



# PILGRIMS AT THE CREEK

*the contemplative life, art, and the natural world*





# OVERVIEW

This public art project encourages reflection upon the natural world through the artist's contemplative and creative practice.

The selected artists will invite us all to pause, observe, breathe, contemplate and appreciate our natural world.

The resulting exhibition will be held on the fourth floor of the Noel C. Taylor Municipal Building, from October 2025 to May 2026.

It follows as another stepping stone of engagement in a program that began early 2025 with an 8-week study of Annie Dillard's *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, and subsequent related events along the new stretch of Greenway by Tinker Creek itself.





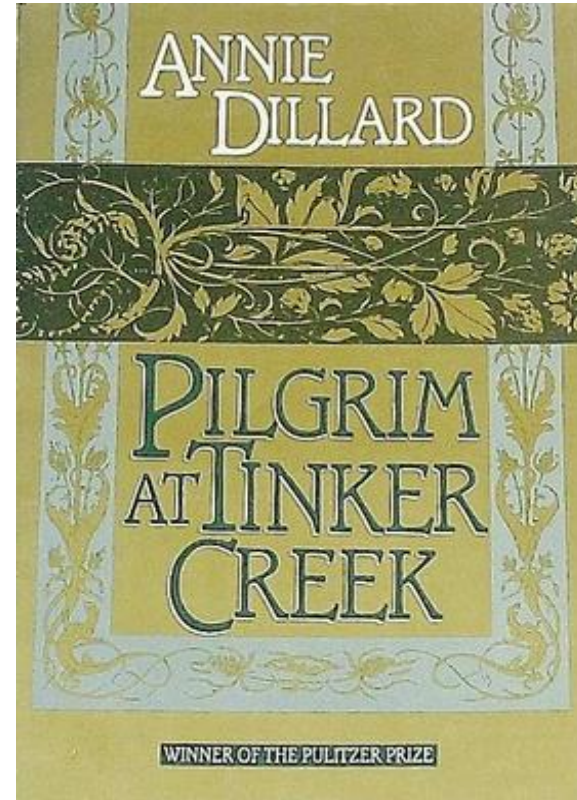
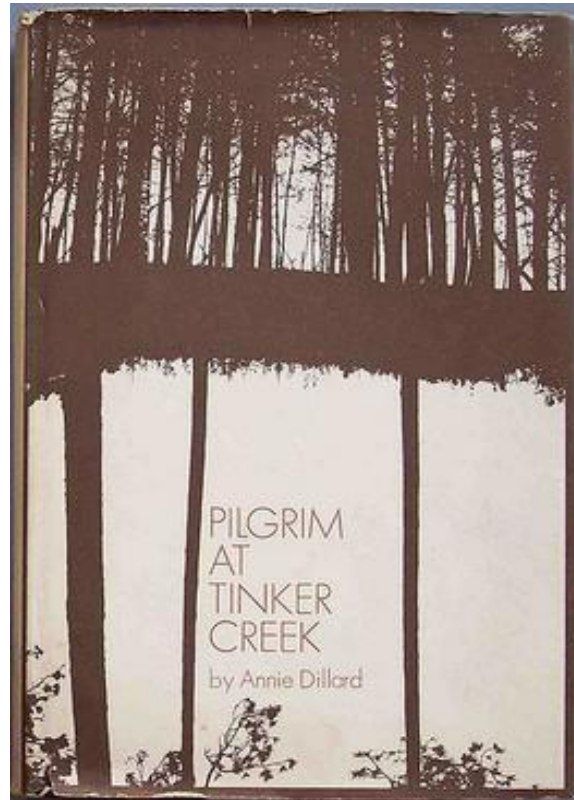
# *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*

BY ANNIE DILLARD

- Published by Harper's Magazine Press in 1974
- Winner of the 1975 Pulitzer Prize for general nonfiction

*"Our life is a faint tracing on the surface of mystery, like the idle, curved tunnels of leaf miners on the face of a leaf. We must somehow take a wider view, look at the whole landscape, really see it, and describe what's going on here. Then we can at least wail the right questions into the swaddling band of darkness, or, if it comes to that, choir the right praise."*

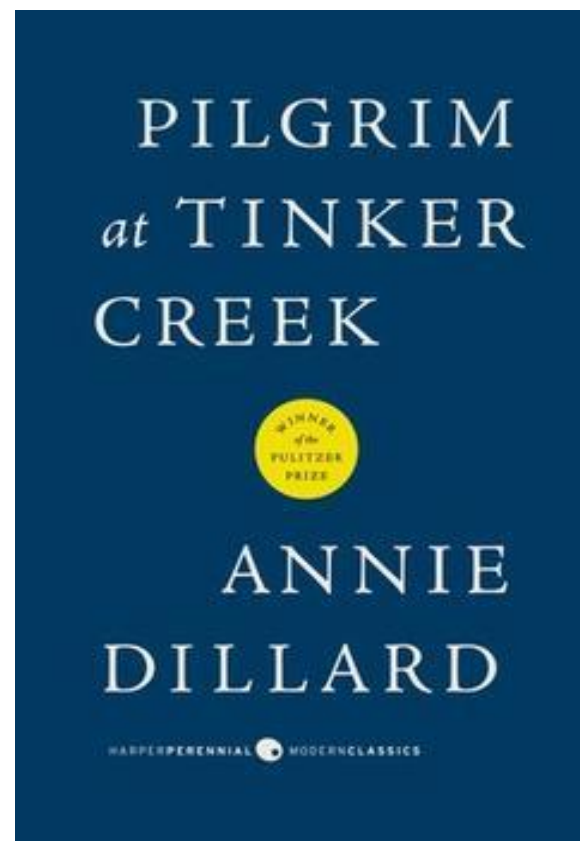
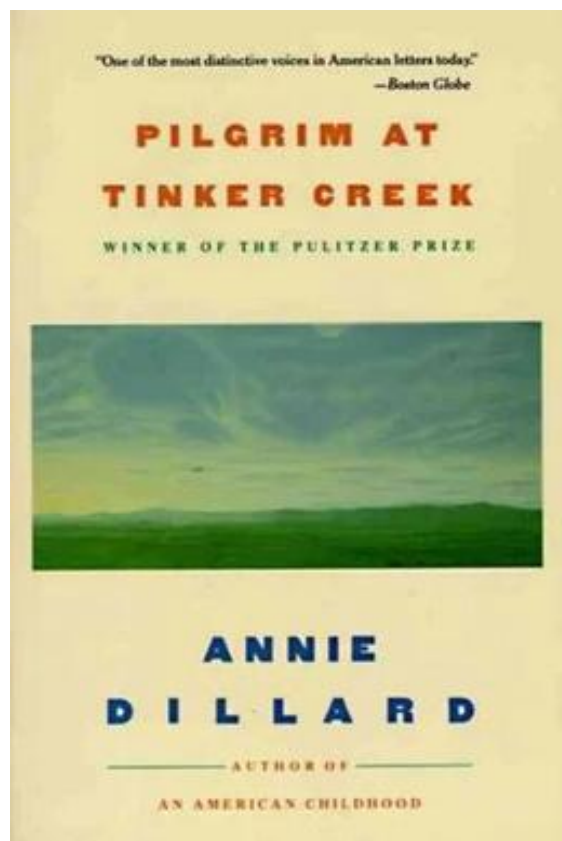
*ch. 1, pg. 9*



# *50th Anniversary Pilgrim at Tinker Creek Read-Along*

**JAN 28 - APR 08, 2025**

*in partnership with the Roanoke Arts Commission, the Raleigh Court Library Book Club, and City of Roanoke Parks and Recreation*



Find recordings of the book club discussions and information about related events:

**[roanokearts.org/tinke](https://roanokearts.org/tinker)**


**r**



## PREVIOUS COMMUNITY EVENTS

**SAT APRIL 05**  
2:30-4:30PM

# TINKER CREEK NATURE WALK




Join the Tinker Creek Project for a visit to the new Tinker Creek Greenway, and discover the wonderful critters of our local waters with Roanoke City Stormwater and water quality experts! All ages welcome.

**1902 13th St NE,  
Roanoke, VA  
24012**

Visit [roanokearts.org/tinker](https://roanokearts.org/tinker) for more information on the Tinker Creek Project and updates on upcoming public art for

**PILGRIM  
at TINKER  
CREEK**  
ANNIE  
DILLARD





# PREVIOUS COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Tinker Creek Project Invites You

## MINDFULNESS & CONTEMPLATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY WALK

 **walk, breathe, observe**

Take an hour to slow down and be present in nature at the new Tinker Creek Greenway, with mindfulness practitioner Suzanne Thorniley. Then, join writer Ashley Fellers for a contemplative photography session. No experience necessary, bring whatever camera you like, including phones. Comfortable shoes advised. All ages welcome.

 **Sign Up Online**  
[roanokearts.org/volunteer](https://roanokearts.org/volunteer)

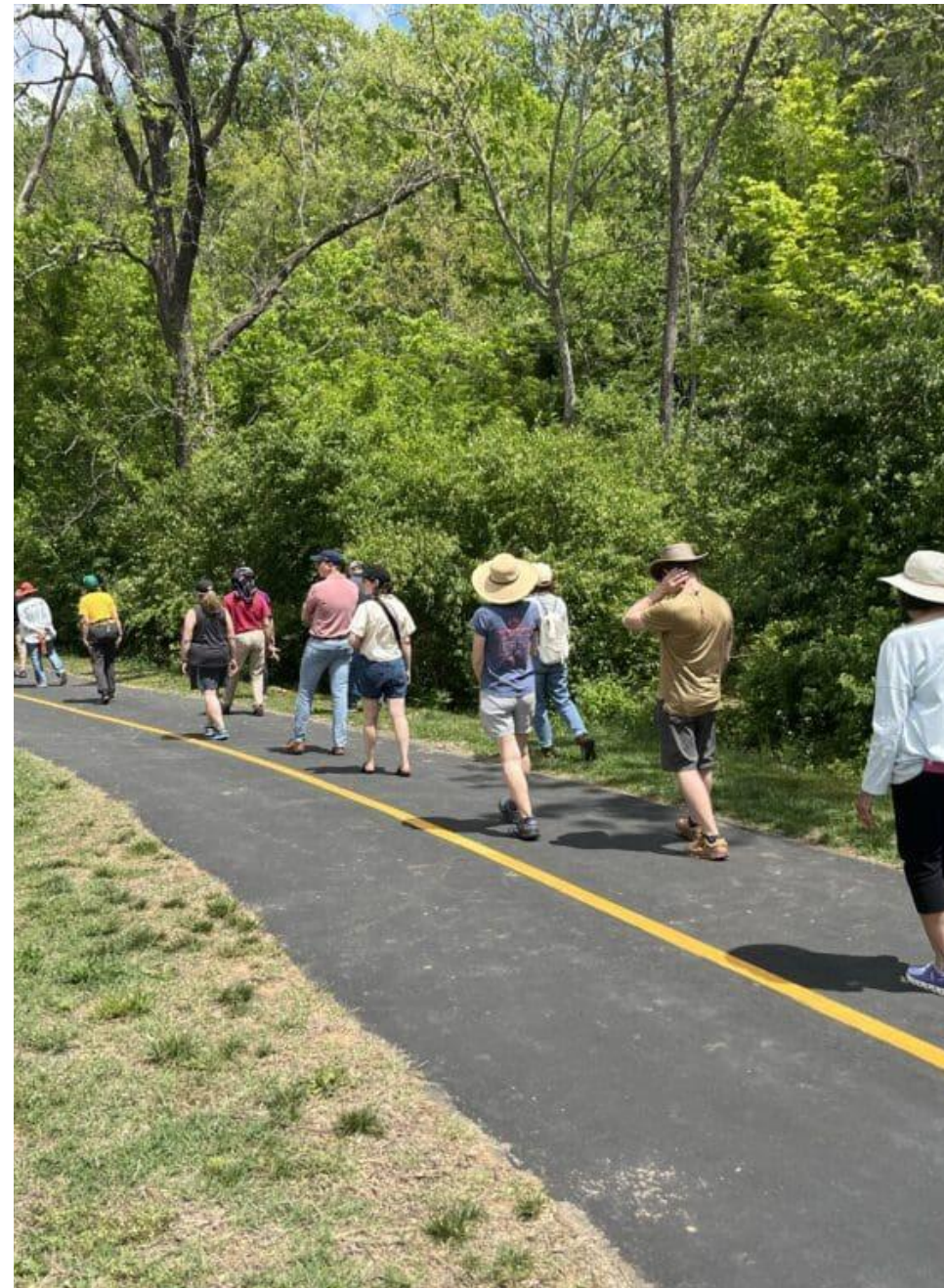
 **Questions & Location Help**  
540-529-4879

 **To Learn More**  
Visit [roanokearts.org/tinker](https://roanokearts.org/tinker) for more information on the Tinker Creek Project and updates on upcoming public art for the new Greenway!



**1:00 - 2:30 PM**  
**26**  
**APRIL**

**MASON MILL PARK TRAILHEAD**  
1425 MASON MILL RD NE,  
ROANOKE, VA 24012





# PREVIOUS COMMUNITY EVENTS



**SUN. MAY 18**  
**3:00-4:30PM**

*The Tinker Creek Project  
& Arts Connect Neighbors*

# POETS IN THE PARK



feat. Rachel Anne Morris



Join us for an hour of poetry inspired by the natural world of the new Tinker Creek greenway! Local artist and writer R.A. Morris will provide instruction on how to use nature as inspiration for poetry. After a free-writing period, participants will regroup to share their work. Join us as we explore the area and the creative benefits of observation, meditation, and free-form creation. Materials provided. Ages 16+. No prior writing experience necessary!

Visit [roanokearts.org/tinker](https://roanokearts.org/tinker) for more information on the Tinker Creek Project and updates on upcoming public art for the new Greenway!

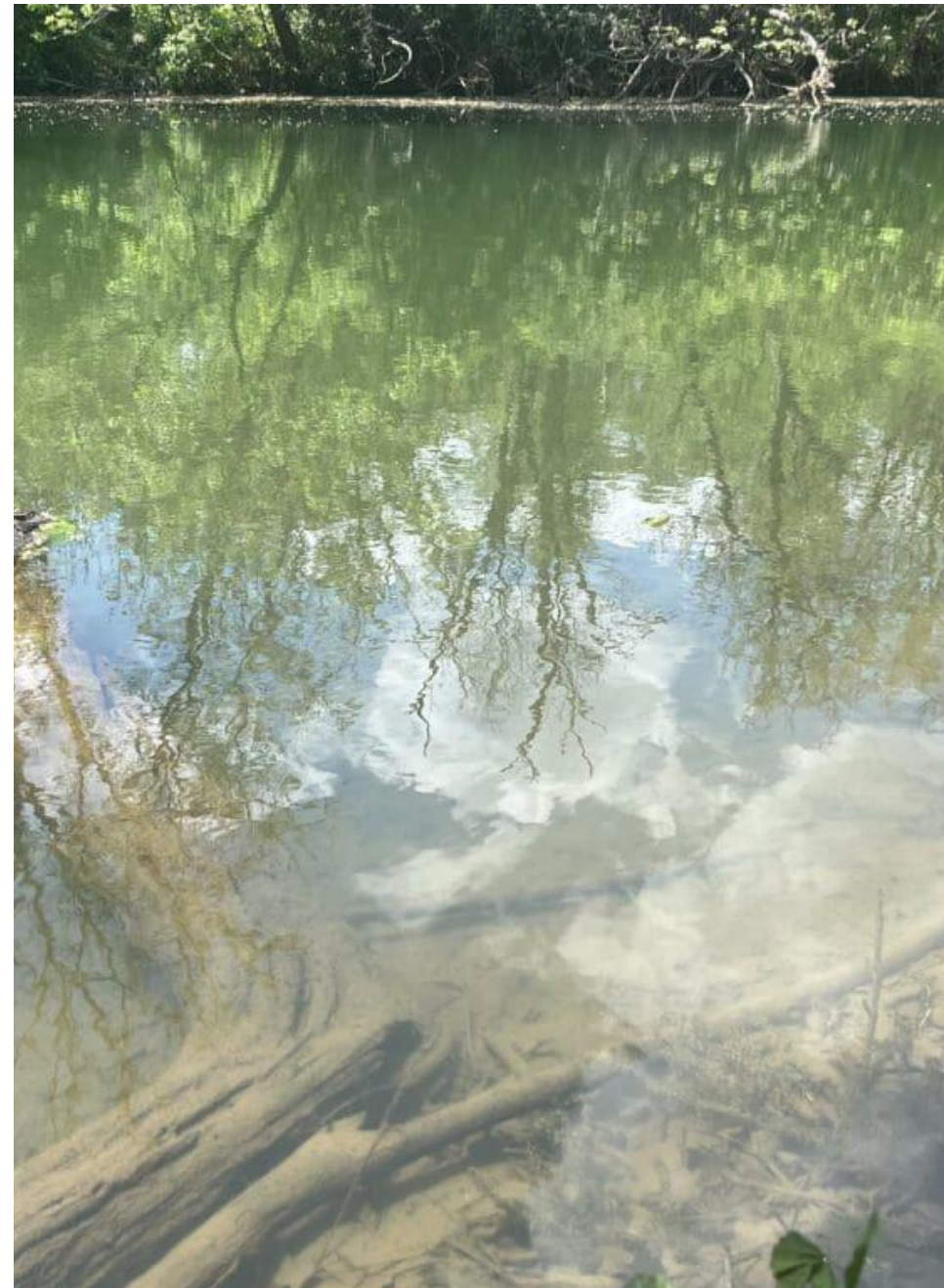
 **Sign Up Online**  
[roanokearts.org/volunteer](https://roanokearts.org/volunteer)

 **Questions & Location Help**  
[nataliamichelart@gmail.com](mailto:nataliamichelart@gmail.com)  
540-529-4879



**1425 Mason Mill Rd NE,  
Roanoke, VA 24012**

*Meet at Mason Mill Park Trailhead.  
Parking available at all 3 locations.*







# CALENDAR

- **Early September** – Progress documentation and invoicing
- **October 13** – Work due
- **October 17 – 19** – GO Fest
- **October 20** – Opening Reception prior to City Council Meeting in honor of the work and Arts and Humanities Month.
- **October 2025 – May 2026** . Exhibition open, with 7 monthly Community Building Gallery Talks on Monday evenings
- Continued Contemplative Arts and Nature Workshops led by participants in City parks and green spaces





# INTRODUCTIONS

*In a few sentences, describe your creative practice.*



# Linda Atkinson

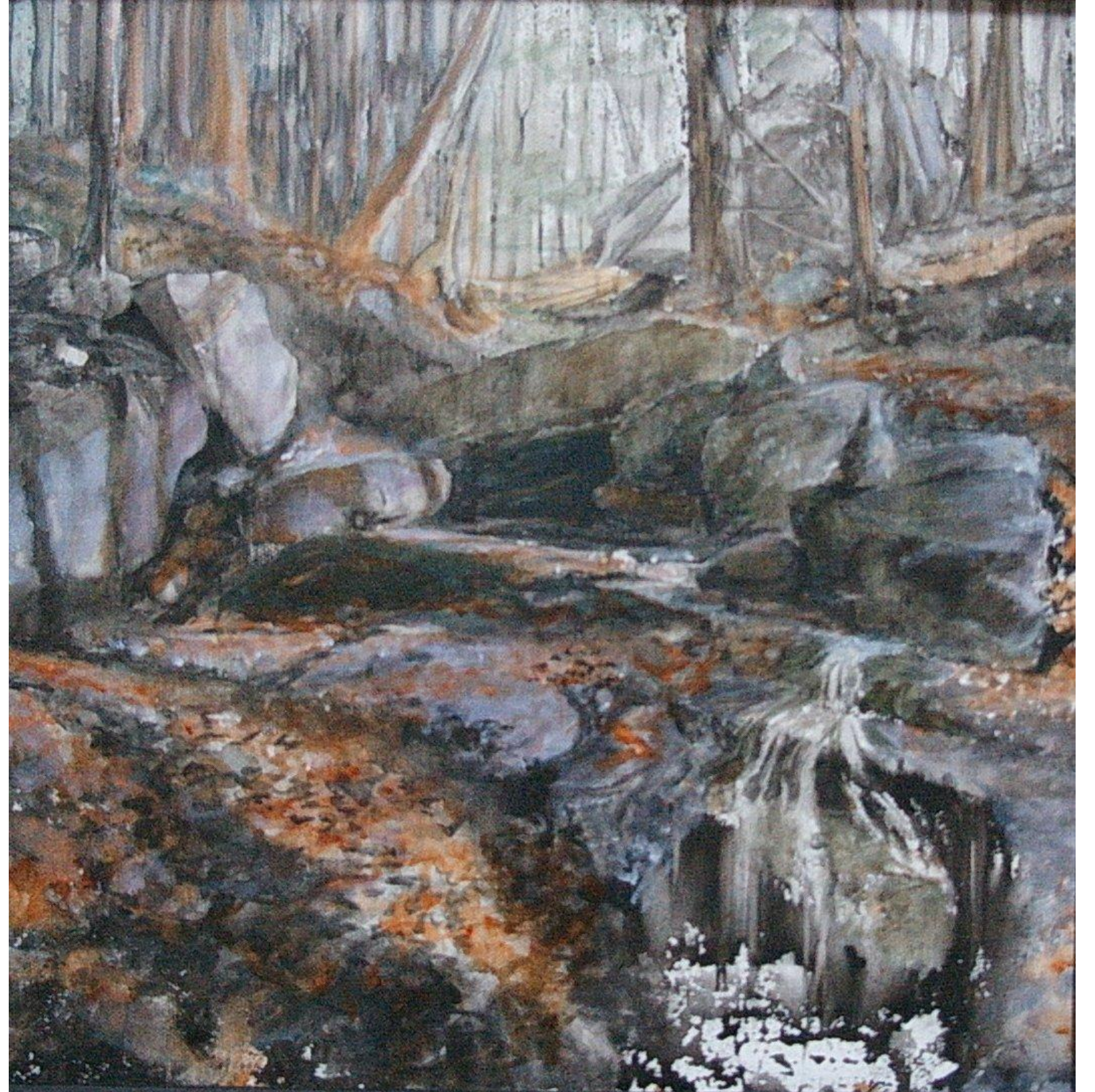
[lindaatkinsonart.com](http://lindaatkinsonart.com)





# Polly Branch

[branchingarts.wordpress.co  
m](http://branchingarts.wordpress.com)





# Sharon Burnham

[gardenvitals.com](http://gardenvitals.com)





# Jonathan Chandler

[youtube.com/@jonathanchandler6152](https://youtube.com/@jonathanchandler6152)





# Donna Cooper

[donnacooperart.com](http://donnacooperart.com)





# Grace Earnhart

[instagram.com/lapisfoxglove](https://www.instagram.com/lapisfoxglove)





# Ashley Fellers

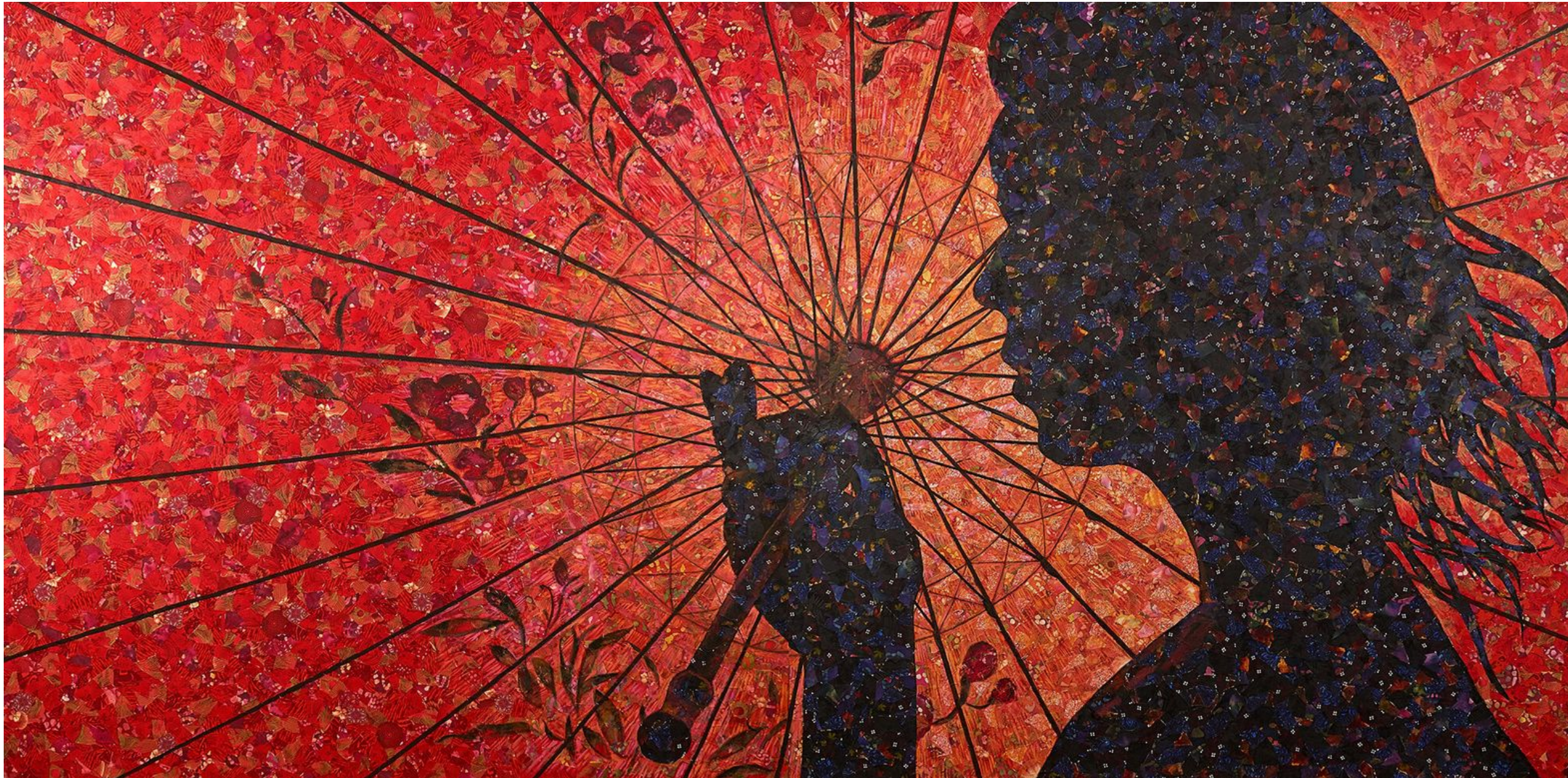
[ashleywilsonfellers.com](http://ashleywilsonfellers.com)





# Elaine Fleck

[elaine-fleck.squarespace.com](http://elaine-fleck.squarespace.com)





# Alex Foster

[www.fosterfiber.com](http://www.fosterfiber.com)





# Jane Gabrielle

[instagram.com/RadaroseRaygun](https://www.instagram.com/RadaroseRaygun)





# Marsha Heatwole

[heatwole.com/home.html](http://heatwole.com/home.html)





# Laura Ilawan





# Julie Kinn

[kinnfolkmusic.com](http://kinnfolkmusic.com)





# Dan Kuehl

[www.dekayart.com](http://www.dekayart.com)





# Bess Lee

[instagram.com/  
bessiemaartist](https://www.instagram.com/bessiemaartist)

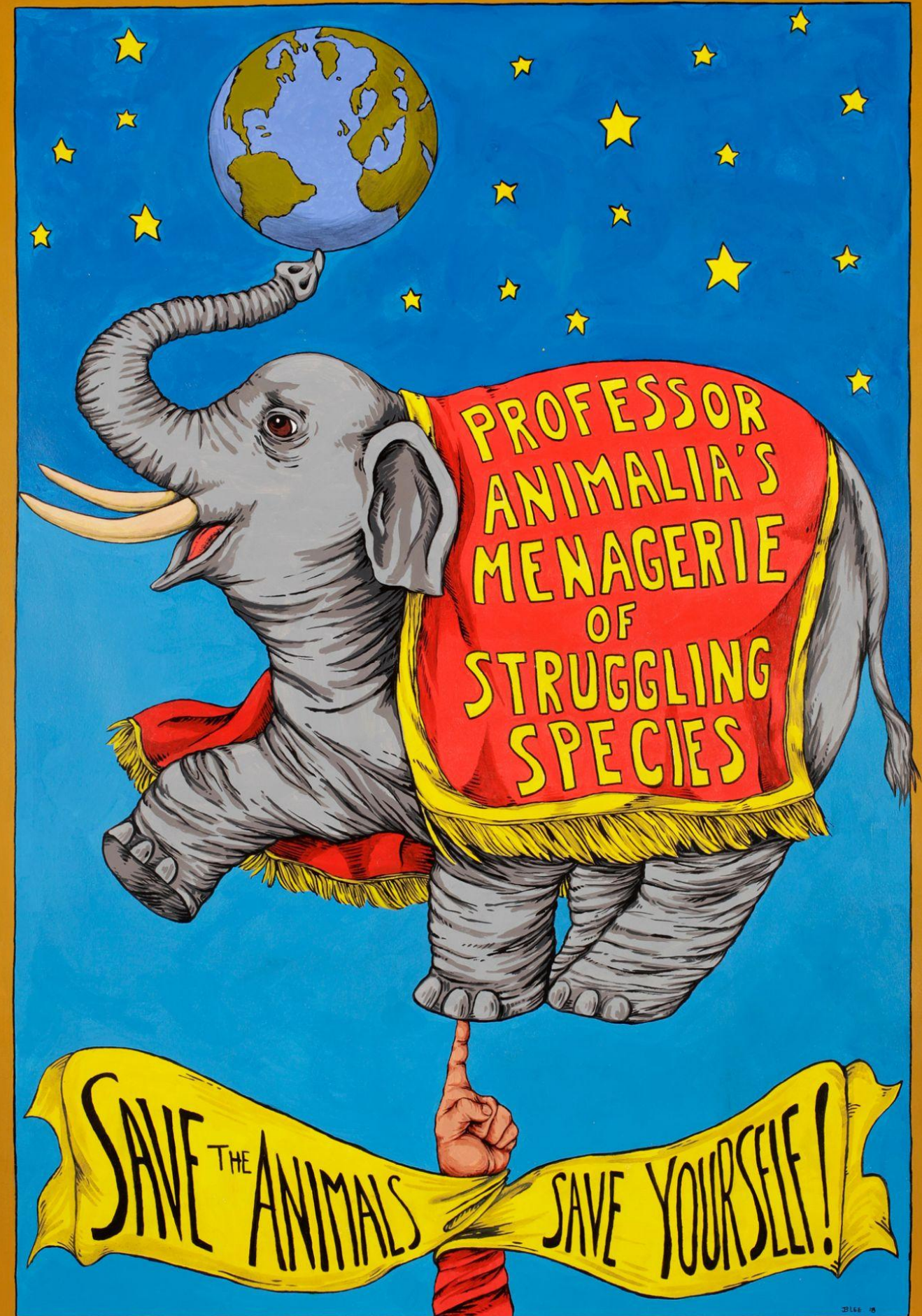




# Joe Lee

[www.instagram.com](http://www.instagram.com)

[/joeleeillustrator](https://www.instagram.com/joeleeillustrator)





# Isabel Meyers

[instagram.com/theisabelmeyers](https://www.instagram.com/theisabelmeyers)





# Natalia Michel

[nataliamichel.com](http://nataliamichel.com)





# Casey Murano

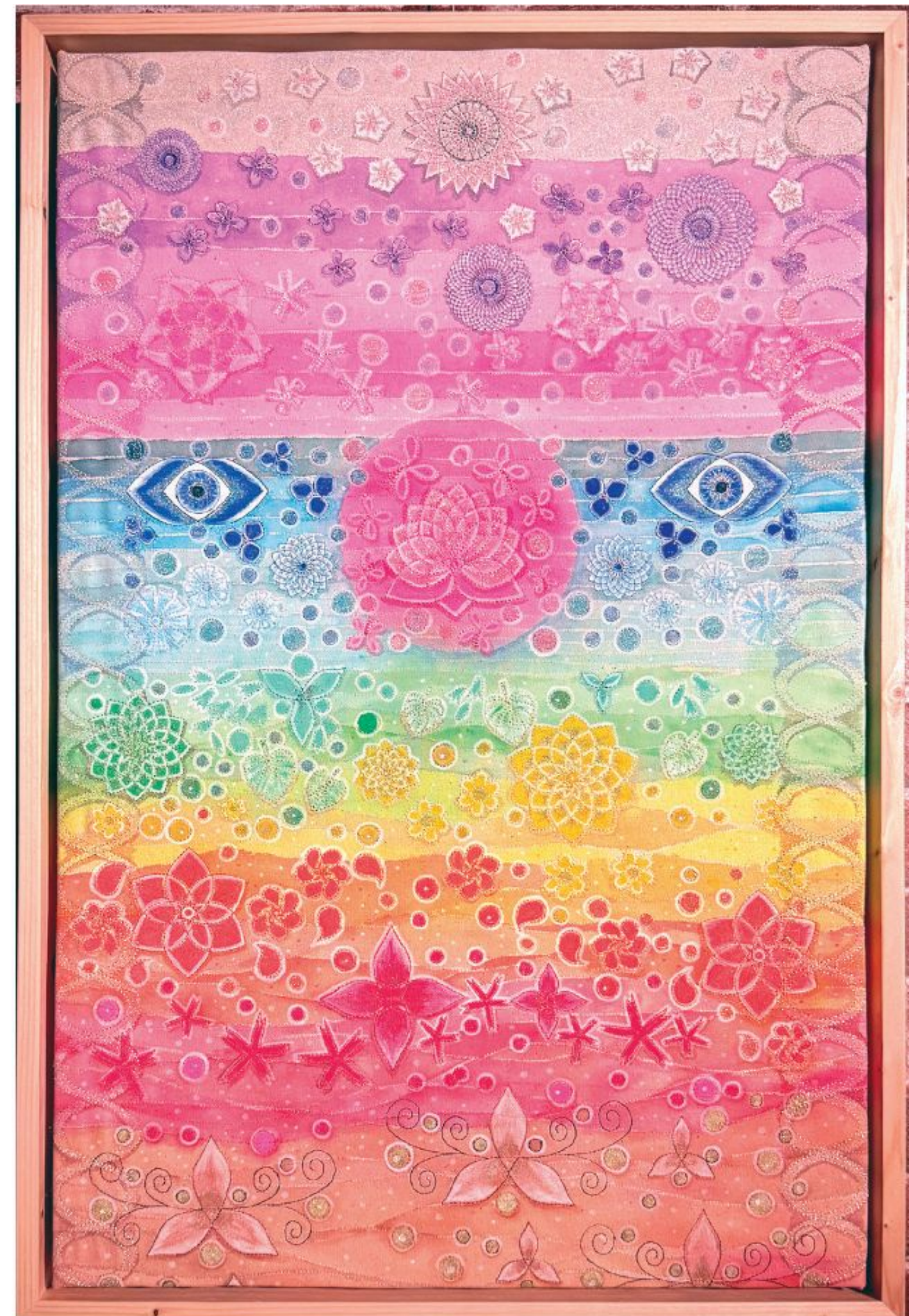
[caseymurano.com](http://caseymurano.com)





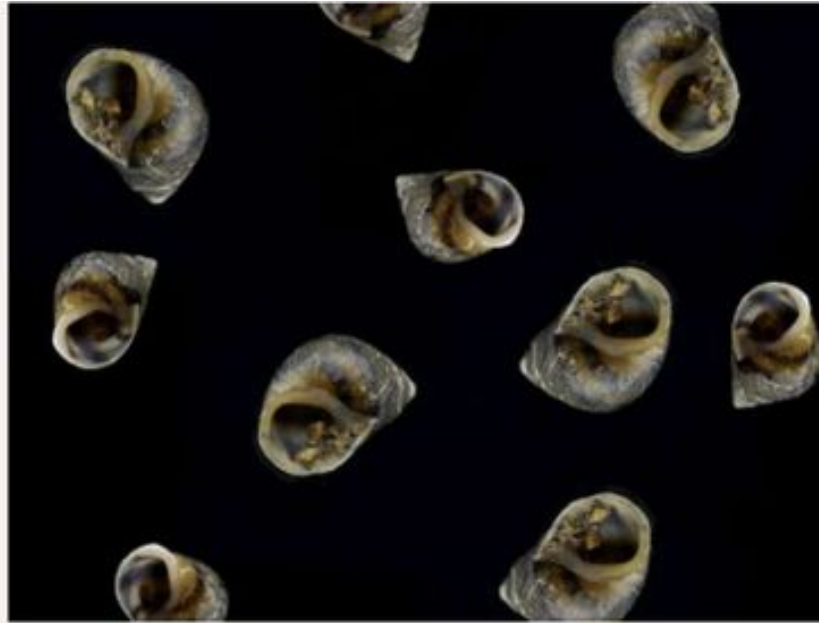
# Simone Paterson

[simonepaterson.com](http://simonepaterson.com)





# Rachel Pence





# Kaydee Pickle

[theheartworkscompany.com](http://theheartworkscompany.com)





# Beth Rodgers

[facebook.com/p/Beth-Rodgers  
-Artist-61554949229899/](https://facebook.com/p/Beth-Rodgers-Artist-61554949229899/)





# Lucinda Rowe

[lucindarowart.com](http://lucindarowart.com)





Stefanie  
Sarine





# Megan Scripps

[meganscottscripps.com](http://meganscottscripps.com)





# Cindy Stevens

[cindystevenssculpture.com](http://cindystevenssculpture.com)





# Page Turner

[instagram.com/  
pageturnerstudios](https://www.instagram.com/pageturnerstudios)





# Laura Vahlberg

[lauravahlberg.com](http://lauravahlberg.com)





# Lauren Walke

[9sirenscreative.com](http://9sirenscreative.com)





# MargaretSue Turner Wright

[MargaretSueTurnerWright.com](http://MargaretSueTurnerWright.com)





*"...I was as purely sensitive and mute as a photographic plate; I received impressions, but I did not print out captions. My own self-awareness had disappeared; it seems now almost as though, had I been wired with electrodes, my EEG would have been flat. I have done this sort of thing so often that I have lost self-consciousness about moving slowly and halting suddenly; it is second nature to me now. And I have often noticed that even a few minutes of this self-forgetfulness is tremendously invigorating. I wonder if we do not waste most of our energy just by spending every waking minute saying hello to ourselves." ch. 11, pg. 198*

## ***Pilgrim at Tinker Creek***

**BY ANNIE DILLARD**