



L i s a N o o n i s

Hampton, NH

In The Moment statement 2021

In The Moment merges my still life paintings with my dancers.

I work from life. I make a lot of quick studies and use these studies as starting points to create larger paintings. I can honestly say that after many years of painting dancers and still life that these things, gestures, flowers, tutus, and bowls of fruit are embedded in my memory. And so, my memory is an abundant well from which I draw my inspiration. My imagination is where I generate ideas about composition, color, line, and form. All of this is possible by showing up daily and working without boundaries.

Being in the moment, to me, is experiencing “now”. Not a minute ago, or what’s to come. Right now. It’s a goal that I work hard to sustain. But I often fall short. Distractions happen. Inner critics show up. When and if I can sustain it, that feeling of truly being in the moment, for even the breath of a few paint strokes, I feel as though I have done my job.

Many of these paintings have a history of starts and stops. Areas that I thought didn’t work get painted over, compositions that were overly complicated get simplified, areas that felt too special relative to the rest of the painting often are sacrificed for the good of the whole picture. This process of layering, building, covering, uncovering, making decisions, listening to my inner wisdom, and allowing myself to keep pace with that wisdom all happen in concert with each other.

Then, I actually feel the painting stop. The key is that I stop too. More importantly, that I am aware enough at that moment to be in the moment.

artist statement

I start a painting with the open mindedness of an explorer. I don’t fully know where any given piece will land but am certain that if I show up to work every day, it will arrive at its destination. Ultimately the process/act of creating is as important as the final outcome. • I paint what I know—figures, still lifes, and landscapes—but push these “knowns” into abstracted places. I combine my love of color, form, line, and design without fully abandoning representation. • I work in a constant state of experimentation and discovery. My materials range from oils, acrylic, and latex, to graphite, oil pastels, and collage—media whose very nature allows me the freedom to work expressively and without hesitation. I often work directly on large sheets of canvas or paper on the walls, sometimes using tools like extension poles, squeegees and oversized paintbrushes. • As a self-taught painter, artistic growth is critical to me. While transformation is a challenge on many levels, it forces me to go beyond what I think I know and feeds my curious nature.

Lisa Noonis is a mixed-media painter whose work approaches a wide range of subject matter from still life and landscapes to personal narratives. Her paintings are expressive with a strong use of color and materiality. Noonis is represented in galleries nationwide and is featured in many private collections. Her Kittery, Maine studio is in an old school building where she attended elementary school.

Blue Gallery

118 Southwest Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64108

816.527.0823 BlueGalleryOnline.com

Lisa Noonis

Hampton, NH

bio

Lisa Noonis was born in York, Maine, the fifth child in a family of seven children—five boys and two girls. Her parents, Peter and Sofie Scontras, are first generation Greek Americans, and still live in the gracious New England colonial where Lisa grew up in Kittery, Maine. The family was close and loving, fostering in all the Scontras children a strong sense of family, hard work, responsibility, ambition and independence.

Lisa found art early in life. At age 10, in 1973, she won first place in the Strawberry Banke Children's Art Festival in neighboring Portsmouth, NH. Later, in high school, she showed so much talent that her art teacher, Marcia Ryder, insisted that she go on to art school and pursue a career in the fine arts.

Instead, Lisa's father pushed her toward engineering as a more practical way to earn a living; and in 1981, she enrolled as an engineering student at the University of New Hampshire in nearby Durham, NH. After two semesters, having had enough of physics and advanced calculus, Lisa knew that engineering was not in her DNA. In spite of her dad's disappointment, she transferred to the University of Maine in Orono the following year, self-majored in art, communications and advertising, and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1985.

After working a communications firm, Lisa embarked on her own as a freelance graphic designer and art director, eventually forming her own advertising, marketing and design company. For the next 15 years, she served a variety of businesses, institutions and marketing communications firms throughout New England, earning awards for design excellence and enjoying steadily increasing financial success as her reputation grew.

But something was missing. Despite the satisfactions and financial security that came with commercial design, Lisa always felt the need to express something more personal and more permanent than ads, logos and brochures. In 2004, that feeling came to a head: she made a leap of faith by renting a studio in an old Kittery school building, and began to seriously pursue painting for the first time.

Lisa spent a year studying technique with well-known painter Dennis Perrin during the early 1990s, and in 2012 took a master class with acclaimed American landscape artist Eric Aho. But for the most part, she learned on her own by painting every day—still lifes, portraits, landscapes, studies of the human form, anything that would sit still in the studio or in front of her canvas.

Her early work and vision, visibly influenced by such masters as Cezanne, Modigliani and Morandi, have slowly developed over the years since 2004 to express more and more the inner vision of the artist. Realism has evolved into abstraction; painting from life into painting from memory; small canvases into large.

Today, Lisa's work continues to evolve and mature as she explores objects, people and places in her world. It appears regularly in galleries throughout the country, as well as in the collections a growing number of people around the world.

Curriculum Vitae

Solo Exhibitions

2021 In the Moment, Blue Gallery, Kansas City, MO

2020 Life In Stills, Blue Gallery, Kansas City, MO

2020 Balancing Act, Whitney Modern, Los Gatos, CA

2018 Outside The Lines, Pryor Fine Art, Atlanta, GA

2015 Tidal, The Banks Gallery, Portsmouth, NH

2012 Looking at Life, The George Marshall Store Gallery, York, ME 2005 Still Life, The Family Tree, Portsmouth, NH

Selected Group Exhibitions

2020

Whitney Modern, 31 Women, Los Gatos, CA

2019

Whitney Modern, Inclination to Spring, Los Gatos, CA

2018

Kelley Stelling Contemporary, Fast Forward, Manchester, NH

Whitney Modern, Essence, Los Gatos, CA

George Marshall Store Gallery, Noonis, Dowd, Montenero, York, ME

2017

Mill Contemporary, RE/Configured, New Realism in the 21st Century, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Green Hut Galleries Abstraction Invitational, Portland, Maine

Green Hut Galleries Maine: The Way Life Is Invitational, Portland, Maine

2016

Piscataqua Artist Advancement Grant Finalist Exhibition, Discover Portsmouth Center

Green Hut Galleries Biennial Invitational, The Portland Show, Portland, Maine

2015

What Artists Look Like, The Discover Portsmouth Center, Portsmouth, NH

2014

Change of Season: Invited New England Artists, The George Marshall Store Gallery, York, ME

Small Works, Principle Gallery, Principle Gallery, Alexandria, VA

Curators Choice, The George Marshall Store Gallery, York, ME



Lisa Noonis

Hampton, NH

2013

New Views of the Old World, Alpers Fine Art, Andover, MA
The Bridges of Portsmouth, Discover Portsmouth Center, Portsmouth, NH

2012

Celebrating the Working Waterfront, The George Marshall Store Gallery, York, ME
The Women of Walsingham, The Walsingham Gallery, Newburyport, MA
From the Garden to the Kitchen Parts 1+2, The George Marshall Store Gallery, York, ME

2011

Textures of Us, The Edgewater Gallery, Middlebury, VT
Boston International Art Exhibition, Represented by Bowersock Gallery, Provincetown, MA 2010
Boston International Art Exhibition, Represented by Bowersock Gallery, Provincetown, MA

2009

Boston International Art Exhibition, Represented by Bowersock Gallery, Provincetown, MA
Painting From Life, The Walsingham Gallery, Newburyport, MA

2008

Approaches to Stillness - Two person show, Alper's Fine Art, North Andover, MA
Figuratively Speaking - Three person show, The Walsingham Gallery, Newburyport, MA
From the Fields and Forests- Coolidge Center for the Arts, Portsmouth, NH
Invitational Holiday Exhibition, Sharon Arts Center, Sharon, NH

Education

BA in Communications, Advertising, Art
University of Maine, Orono, 1985

Art Training

2016 Representation to Abstract Drawing with Bill Flynn, 3S Artspace, Portsmouth, NH
2012 Master Class with Eric Aho, The Currier Art Museum, Manchester, NH
2001 Still Life Painting with Dennis Perrin, Perrin Studio, Kittery, ME 2004

Professional Experience

NOONIS CREATIVE, Owner/Designer/Art Director, Since 1996
Design professional with over 20 years of extensive experience in the design of conceptual, and message driven creative.
Responsible for all aspects of creative strategy, design, art direction, production management, account management, and print management from concept to delivery.
Specialized in creating strong brands, corporate identities and collateral in addition to developing and producing print advertising, corporate communications collateral, and publication design and layout. Client base ranges from retail to consumer goods and services, industrial and high tech; and includes such fields as internal employee communications, education, and, health care.

Commissions

2012 Memorial Bridge Commission, Private Collection, Tom & Barbara Sedoric
2009 Portrait Commission, The Marcia Ryder Foundation, Kittery, ME

Graphic Design Awards

New England Museum Association Publications Design Award, 2001 The Children's Museum Promotional Brochure
Healthcare Advertising Awards, 2001 Portsmouth Regional Hospital Logo/Letterhead Design
Best of Show / 22nd Annual NH Graniteer Award, 1997 MicroArts Corporation Capabilities Brochure
National Public Television Corporate Identity Award, 1999 New Hampshire Public Television Logo and Letterhead Design

Selected Press

Studio Visit Magazine, Volume 39, East Coast
Christopher Volpe's Art Blog: Lisa Noonis: TIDAL at the Banks Gallery, 2015 The Sound, Chloe Kanner, True Hand, August 2015
Portsmouth Herald, Hitting Her Stride, Jeanne McCartin, March 2005

Volunteer Work

2015-2017 Board of Trustees for 3S Artspace, Portsmouth, NH
2015-2017 Gallery Committee Volunteer for 3S Artspace, Portsmouth, NH
2016-2017 Graphic Designer for Corpus Christi Parish's Bring It Home religious education program

