I have always been a creative person, studied and received a degree in Fiber Arts and worked as a textile print designer in the apparel business in Los Angeles for 20 years. My real education started in 2009. I started painting and I haven’t stopped. I became so focused with my work and developed a discipline to practice every day. After a couple of years of devoted practice I saw improvement. The point is I was not a natural painter. I really had to work at it and found I loved the discipline I put on myself to grow as a painter.

I work with watercolors and gesso, acrylics with oil, pastels with inks or all of them put together. I am an experimenter. I create my own substrates using vintage linens or painting on ledger paper. I also paint on more traditional substrates such as watercolor paper and canvas.

I am now devoting much time to oil painting. My work is very expressive and although I have had classical training years ago that hasn’t really been in my practice the past couple years. I am devoting some of my creative time to hone those skills once again and apply them in my own expressive way.

I teach online as well as studio classes. I teach all over the United States, here are a few venues - Random Arts, Saluda, NC, Donna Downey Studio, Huntersville, NC, Art and Soul, Portland, Virginia Beach, Art Unraveled, Phoenix as well as private workshops. I am getting ready to go to Italy to teach a one week workshop. My passion is focused on the creative process and I am as passionate about teaching as I am at creating art.

I sell my work on my website as well as at all teaching venues.

To learn more about me, visit me at:
www.fracturedangels.com
www.fracturedangels.blogspot.com
facebook.com/katethompsonartist
https://www.etsy.com/shop/fracturedangelsart
Marie Ndolo

I am a mixed media artist originally from Czech Republic but living in London for the last 15 years. Art has always been a big part of my life. Even as a child I remember spending hours on end drawing all the plants from our small flat we used to live in. I studied Art and Design in a Ceramic college back in my country. It was a really good platform for me to learn how to draw, paint and understand art history. However, I properly started to paint when I came to London. Here I took further art classes and greatly expanded my skills. I also discovered airbrushing that straight away became one of my favourite art techniques. There is a spiritual feel and context in most of my paintings. I have always been trying to understand life on a spiritual level and I try to express my knowledge, experiences and understanding of it in my paintings. Many of my recent paintings express sleeping, dreaming or contemplating women. That's because I often want to express internal feelings, hope, light and magic of life. I love colour and I use it in my art to enhance healing properties especially in my abstract and floral work. Apart from painting I am also a Kundalini Yoga teacher and a very busy mum of two gorgeous 9 and 11 years old daughters. Autism of my older daughter set me and my husband on a self-discovery journey that led me to start supporting mums with special needs children through yoga as well as through art. In 2017 I'll be teaching Therapeutic Art Journaling classes for mums and dads with special needs children. To learn more about myself and my artistic journey please, visit my website www.mariendolo.com https://www.facebook.com/marie.ndolo?fref=ts

Alissa Millsap
Alissa Millsap, born of a carpenter, has dreaming and creating in her blood. She is a light chaser, a seeker of the small, and a lover of silence. One would most often find her exploring the back country roads or in her studio creating a sculpture or a painting of the views she has been inspired by. She lives on the prairies of Nebraska with her farmer husband, their funny and creative daughter and their dog Harley.

www.admillsapstudio.com
https://www.facebook.com/ADMillsapStudio/?pnref=lhc

Robynne Engel-Pirkle

Robynne is a prolific mixed media artist, specializing in the use of vibrant color and illustrative work, in a free-spirited style, punctuated with skillful details.
She began creating art at a very young age, as she comes from a family full of artists and designers.
Her art is in several private collections, as well as, her Gallery, “Robynne’s Nest Artworks”, nestled in the Blue Ridge mountains of North Georgia, only 2 hours north of Atlanta.
Robynne has a BFA in Illustration from SCAD (Savannah College of Art and Design).
Robynne’s soulful artwork speaks to the spirit, as well as, the eyes. Her art is often described as whimsical, spirit-filled and colorful. Whether depicting portraiture or animals, her work is uplifting and joyful, and reflects her deep love and observation of nature and life experiences, often infused with her quirky sense of humor. Robynne loves to share her years of creative experience with other budding artists, and you can often hear her telling gallery guests "anyone can paint, you just have to try"!
http://rnestartworks.com/
https://www.facebook.com/robynnee.engelpirkle?fref=ts

Kelly Berkey
Kelly Berkey is a classically trained oil portrait and figurative painter. She has spent many hours painting alongside a few of our modern masters, Stanka Kordic, Romel de la Torre, and Michelle Dunaway. Each of them have had an incredible influence in her work.

Kelly lives with her husband of 30 years in the countryside of rural Missouri and owns the Bohemian Soul Studio located beside a meandering creek and 10 acres of trails full of wild flowers and fauna.

To read her blog or view her work, please visit:

kellyberkey.com

Lucy Chen

Years and years of negatively-geared self-abusive comments and behaviors (often disguised as high-achiever and perfectionism) had drifted me away from my core inner self. Until one day I found myself in the hospital’s emergency room. But it was when I was cracked open, the light finally got in and awakened me to this truth: It’s only when we can love ourselves fully and completely, that we are able to give and receive love unconditionally and non judgmentally. It’s only when we become self-full with Divine Love, that we are able to love and inspire others from a place of wholeness instead of self-depletion.

I’m grateful that I was given the mission and talent to help women realize self love through my commissioned portraits and art classes.

http://lucychenfineart.com/course
https://www.facebook.com/lucychenfineart/?pnref=lhc

Tina Naya’li Berendsohn
I am an artist, a dance therapist, and mother of a 17 year old son. I am currently studying art at FIU Hamburg/Germany.

My process of painting is a lot about allowing the subconscious to express. I tend to seek the raw and instinctive path. The human figure with its gestures, human emotion and relationship are my strongest inspiration. Working as a dance therapist refined my perception of physical expression, sensing the emotion, the trauma and the potential behind movements. I believe art can become a strong messenger for the subconscious, a path of healing, expressing all aspects of life. I am drawn to intense colors, lots of layering and abstraction. I get excited when I don’t quite know how a painting is going to evolve, actually I like to be surprised by my own creation.

http://www.nightblueart.com/
https://www.facebook.com/Nightblue-Art-592512230803080/?pnref=lhc

Galía Alena

light chaser ✯ wanderlust gypsy ✯ clay slinger ✯ paint splasher ✯ word crafter ✯ sacred journaler ✯ beauty unveiler ✯ soul feeder

I’m a beauty unveiler, light huntress, moment caresser and visionary poetess working with photography, painting, journaling, tarot reading and whatever else sings to my soul. Ultimately, all of my work is about helping people peel back the layers to experience the intense beauty of each moment allowing access to both their intuitive wisdom and a deeper connection to spirit and self. I’m in love with the creative process and consider myself a visual poet working in just about any medium I can lay my hands on although I am a professionally trained photographer and a so called “self-taught” artist. I live in the insanely beautiful Blue Mountains, just shy of Sydney, with my family, our cat and all the winged ones who frequent our garden. Each day here is a wondrous delight of tiny miracles through either the glorious light or magical mists.

http://www.galiaalena.com/
“It’s never too late to start painting – indeed it is vital and adds depth and meaning to one’s life.”

After a lifetime of putting my family first, I greeted myself in the mirror one morning – not a good look- and told myself to swallow my fear and insecurities and to start painting. Time is running out for me, how much longer was I going to put off my art practice. I wanted to start painting for me, from my heart, with no agenda, just to see what would happen. Sounds so simple. Immediately the ego scorned me with a critical laugh: “You - an artist! Ha ha!!”

I am not art school trained, however my appreciation of art spans decades, from childhood, through high school, where I usually topped art, into adulthood. During my wife, mother, grandmother times, I occasionally found time to nurture my creativity though community classes in drawing, printmaking, glass engraving and in Folk and Decorative Art. I taught Folk and Decorative Art here in Australia and Overseas, for 10 years. I was often scoffed at by “real” artists, however the skills I learnt during that time, gave me a very strong foundation in handling all my tools. I will share some of those in my lessons.

I also studied Transperonal Art Therapy, which gave me a sense of turning inwards to create art. This was helpful in my “responses to my surrounds” which I will also share with you.

I currently teach primary school children, with my daughter, during all school holidays. We teach from my studio. I am also in the middle of a 12 month art residency, during which time my art practice is developing in ways I could not have imagined. I have learnt about having a strong commitment, about just arriving and doing the work. I also love running “Expressive Art” groups, oh they are such fun, we learn a lot about ourselves and have fun creating.

So how does one actually begin? A blank canvas is pretty overwhelming. For me two things happened, I was introduced to a brilliant contemporary art teacher almost three years ago now, and for 18 months attended fortnightly classes with a group of immensely successful Australian artists. I learn from the “doing” and from listening to all the critiques. I also discovered e-classes – what a revelation.

I will break down my process of painting “Flowers” and “Abstracted responses to nature” so that you will be able to create your own unique paintings. I will give you the skills, exactly the “how to” – in slow motion when necessary. I will also demonstrate the multi layered, soft responses to landscape. You will of course respond to your landscape.

basiazielinska.com

https://www.facebook.com/basia.zielinska_96
Renata Loree

Renata Loree is a mixed media artist. She finds her inspiration through practice of yoga and tuning in to the earthy and energetic elements found all around us. As a child she always thought that she would come an artist, or at least work in a field that required to be creative, but life took a different turn. As a hobby she used to turn to her easel where she always felt more comfortable, and learned painting by copying old master paintings. Her favorite subjects were portraits. After her son moved out of the house, she now felt it was a good time to devote her free time to her favorite passion and now devotes most of her time to painting. After taking classes with some of her favorite teachers, she now feels free to explore her abilities and talents further. She lives near Boston, Massachusetts.

https://renataloree.com
https://www.facebook.com/Artentive/

Bianca García

I was born and raised in the town of Degollado, Jalisco, Mexico. Since I was very small I had a strong influence of a great artist, my father, a sculptor. I started drawing very young. I take inspiration from the drawings my dad designed and made just for me. He was my first teacher and still is. I drew and my dad qualified me. Over the years it dawned on me that between me most improved in my drawings, my dad was stricter with my drawings too, and not what he could have done better, because that way I struggled more and more every day, that was like our game, so I grew up next to an artist. My mother always takes care that
I was never spoiled me leaves, crayons, pencils, and books that help me develop my skills, so most of what I am now it's all thanks to them.

https://www.facebook.com/Bianca-Art-Gallery-264132343948022/?fref=ts

Kitty Miller

Kitty Miller is a mixed media artist that grew up in sunny Northern California raised by her grandparents she was immersed in the arts. Born in the late 60’s she feels like she was culturally blessed, she got to see so much art and live performance. She is the mother of a grown son and has a pug that she loves to the moon and back. Kitty was a fifth grade teacher prior to becoming a professional artist. She has always been interested in art and done art. She has also taught sewing and quilting classes in the past. Once she discovered mixed media painting she was hooked however. She specializes in vivid portraits of animals, people and birds. She uses layers and layers of dreamy fluid acrylic paints almost like water colors. She makes incredible jewelry and uses resin boldly. She also enjoys assemblage and collage she really just does it all.

She is illustrating Children’s books, (her first book is in publishing right now). She enjoys teaching locally, traveling to teach at retreats and just sharing art with others who love it as much as she does.

Kitty currently teaches with the Art and Soul Retreats and is working on a new retreat in Hawaii. A cancer survivor she is a true fighter. She believes in love and thinks that through art we can touch people and bring them to peace.

www.alwaysartllc.com

https://www.facebook.com/Kittymillerartist/

Danielle Mack
Hello my name is Danielle and I’m a mixed media artist
I was trained as a painter and have an illustrative and playful style.
I enjoy the process of connecting writing with my paintings. Recording the creative process leaves an open gate for me to return at some point to add on or reflect on my growth.
Painting women of color is very important to me because when I went through art school there were not a lot of us in the art books. I’m hoping for change in the coming generations. I’ve already seen lots of progress in social media but the schools still need to change. I plan to be part of this movement in my own small way.

www.apaintedpage.com

Nikol Wikman

I am a self taught artist living on Vancouver Island with my husband and two children. I paint because I love it! There was a time in my life that I didn't do it enough. A time when I didn't honour that part of me. For a while I felt a little lost. After my kids were born, I realized that if I wanted them to grow up to fulfill themselves and live their dreams then I had to do it myself. So here I am today, a painter. Playing with colour brings me such joy. Allowing myself to do it each day makes me a better person. I’m sure if it!

I paint intuitively, inspired by the natural beauty that surrounds my Island home. The trees, the sea, the sky all speak to me on a deep soul level. I use mostly acrylics sometimes mixing in some pastel or charcoal. I rarely use brushes and instead prefer sponges, rollers and my hands to get right in there and play with the paint. It is fascinating the way different colours interact with each other. I could get lost for hours in the studio. My hope is that when my paintings find their way out into the world they bring feelings of peace, hope and joy to those around them.

www.nikolwikmanart.com
https://www.facebook.com/nikol.wikman
Lucy Brydon

Hi there! I am an artist and art teacher living in the north east of Scotland. Part time I teach art to children aged 5-11 and love the wonder and excitement they have in the world and their enthusiasm in experimenting! I have always created art of one way or another. For a long time I made jewellery and textiles/fibre arts but about 4 years ago I discovered my love of mixed media and was smitten! I love layers and texture. This is a beautiful country full of awe inspiring ruins and castles, lush green plants (we get a lot of rain!) and huge mountains. The texture and history I find in my world around me influences my work. I love to combine figurative painting with collage and monoprinting, adding an element of storytelling that brings further depths. I am intrigued by the idea of hidden layers that have meaning to the final piece, doors that lead into hidden places.

I can’t wait to be a guest teacher on Paint your Heart and Soul! Being able to share in the art making process with others, meeting other artists and sharing experiences and our creations – that is one of the great joys!

https://lucybrydonart.wordpress.com
https://www.facebook.com/lucy.brydon.37?fref=ts

Jennifer Albin

My name is Jennifer Albin. I am a mystic, compulsive coffee drinker, mother to three amazing boys, and wife to one of the most beautiful souls to walk this Earth. I am also the artist/owner behind Soul Whisper Arts. I am a self taught artist with a background in substance abuse counseling. I fell in love with mixed-media art in 2011 and I haven’t looked back!

I am a super firm believer that Love conquers all, that the heart of Life is in fact awesomely good, and that Art heals on some really deep levels. And that is why my mission at Soul Whisper Arts is to create art heals. My art serves as a reminder that you are not alone. When you fumble in the dark, there are torch bearers to light
the way. When you are weary from peeling back the layers, there are others alongside you on the journey to lean on. In addition to creating art, I strive to foster community through art classes and workshops and to teach women about the wisdom and beauty waiting to be witnessed within. It is with paint brush in hand that I believe we can discover some of the bravest parts of ourselves. I am especially drawn to drawing and sculpting faces because I believe that each time I create one, I am coming to terms with and bringing forward some aspect of myself. Art, especially the drawing and sculpting of the female face, helps me connect with and make sense of my inner world.

http://www.soulwhisperarts.com/
https://www.facebook.com/SoulWhisperArts/?pnref=lhc

Stephanie Gagos

I paint the faces and aspects of the feminine in all of its manifestations. Through color and form, my art reflects the joy, sadness, longing, beauty, innocence and power of being a fully alive woman.

I believe I am here to heal and help others heal. I am here to live from a place of truth, beauty and aliveness and to inspire that in others as well. Many of you know me as an artist, but I am also a teacher, a certified coach and facilitator of empowering healing art classes for women. They are all equal loves for me. I can’t really see myself doing one without the others because ultimately the art, the one on one work and the healing circles for women, combine the gifts I believe I am here to give. I am particularly interested in holding space for brilliant women who have been wounded in childhood, and helping them shine. I am interested in life beyond survival. I am interested in thriving, in warrior energy, in the reclaiming of the inner child and the parts we feel we’ve lost. I’m interested in the power these wounds hold for us.

http://www.stephaniegagos.com/
https://www.facebook.com/artiststephaniegagos/?pnref=lhc
https://www.facebook.com/groups/553998191417016/
Olga Furman

I'm a mixed media artist, and my passion is painting portraits and figurative art with elements of surrealism. When I paint - I dream, I disconnect from reality and get into my own world, in which everything I couldn’t express with worlds comes out from my brush.

I was born in Russia, enjoyed my early 20's in Israel and now live with my family in the US. I earned a pedagogical degree in art and music, attended still life course in a fine art school and I continue taking online courses and workshops. I just can’t stop learning and I really enjoy to be a part of an amazing online art community!

I’m very excited to host ‘Paint Your Heart and Soul 2017’ and honored to be teamed with such amazing artists!

I can’t wait to 2017 to start and get ready for the beautiful adventure of creating art together!

https://www.facebook.com/olga.furman.1?fref=ts
https://www.facebook.com/groups/840365816072472/

***Artwork shown here are only representative samples of the Artists' work and not part of the course curriculum. The artists are currently working on new projects for the course.***