

duCret Center of Art: Open Call | “By the hands of Women”

Coordinated by: **Jenn B. Florencio & Virginia Carroll**

Prospectus below

Show Title: By the Hands of Women

By the Hands of Women is a celebration of women in the arts and the many ways creative work is shaped, guided, and transformed through lived experience, intuition, labor, and voice. Open to artists who identify as women, this exhibition invites participants to interpret the idea of “touched by a woman’s hand” in whatever way feels most authentic to their practice. Medium, style, and subject matter are entirely at the artist’s discretion, allowing for a wide and dynamic range of artistic responses.

The phrase *by the hand of women* may be interpreted literally, metaphorically, emotionally, or poetically. It can reference process, care, resilience, identity, lineage, protest, beauty, strength, or quiet observation. Artists are encouraged to explore what it means for something to be shaped, influenced, or brought into being through a woman’s perspective and presence.

This exhibition also honors the legacy of duCret’s founder, Marjorie Van Emburgh, whose commitment to arts education and advocacy for women artists helped establish a lasting creative community. In the spirit of her vision and in celebration of our **100th year** in Plainfield, *By the Hand of Women* seeks to amplify women’s voices across disciplines and celebrate the enduring impact of women as makers, thinkers, and cultural contributors.

Eligibility & Submission Guidelines:

- Open to all artists 18 years and older who identify as a woman.
- Artwork must be original in concept & creation.
- Artwork in 2D and 3D media will be considered for acceptance including photography, sculpture, needlework, and fiber arts.
- 2D work must be wired for hanging and ready for installation. Photography must be framed and wired for hanging.
- Sawtooth hangers will not be accepted.
- Work should not exceed 40” in height and 40” in width.
- 3D work must be able to stand-alone on the floor or on a pedestal, and if hanging it must not be more than 30lbs.

- Please e-mail joe.coccia@ducretarts.org for any questions about eligibility or to inquire about special circumstances should you be unsure.
- JPG Images on the submission form should be no larger than 5 MB and no more than 1200 pixels on the longest side.
- File name should be: "FirstInitial_LastName_Title.JPG"

Please ensure your image submissions are high-quality.
There is no submission fee.

Pricing & Commission structure:

- All pieces in the show will be for sale unless otherwise decided by the artist.
 - Please include a price in the submission form. If you would like your piece to be labeled Not For Sale, please type NFS in the price prompt.
 - For any artwork sold during the exhibition, the **artist will receive 70% of the sale price, with the duCret Center of Art receiving a 30% commission.**
 - Artists are encouraged to factor this commission into their pricing when submitting their work. The price you set should reflect both the value of your artwork and the commission structure.
 - Artists will receive payment for works sold at the end of the show.
- **Entry deadline:** February 18th, 2026
 - **Notification of acceptance:** February 20th, 2026
 - **Accepted works drop-off deadline:** Monday, February 24, 2025
 - **Exhibition on view:** March 1-March 30

The show will be on view at duCret Center of Art, 1030 Central Ave, Plainfield NJ

Insurance and Liability

While we take great care in handling and displaying all artwork submitted to this show, please note that the **duCret Center of Art** does not provide insurance for the artwork. Artists are encouraged to arrange their own insurance for their artwork **if they so decide**, as we cannot be responsible for any loss, damage, or theft during the exhibition, including transport to and from the venue. By submitting artwork to the exhibition, the artist agrees to the following:



Center of Art

1030 Central Ave, Plainfield, NJ | 908-757-7171

Hold Harmless and Liability Waiver

By submitting artwork, the artist agrees to release duCret Center of Art, its staff, and affiliates from any claims of loss, damage, theft, or injury related to the artwork during the exhibition or transportation. The artist understands and accepts that the exhibition organizers cannot be held responsible for any unfortunate events that may occur during the display or transport of the artwork.

Release of Liability

The artist acknowledges that while we strive to create a safe and secure environment for the artwork, the **duCret Center of Art** is not liable for any damage, loss, or injury to the artwork or artist during the exhibition. The artist agrees to participate with this understanding.

If you have further questions, please reach out to us at joe.coccia@ducretarts.org with the subject line *By the hand of Women*

duCret Center of Art

1030 Central Ave, Plainfield NJ 07060

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