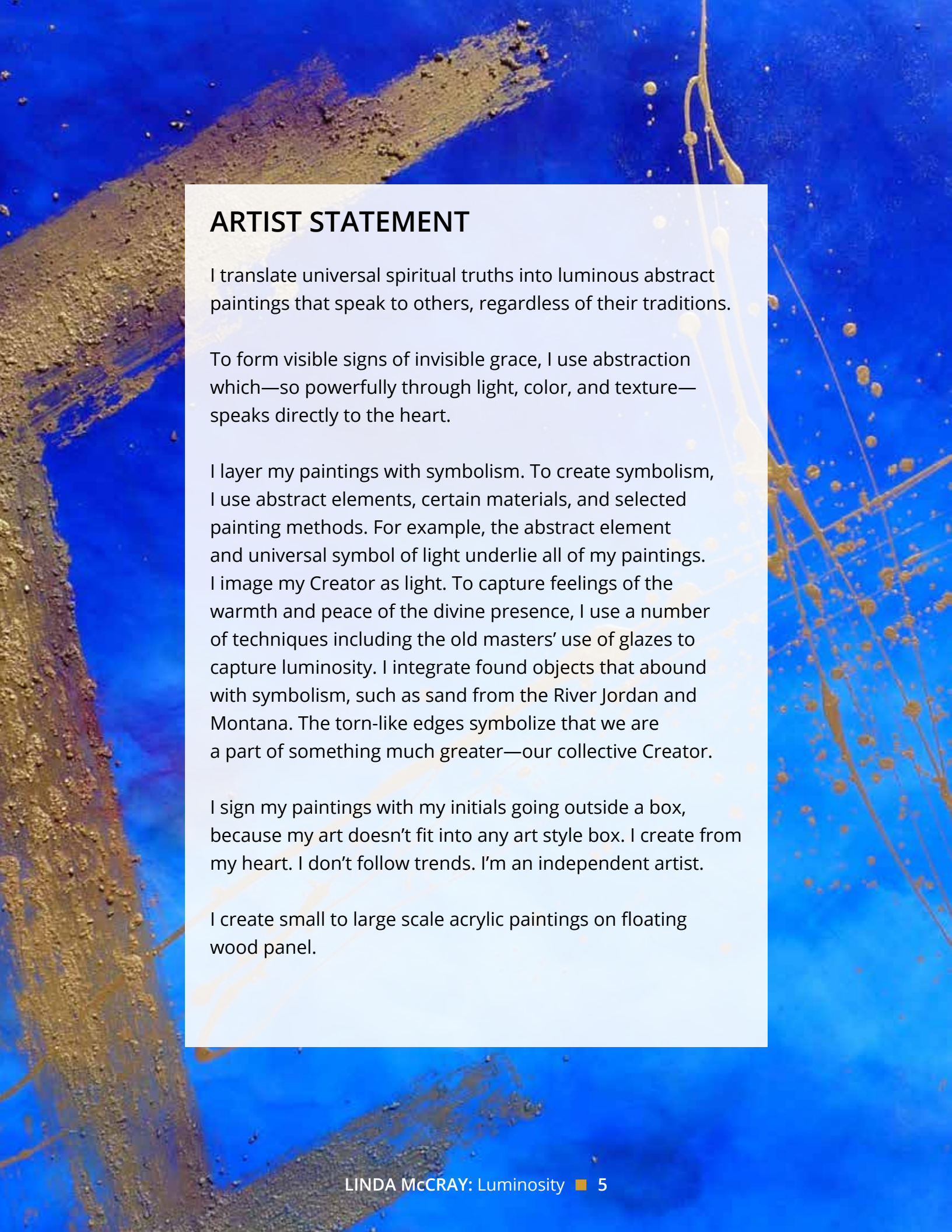
This exhibit includes 25 paintings.

1 at 72 x 114 x 2", 1 at 84 x 84 x 2", 6 measuring 60 x 60 x 2",
1 at 36 x 70 x 2", 1 at 60 x 24 x 2", 2 at 48 x 24 x 2",
3 at 24 x 24 x 2", 3 at 24 x 18 x 2", 1 at 21.5 x 15 x 2",
1 at 18 x 18 x 2", 1 at 12 x 23.5 x 2", 4 at 12 x 12 x 2"

Exhibit Pairing Concepts

My art is edgy. How to pair my exhibit has puzzled some. I hope these concepts open endless possibilities.

- ABSTRACTION: intangible experiences
- LIGHT: natural & metaphorical
- BEAUTY: exploration in contemporary visual culture
- SOUL: profound spiritual & emotional encounters
- SPIRITUAL: Native American and other traditions
- WOMEN ARTISTS: perspective, vision and creativity



ARTIST STATEMENT

I translate universal spiritual truths into luminous abstract paintings that speak to others, regardless of their traditions.

To form visible signs of invisible grace, I use abstraction which—so powerfully through light, color, and texture—speaks directly to the heart.

I layer my paintings with symbolism. To create symbolism, I use abstract elements, certain materials, and selected painting methods. For example, the abstract element and universal symbol of light underlie all of my paintings. I image my Creator as light. To capture feelings of the warmth and peace of the divine presence, I use a number of techniques including the old masters' use of glazes to capture luminosity. I integrate found objects that abound with symbolism, such as sand from the River Jordan and Montana. The torn-like edges symbolize that we are a part of something much greater—our collective Creator.

I sign my paintings with my initials going outside a box, because my art doesn't fit into any art style box. I create from my heart. I don't follow trends. I'm an independent artist.

I create small to large scale acrylic paintings on floating wood panel.



BIOGRAPHY

Linda McCray, MFA, is an American visual artist whose studio is nestled in the solitude of the Rocky Mountains of Montana.

McCray's luminous abstract paintings have been exhibited in the US and England; published in Belgium, Germany, Canada, and the United States; and are in public and private collections. Private collectors and organizations have commissioned McCray to create paintings that speak of their mission.

As an adjunct professor of art, she taught for Loyola University Chicago, The University of Mary, Helena College: The University of Montana, and Carroll College. She has lectured at art museums, universities, and conferences; written published articles for national magazines; served as art consultant; and been an artist-in-residence at the Holter Museum of Art.

She graduated cum laude from Washington State University with a BA in Fine Arts and the University of Montana with an MFA in Painting and Drawing.



Called to the Light

Through the fog of life, we are called to the light. Our difficult times are expressed by moody subdued colors, stormy abrasive textures and modern drip lines. Unclear luminous yellows, purples and blues speak of our uncertain times.

60 x 60 x 2 in.
Acrylic paint with sand from
the River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Glimmer of Grace

Light pours down on us, even in turbulent times. Bold brushstrokes thrust dark browns, golden yellows and gray blues into chaos. Splashes of gold paint symbolize the mystery of grace. The dark areas convey the stormy time. I textured these areas with sand from the River Jordan and Montana to remind us that we are on holy ground, wherever we are. The diamond shape does not sit on a stable side. It floats in motion.

84 x 84 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Passion to Pentecost

I symbolized five wounds with the abstract element of red drips of paint; resurrection with gold drips upward; and the event of Pentecost with a few white brushstrokes evoking a dove and the color red flaming down from above.

72 x 114 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from
Montana on floating
wood panel

Often old story-telling altarpieces lost panels and were restored with different found sections, thus the panels of this painting are designed to look randomly placed. The triptych format of three panels is a symbol for the Trinity, which came to be on Pentecost.



Family Tree of Oneness

Oneness of all is expressed through unified gold drip lines. Light is the core of our being, symbolized by a luminous tree trunk. Rich greens express life. The tree form can be read as a cross, which is often referred to as the tree of life.

60 x 60 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Rays of Peace

Bold white brush marks symbolize a dove, which in turn symbolizes peace. Modern gold drip lines flow from a field of blue and dove to express rays of peace reaching down to all of us, regardless of our traditions.

36 x 70 x 2 in.

Acrylic with sand from the River Jordan and Montana on floating wood panel

Inspired by Baroque art, I used gold and drama in abstract contemporary ways. Baroque art is known for its lavish gold and high drama.



Embraced in Spirit

Sweeping white textured paint forms a subtle abstract dove, a symbol for the spirit. We are all embraced by the spirit, which is conveyed by an encompassing elliptical mystical aura of light, blue and gold. Deep translucent blues immerse us in the cosmos and thundering gold directs us to the light.

48 x 24 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the River Jordan and Montana on floating wood panel



Body & Spirit

Our earthly body is portrayed with heavy textured paint grounded with sand from the River Jordan and Montana. The free flowing modern drip lines and droplets express our mystical spirit. The two entwine in wholeness. Transcendent blue gives way to sublime light.

60 x 60 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Following the Light

Following the light is an unclear path, conveyed through soft undefined shapes and subtle warm colors. Sometimes we meet challenging times, portrayed with dark green brashly painted. Light is with us through it all, symbolized by luminosity created with the old masters' technique of glazing.

24 x 24 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Replenish

Luminous spring green and light colors replenish worn opaque brown. In this glimpse of creation, our Creator is in both light and dark.

24 x 18 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Unexpected Blessing

Modern gold drip lines convey an unexpected blessing pouring out of the blue. Rough textured dark paint is highlighted in gold, expressing how through it all we are touched by the divine.

60 x 24 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the River Jordan and Montana on floating wood panel



In the Beginning

Light is revealed through pure mystical colors. Lively brush marks express spiritual nature or perhaps books opening. A circle of light symbolizes our Creator.

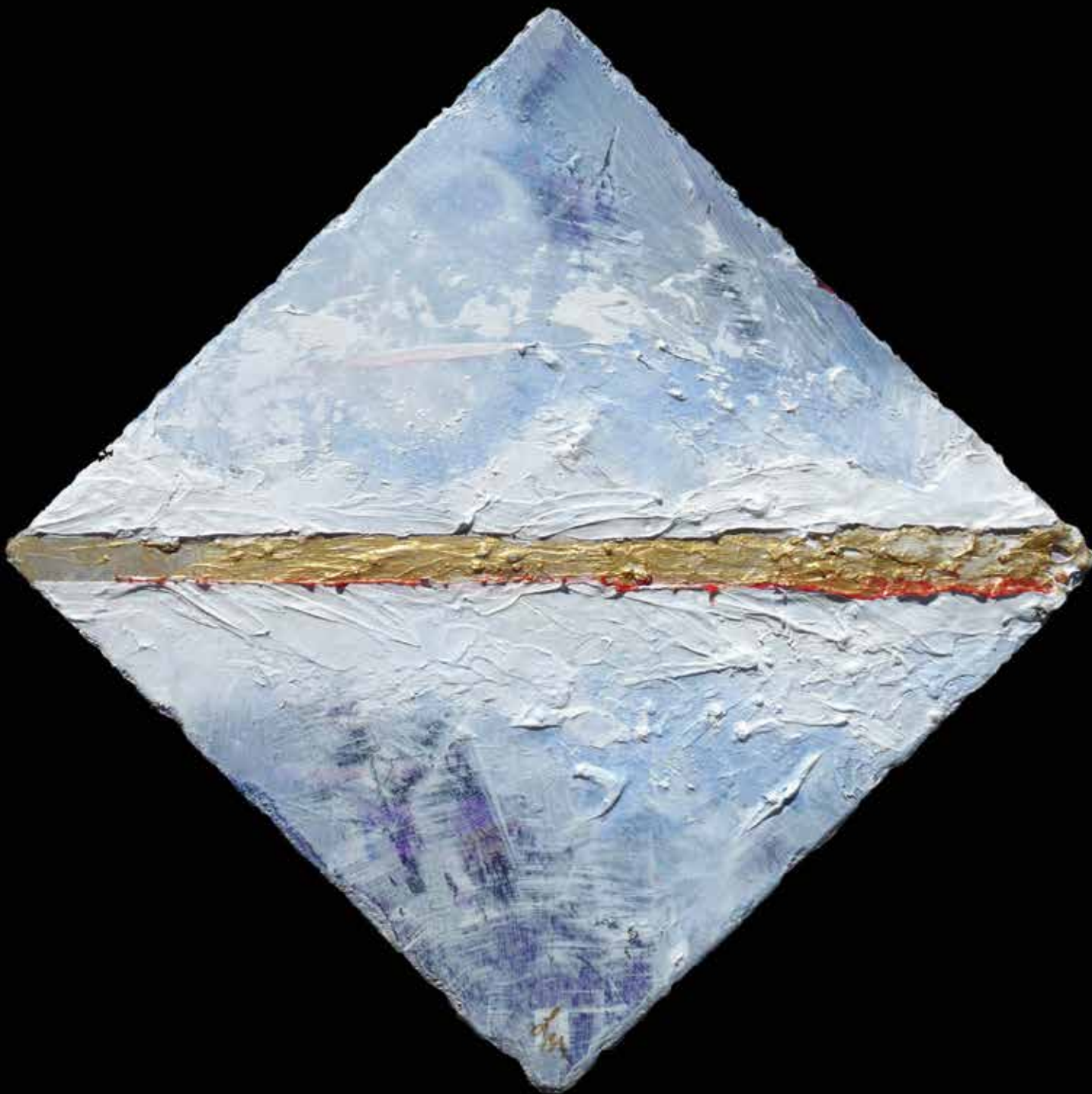
60 x 60 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Tent of Meeting

This painting portrays a place of gathering and connecting—physically and spiritually. The cloud is a symbol of the spirit leading us, in all the stages of our journey. The tent of meeting alludes to our flight as communities in mission, illuminated with glory.

21.5 x 15 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Healing Light

Whether we look within to our individual brokenness or outward to global division, light heals us. Through the depth of deep purples, to far reaching blue skies, rises divided thick cloud-like paint mended with gold.

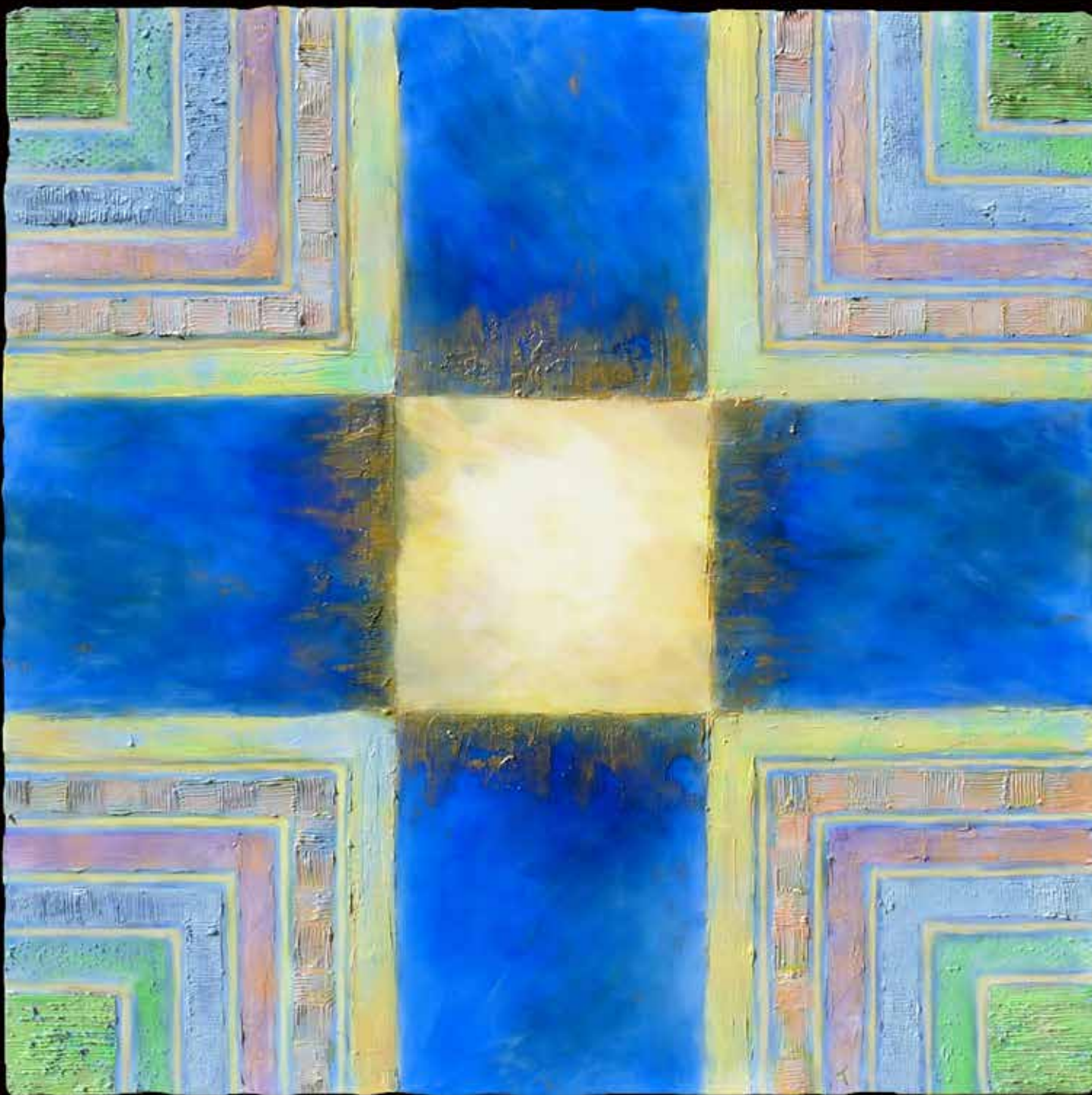
18 x 18 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Before & Beside

Light before us is symbolized by a circle enlivened with drips of paint. The central area background is rich with subtle blues and purples to express ethereal distance in front of us. Subtle yellows bring the sides forward to embrace us in light. The drips of gold are rays of light, here and now.

12 x 23.5 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Rivers of Love

The light of love emanates from the center and flows in all directions. Blue and light yellow lines express spiritual nourishment reaching all of us. Harmonious fields of unifying colors speak of diversity in our oneness.

60 x 60 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Always Hope

Darkness is conveyed through layers of translucent blue paint. Subtle crosses of gold, orange and green speak of our struggles. Always hope is conveyed through a stream of warm white and light yellow paint from above.

48 x 24 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the River Jordan and Montana on floating wood panel



In and Within

The mystery of our Creator all around us is symbolized by the freely painted outer circle. The dark green square speaks of our humanity and the small circle of subtle colors our inner light. Throughout the ages, circles have symbolized divinity and squares humanity.

12 x 12 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Dispelling Darkness

Divine gold and sky blue prevail and dispel darkness. Gloom is expressed through shattered muted purple and dusky green.

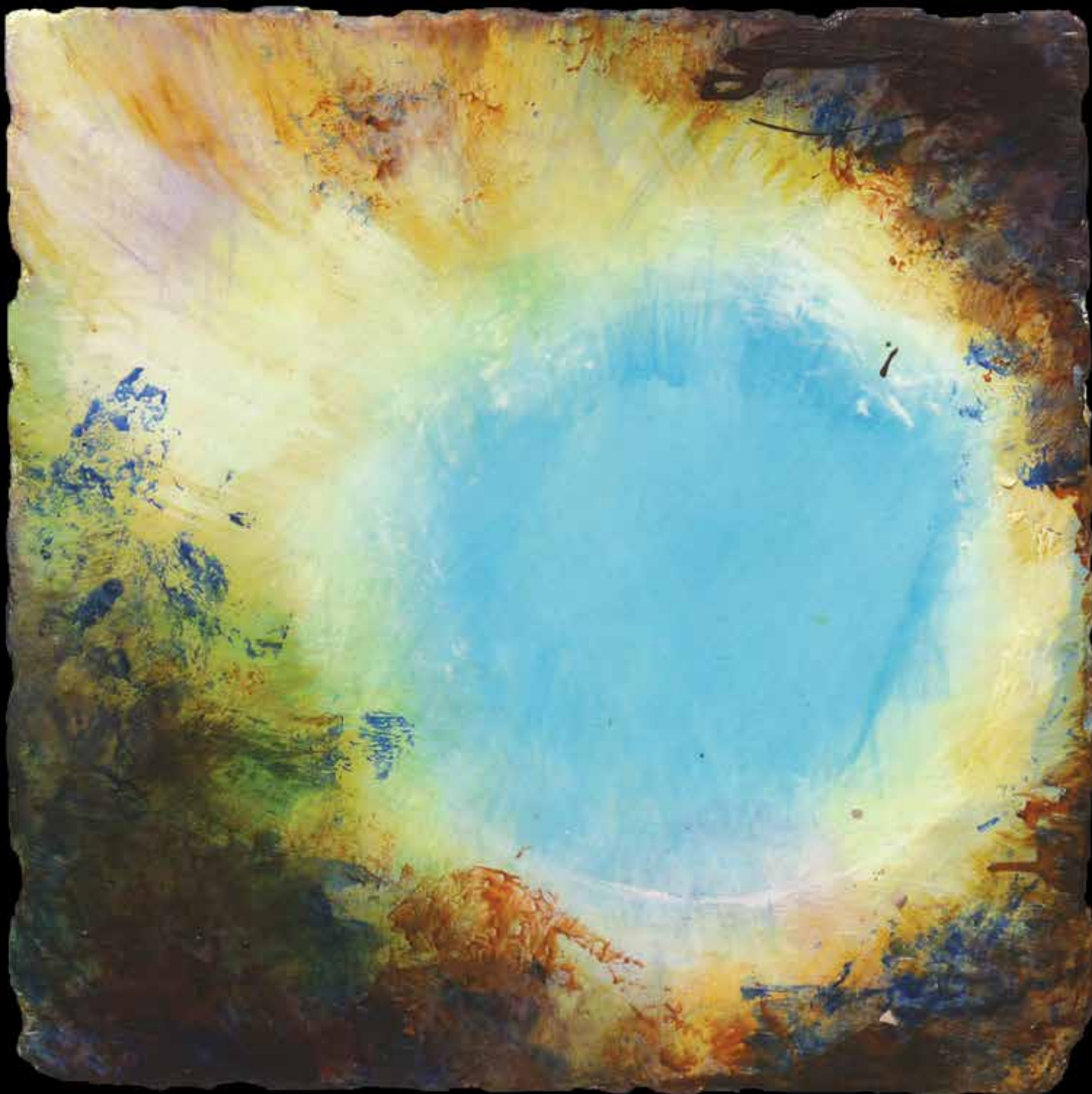
12 x 12 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Breath of Life

Breathing is vital—physically and spiritually. Vibrating curved shapes and levitating highly textured gold paint evokes the ethereal nature of the moment.

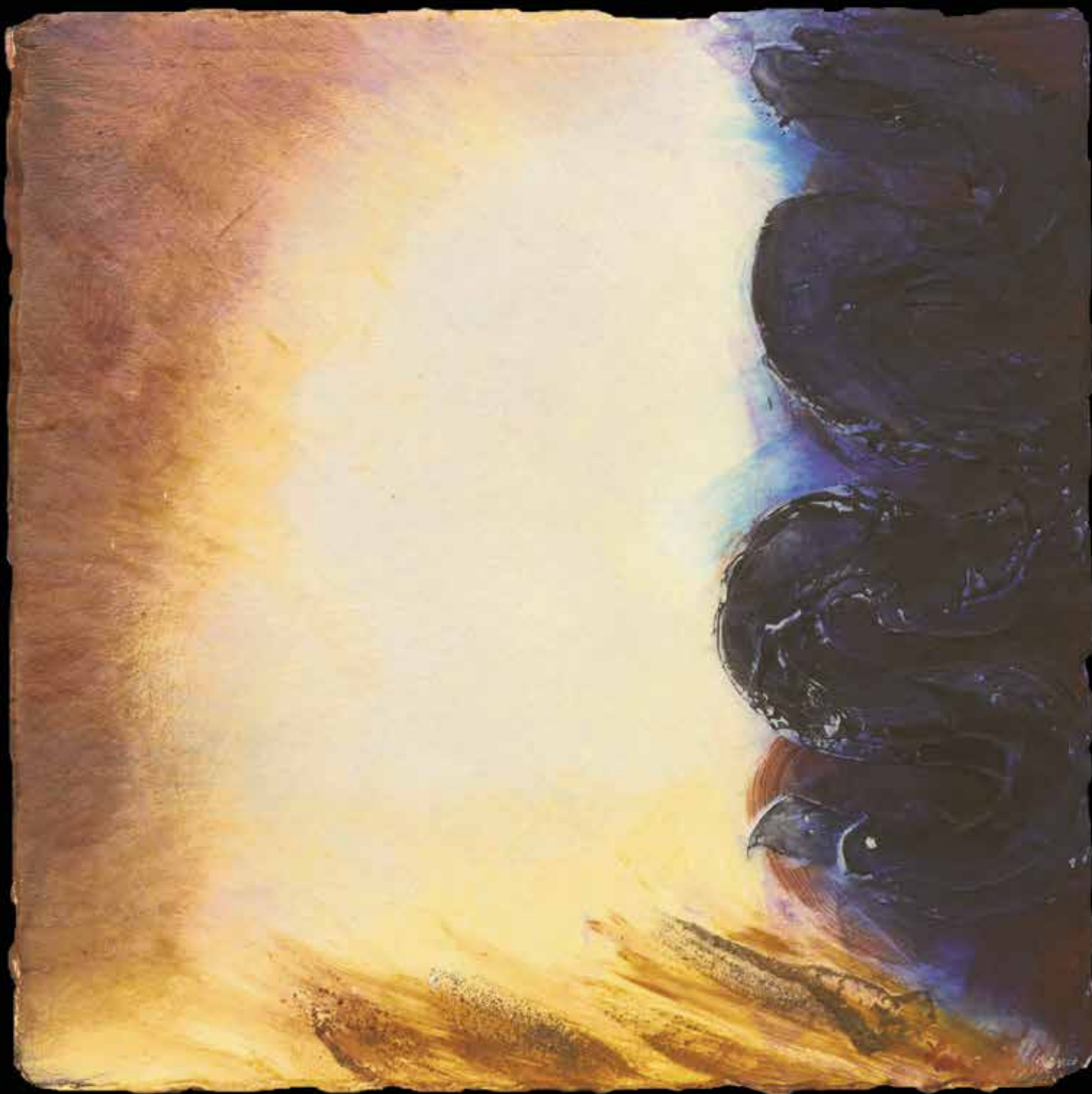
24 x 18 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Eyes Opened (Healing of the Blind Man)

The darkness of mud is being washed away and small pieces of clay fall in the lower right. The blue open area depicts a first glimpse of clear vision.

24 x 24 x 2 in.
Acrylic with clay from
Montana; and sand from
the River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Temptation

The spirit is conveyed through the abstract element of light and dark. Understated yellow paint intensifies the divine presence of light. Hidden in the deep blues and purples is thick paint in the form of a serpent, a metaphor for evil. Sand texture invites the viewer to follow the sacred path, even though it is lined with temptations.

24 x 24 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Transformation

As we are tossed about in the rough seas of life—we are transformed by chaos and find peace in knowing the light is always with us. An ocean of purple, blue and green are brashly applied and give way to smooth luminous light yellow and orange.

24 x 18 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel



Annunciation Moment

An enlightened moment is conveyed through a gold drip line shrouded in spattered paint. Overshadowing light is created with luminous layers of soft yellow paint. Rough dark colors are textured with sand from the River Jordan and Montana.

60 x 60 x 2 in.
Acrylic with sand from the
River Jordan and Montana
on floating wood panel

CURRICULUM VITAE HIGHLIGHTS

Full CV available upon request & at LindaMcCray.com

EDUCATION

Art Education

- 2007 The University of Montana-Missoula, Missoula, MT,
 Master of Fine Art in Fine Art: Painting and Drawing (MFA)
- 1981 Washington State University, Pullman, WA, Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art (BA),
 Cum Laude

Artist-In-Residence

- 2020 Artist-In-Residence, Holter Museum of Art, Helena, MT
- 2009 Artist-In-Residence, Blessed Trinity Catholic Community, Missoula, MT

SOLO EXHIBITIONS: SELECT RECORD

- 2023 *The Way*, The Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis, MN
- 2020 *Linda McCray: The Spiritual in Abstract*, Holter Museum of Art, Helena, MT
- 2019 *Linda McCray: Manna*, TWO Gallery in 1+1=1 Gallery, Helena, MT
- 2016 *Infinite Luminosity: Abstract Paintings by Linda McCray*, Holter Museum of Art,
 Helena, MT
- Linda McCray Retrospective: 5 decades of art at the Myrna*, The Myrna Loy Center's
 Jailhouse Gallery, Helena, MT
- 2009 *Agape: Abstract Spiritual Paintings of Love*, Carroll College, Helena, MT
- 2008 *The True Light*, Flatiron Gallery, Billings, MT
- Dust to Dust*, The University of Montana-Helena, Helena, MT
- 2007 *Aggiornamento: Opening the Windows*, MFA Thesis Exhibition,
 The University of Montana-Missoula, Missoula, MT
- Aggiornamento*, The University of Montana-Helena College of Technology,
 Helena, MT
- 2006 *Behind and Beyond*, Miles Community College, Miles City, MT

SMALL GROUP EXHIBITIONS: SELECT RECORD

- 2022 *The Bridge Between*, The Art Spirit Gallery, Coeur d'Alene, ID
- 2021 *Light*, 1+1=1 Gallery, Helena, MT
- Flight*, 1+1=1 Gallery, Helena, MT

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2014-16 Adjunct Professor of Art, Loyola University Chicago, Institute of Pastoral Studies,
 Chicago, IL

- 2010-15 Adjunct Professor of Art, The University of Mary-Bismarck, ND
 2007-14 Adjunct Professor of Art, Helena College: The University of Montana,
 Helena, MT
 2002-3 Adjunct Professor of Art, Carroll College, Helena, MT

PRESS: SELECT ARTICLES

- 2020 *Painting Toward the Light*, Marga Lincoln, YourTime: Independent Record,
 Helena, MT
 2012 *Painter's Work Mends Art & Spirituality*, Susan Olp, Billings Gazette,
 December 29, 2012, Billings, MT
On Art: Dust to Dust by Linda McCray, Lois Huey-Heck, The Christian Century,
 March 8, 2011, Chicago, IL
 2008 *The True Light: Abstract Spiritual Painting by Linda McCray*, Betty White,
 The Montana Arts & Culture Magazine, August/September 2008, Billings, MT

ART COLLECTIONS: SELECT LIST

- Holter Museum of Art, Helena, MT
 Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Helena, MT
 Montana Museum of Art and Culture, The University of Montana-Missoula,
 Skaggs Building, Missoula, MT
 Helena Regional Airport, Helena, MT
 The Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis, MN
 Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Leavenworth, KS
 Lake Burien Presbyterian Church, Seattle, WA
 Covenant Presbyterian Church, Austin, TX

JURIED EXHIBITION RECORD: SELECT LIST

- 2025 *Healing Through the Arts*, OH Art Foundation, Chicago, IL
Year of the Snake, Livingston Center for Art and Culture, Livingston, MT
 2022 *Creation*, Whitworth University, Gonzaga University and St John's Cathedral,
 Spokane, WA
 2021 *Unwrap The Creativity-25th Annual Small Works Invitational*, The Art Spirit Gallery,
 Coeur d'Alene, ID
 2019 *40th Annual Juried Exhibit: Traveling Collection 2019*, WaterWorks Art Museum,
 Miles City, MT
 2018 *Non-Objective Abstract National Exhibition*, 3 Square Art Gallery, Fort Collins, CO
Winter Wonderland, WaterWorks Art Museum, Miles City, MT
The Cross is our Theology, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO
All You Need Is Love, Montana Modern Fine Art, Kalispell, MT



- 2017 *Celebrating Color and Light*, Fredericksburg Center Creative Arts,
Fredericksburg, VA
- Confluence*, Waterworks Art Museum, Miles City, MT
- 2014 *Sacred Rhythms*, Art at the Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington, KY
- Celebrating Wyoming's Wilderness Traveling Art Exhibition*, Sagebrush Community
Arts Center, Sheridan, WY
- Concerning the Spiritual in Art*, Lynchburg Art Club, Lynchburg, VA
- 4th National Juried Art Show*, Sagebrush Community Art Center, Sheridan, WY
- 2013 *Invitational Salon Exhibition of Small Works*, New Arts Program, Kutztown, PA
- 2012 *Invitational Salon Exhibition of Small Works*, New Arts Program, Kutztown, PA
- Light & Shadow*, Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts, Fredericksburg, VA
- 2011 *Window to the Divine*, Madden Museum of Art, Denver, CO,
- Invitational Salon Exhibition of Small Works*, New Arts Program, Kutztown, PA
- 2010 *Invitational Salon Exhibition of Small Works*, New Arts Program, Kutztown, PA
- 2009 *Light Fantastic Exhibition*, The Main Street Gallery, Groton, NY
- Motivation: Behind Good and Evil*, Caladan Gallery, Cambridge, MA
- A Fine Line*, Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts, Fredericksburg, VA
- Invitational Salon Exhibition of Small Works*, New Arts Program, Kutztown, PA
- Powerful & Fragile Earth*, Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts,
Fredericksburg, VA
- 2008 *Invitational Salon Exhibition of Small Works*, New Arts Program, Kutztown, PA
- 2007 *Invitational Salon Exhibition of Small Works*, New Arts Program, Kutztown, PA
- Exploring Spirituality*, The Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts,
Fredericksburg, VA
- 2006 *Art Sagrado '06*, Concordia University, Austin TX
- 38th Annual Art Auction and Exhibition*, Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, MT
- Art Auction Exhibition*, Holter Museum of Art, Helena, MT

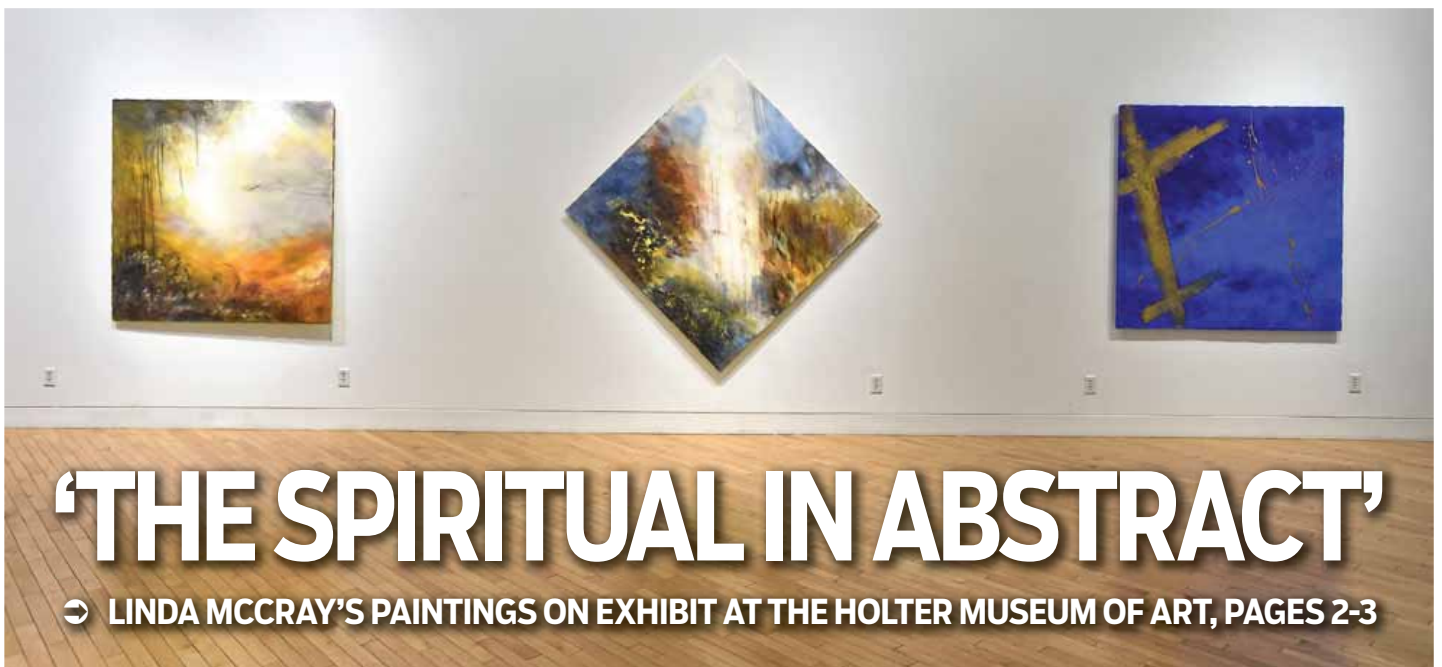
ARTICLE

Helena Independant Record

YOURTIME

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2020 | helenair.com

Weekend events, reviews, and more INSIDE



PAINTING TOWARD THE LIGHT

Linda McCray merges her art and spiritual life

MARGA LINCOLN
for the Independent Record

Light and luminosity. These are what painter Linda McCray makes the major foci of her works in her new exhibit, "The Spiritual in Abstract," at the Holter Museum of Art, which opened Oct. 2 and runs through Dec. 31 in the High Gallery.

McCray was in the midst of painting a series of miniature abstract sky and landscape paintings in 2004 — which she called her "Heaven and Earth" series, when she realized — "Oh, there's a lot to explore here."

It proved to be a major turning point for her art.

Previously, she had worked as a technical illustrator, created highly realistic pen-and-ink drawings and also abstract cityscapes.

"My spiritual life and my art life have always been incredibly important to me," said McCray. "It's really no wonder they would merge."

"When they did, it felt very valuable. You never have enough time for your art. You never have enough time for your spiritual life. So it was nice that they came together."

McCray has posted a virtual artist talk on her Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/LindaMcCrayStudio>.

McCray is doing a resi-

If you go

What: "The Spiritual in Abstract: Paintings by Linda McCray"

When: Oct. 2 through Dec. 31

Where: Holter Museum of Art High Gallery, 12 E. Lawrence

Contact: 442-6400, <https://www.holtermuseum.org/>

Exhibit hours: Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 4

Residency: noon to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, Oct. 6–24

Note: Face mask required

dency at the Holter from noon to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, Oct. 6–24. During this time, she will be creating four paintings she calls, "The Gospel Truths."

"They will be inspired by scripture," she said, "but taken to a universal level."

Visitors can watch her paint and ask questions, and she will be live streaming as she works.

She will also hold a panel discussion in November: The Spiritual in Abstract, re: how art and spirituality connect, bringing together



THOM BRIDGE PHOTOS, INDEPENDENT RECORD

Clancy-based artist Linda McCray talks about her artwork, recently installed at the Holter Museum of Art and on display through the end of the year.

history, art and spirituality. The time and date will be announced on her facebook page. (See box for details.)

McCray paints with acrylics on large 1/4-inch-thick birch plywood panels. Beneath the panel, she attaches a “hidden frame” that projects or floats the painting a couple inches from the wall, giving the works a more ethereal feel.

“I don’t do anything that’s not symbolic. I’m very concept-driven.

“Every one of my paintings has light because I image my creator as light.”

Even the paintings’ edges have meaning.

She intentionally roughs the edges of the paintings to make them look like torn manuscript pages that speak of history and tradition.

McCray applies her acrylic paint in many thin semi-transparent layers, using the old masters’ technique of glazing, which allows light to go in and bounce out of the painting, adding both luminosity and depth.

“Paint is made from pigment and a binder,” she explained “I use a lot more of the medium than the pigment.”

She also uses found objects — typically sand from the River Jordan and from Montana, which she incorporates into the texture of the paint.

She also likes a lot of gold. “Frequently, through the ages, gold has been used to express divinity.”

Although McCray is a devout Roman Catholic who finds that her religion informs her works, she sees her paintings as universal abstract spiritual expressions that aren’t limited to one religion or philosophy.

“While my paintings have spe-



McCray works live in the High Gallery of the Holter Museum of Art on Tuesday.



Clancy-based artist Linda McCray's artwork on display at the Holter Museum of Art.

cific meaning to me,” she said. “I hope they ignite spiritual curiosity and invite the viewer to reflect on what is dear to their heart.”

Panel discussion

The Spiritual in Abstract: How Art and Spirituality Connect, bringing together history, art and spirituality. The November time and date will be announced on her facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/LindaMcCrayStudio>.

Panel members include: Hipólito Rafael Chacón, Ph.D., the Bruce and Suzanne Crocker Director of the Montana Museum of Art & Culture and Professor of Art History & Criticism in the School of Art at the University of Montana-Missoula; Reverend Edward Hislop, M.Div; MA Liturgical Studies, served as Diocese of Helena Director Office of Worship, Chair Diocese of Helena Liturgical Commission, and Chair National Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commission; and McCray, who earned a Master of Fine Arts at UM, is a Visual Artist and a former adjunct professor of art.

In a gallery interview last week, she spoke of a nearby work, “Unity: Opening to One Another.” The large painting in the entry to the gallery shows a luminous white orb floating against a dark sky or universe.

Within the white sphere, quick, gold strokes depict architectural roof lines of all the major religions — Buddhism, Islamism, Judaism as well as Christianity.

“My goal is these are symbolic of all traditions.” The broken lines are also open lines, “speaking of one people — one huge community of life.”

“I believe the best art comes from the artist’s heart and moves to the universal,” she said. “I’m starting from my tradition. Then as I sit

with it, it becomes more universal. And that’s what’s important to me — what we have in common, rather than what we don’t.

“One of my goals is to aggiornamento sacred art,” she said. “Aggiornamento was a buzzword in Vatican II meaning to bring up to date.”

Years ago, when she first delved into spiritual painting, McCray realized it was a lonely path not taken by many contemporary artists.

She recalled the words of a friend, Sister Rita McGinnis, SCL, who observed, “There may not be a niche for you. You need to create one.”

They are words she took to heart.



LETTERS OF REFERENCE

Chris Riccardo

The Omerta Arts Syndicate
800 Front St.
Helena, MT 59601
criccardo1968@gmail.com

3rd April, 2024

To whom it may concern,

My name is Chris Riccardo and I am writing this letter of reference on behalf of Linda McCray. I am a professional artist and former executive director of the Holter Museum of Art in Helena, Montana from 2016 - 2022.

During my tenure at the museum I had the distinct pleasure of viewing numerous exhibitions pass through our galleries, each leaving its own

impression on me. One in particular has always stuck with me and that is the work of Linda McCray. I admired Linda's work prior to her Holter exhibition, and always wondered how she created the incredible feeling of energy and light in her work.

To answer my question we approached Linda with the idea of her creating large paintings directly in the gallery and from this her exhibition and artist in residence, *The Spiritual in Abstract*: was born. Visitors had the unique opportunity to view completed works on display, but also view and interact with the artist at work. This is not a creative atmosphere that every artist would be comfortable in, but Linda adjusted to the unusual situation and managed to engage museum visitors with her vision and beautiful new paintings.

I personally find myself struggling to understand the meaning of our internal "light" or "energy", but when I look at Linda's work I always feel a sense of power emanating from her paintings. I couldn't tell you whether or not I am a "spiritual" person, but again, when you stand in front of her pieces, there is a

If you are considering exhibiting Linda's work, I would highly recommend you do so, she is an absolute professional and wonderful person. I am honored to call her a friend.

If you have any other questions please feel free to contact me @
Criccardo1968@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Chris Riccardo

December 6, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great pleasure the I write this letter recommending artist Linda McCray, with whom we have worked with her for several years.

I have been honored to know Linda for over two decades now and have in recent years had the pleasure of showing her work at my gallery. We have represented just over 20 works by Linda and have hosted her as a featured artist in the fall of 2022. Her works were received by our audience with overwhelming praise and excitement.

Linda's work translates universal spiritual truths into abstract paintings that speak to others, regardless of their own personal traditions. We found our audience bring their own tales and spiritual meaning to each of the works – and were moved to find that someone could so beautifully illuminate their emotions.

As Linda worked to finish her collection for the Fall 2022 exhibit, she displayed outstanding attention to detail, not just in terms of her own paintings, but also in terms of how her paintings might be situated among other pieces to be displayed in the same show.

Linda is a thoughtful and conscientious artist who shows incredible concern for the reception of a gallery's entire show, not just her own individual contributions. I encourage you to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information. I can be reached by the above mailing address, phone number and email address.

Sincerely,

Blair Williams
Owner,
The Art Spirit Gallery
415 East Sherman Avenue | Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
208-765-6006 | www.TheArtSpiritGallery.com

Commissioner, Idaho Commission on the Arts
Board Member, Idaho Humanities Council



March 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to have this opportunity to provide a letter of recommendation for Linda. She is a friend, a fellow professional artist, and a deeply spiritual seeker of beauty.

I was first acquainted with Linda about 12 years ago as a member of a committee responsible for the environmental ambiance of a new skilled nursing facility under construction. Linda was a consultant for the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. Her responsibilities were threefold:

1. She was asked to create three original works that would give testimony to our Community's history, spirit, and mission.
2. To act as Curator – selecting from hundreds of our members' past and present art works.
3. To frame and install all of the original work in a manner that would encourage a sense of peace, beauty, and welcome in the new living space.

The two years that Linda worked on this project required several road trips to and from her Montana studio and back to our Leavenworth site. I found her always open to suggestions, engaged, thoughtful, and visionary. She was delightful to work with. We could not be more pleased with the entire process and the results to this day.

I continue to follow Linda's career. Her painting style is abstract and at once realistic. It invites me, and I believe others who view her work, to a deep integral spiritual connection – a soul connection. I encourage you to seriously consider Linda's proposal. I assure you it will be a blessing.

Sincerely,

Sister Pamela Hinkle, SCL

Thank you!



LINDA
McCRAY
Studio, LLC