



**Cambridge Art Association
25 Lowell Street
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PAINT

**Juried by Ali Ringenburg, Director, Sloane Merrill Gallery, Boston
February 5 – March 5, 2015, 2015, presented at University Place Gallery**

February 5, 2015: The Cambridge Art Association is pleased to present a media-driven show of work from 31 of local and regional artists.

From the juror: If there is one promise that the art world makes to its participants, it's that you will always be on your toes. That promise is one of the utmost reasons why I have never looked back and I'm certain why many of the artists in this show press on.

I look for a slew of elements in a successful work of art – the most important being that the work draws me in and calls me back. I've always thought of it as a visual relationship: the work finds something in you and you find something in it. Simply put, you want more. It could be beautiful color, compositional presence, or evocative narrative.

I found this relationship, and thus success, in many of the works I juried into PAINT. Martha Wakefield's 'Swept Away' is 8 x 8 inches, but the compelling color and abstract strokes took me to a real landscape in the natural world, one much bigger than this small square. The painting has immediate power and escape.

'Time Holding Still – My Family's Cottage #8' by Jeanine Pastore radiates warmth through the chosen tones, but more so through the nostalgic interior. The painting gave me a glimpse of a place loved and worn – it immediately felt familiar. The composition set me in the middle and created a feeling of comfort.

True artistic ability is taking something ordinary and making it beautiful. Emily Passman's 'Studio Sink' does this with ease and interest. It's a portrait of a well-used, necessary object in the life of an artist and she honors it honestly.

I love being surprised, and while jurying PAINT, 'How Like a Winter Hath Thou Absence Been' surprised me time and time again. I kept coming back to it and what wasn't there pulled me to it just as much as what Joseph Fontinha did put down on the linen. The painting has a beautiful mystery and resolve, even with what might be "absent" upon first glance.

This show is part of Cambridge Art Association's 70th exhibition year – CAA at 70. The highlights of CAA at 70 include the 70th installments of our Fall Salon and Members' Prize Show, juried by Al Miner (MFA, Boston); PLATINUM, a New England open show, juried by Alise Upitis; PHOTOGRAPHY NOW, juried by Stephen Turlentes (MassArt); our 14th National Prize Show, juried by Michael Rush (Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University); and members small group shows, including Motion Envisioned and Time Travelers.

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