

*Treasured  
Places*




2024 ART  
CATALOG

# Treasured Places

Stepping into a wild landscape such as the Tennessee River Gorge has the power to astound our senses into a state of awe. Although there is too much to grasp in a single moment, we can feel the presence of each contributing part that makes up a wild space. These parts include sounds, colors, smells, and the spellbound state caused by the combination of these wild ingredients. These artists sought inspiration from the very same wild ingredients to create pieces that have the power to spark powerful feelings of awe. We hope you enjoy these pieces and that you experience the same sense of inspiration that was felt by the artists who created them.

Sincerely,



Eliot Berz

Executive Director



# AMANDA BRAZIER

*These paintings are inspired by the birds I was able to meet and release during a bird banding trip with the TRGT last fall.*

Amanda Brazier is a painter living in Chattanooga, Tennessee. She received her BA in Studio Art and Spanish from Freed-Hardeman University in 2007. Since 2011, she has been gathering and using local earth pigments. Her work explores shelter, especially in the context of our relationship with the land and each other. Brazier is also a teacher and facilitator for the public art organization, Mark Making.



*White-eyed Vireo*

Amanda Brazier

handmade watercolor on handmade paper, pigments from Chattanooga, TN

4" x 5" (10" x 11" framed)

Retail Value: \$500

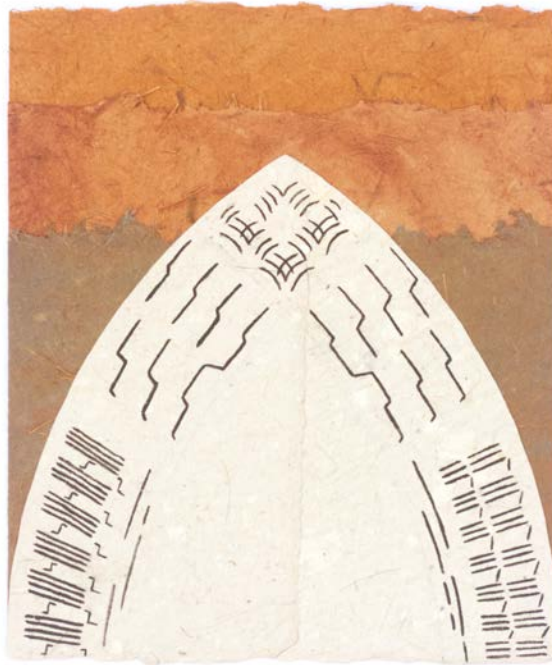
*Wood Thrush*

Amanda Brazier

handmade watercolor on handmade paper, pigments from Chattanooga, TN

6.5" x 7.75" (12.5" x 13.75" framed)

Retail Value: \$600



*Blue Jay*

Amanda Brazier

handmade watercolor on handmade paper, pigments from Chattanooga, TN

8.5" x 11" (14.5" x 17" framed)

Retail Value: \$700

# ELENA BURYKINA

*Cicadas inspired this painting. I see the cicada as a modern-day dinosaur insect. It has a mind-blowing circle of life. In my painting I tried to express some stages of this circle and to depict the beauty of shape during transformation.*



*Cicada*

Elena Burykina

oil on panel

5" x 5"

Retail Value: \$400



Elena Burykina is an artist based in Chattanooga. As a child in Ukraine, she received a classical art education which she used for over a decade as an architect. Elena moved away from architecture into teaching art to children, and painting when she could. She moved to America in 2013 and turned her full attention to painting. Her current focus is portraiture.



*A part of the circle*

Elena Burykina

oil on panel

12" x 12"

Retail Value: \$1440

# HOLLIE CHASTAIN

*Field guides have always been a constant source of interest and inspiration all the way back to my early days of camping, then on to scouting. With these pieces I wanted to bring the activity and shapes of the interior to influence and shape the binding of the information.*

Hollie Chastain is a mixed media artist and illustrator working in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Coming from both a graphic design and studio art background, her work has a story-telling quality, mixing found material, strong graphic elements and modern palettes. As well as teaching workshops across the country, she maintains a home studio producing both personal and client works.



## Field Guide 1

Hollie Chastain

Mixed media; paper, embroidery, brass, vintage field guide book cover

16" x 14" (framed)

Retail Value: \$850



## Field Guide 2

Hollie Chastain

Mixed media; paper, embroidery, vintage field guide book cover

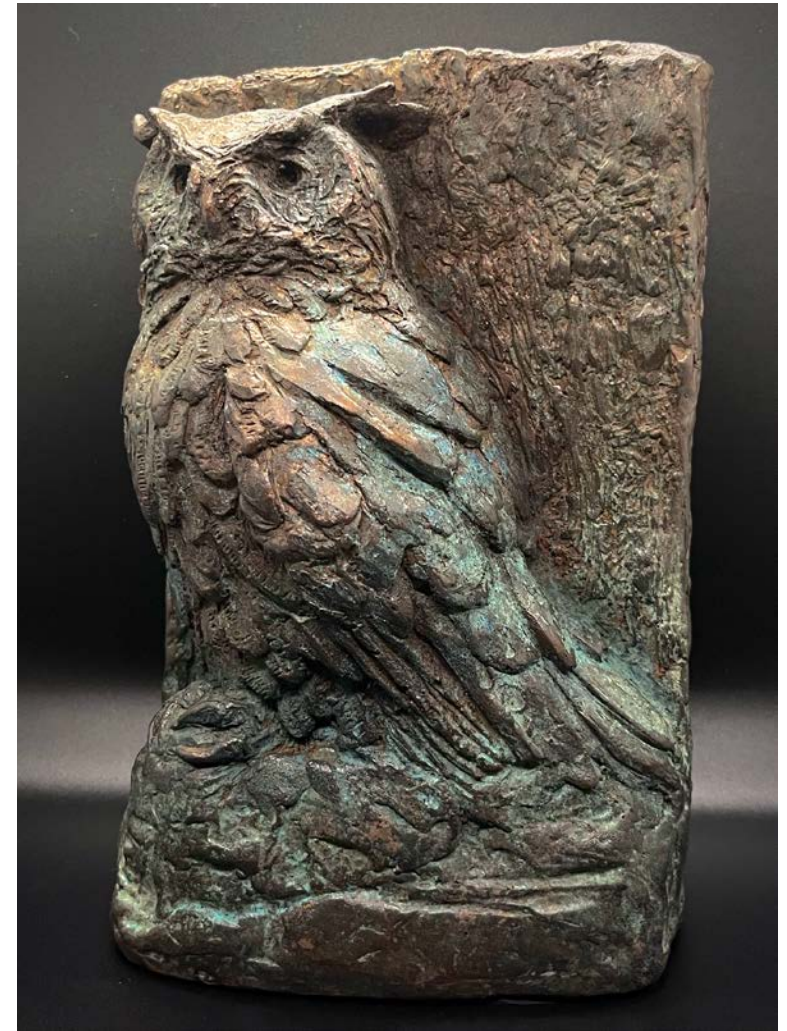
11" x 7" (framed)

Retail Value: \$700

# ALEX PAUL LOZA

*This year, I've delved into the captivating realm of creatures adorning both the skies and the underwater, echoing the seamless unity between water and sky in their graceful dance of existence.*

Chattanooga-based multidisciplinary artist, Alex Paul Loza has been creating public monuments and murals as well as artworks for private art collectors throughout the United States. Over the past two decades Loza has found inspiration in nature, and with each stroke he aims to capture the strength, beauty, gesture and emotions of his sitters and immortalize their stories. In addition to his studio work, Alex Paul contributes to numerous local organizations by offering art classes and community workshops, including serving on several local committees and boards.



*Thrive*

Alex Paul Loza  
cold-cast bronze  
8”h x 5.5”w x 3”d  
Retail Value: \$955

*Flaco*

Alex Paul Loza  
cold-cast bronze  
8”h x 5.5”w x 4”d  
Retail Value: \$955

# CINDY PROCIOSUS

*I painted the North American River Otter because they are an indicator species of healthy waterways, and they're absolutely adorable.*

Born in 1965, Cindy is a contemporary American Realist painter. Recognized for her highly detailed paintings executed in the time-honored techniques of the Old Masters, her work is crafted with elaborate under paintings and then built upon with layers of glazes and color – the final effect is both intricate and delicate. With a keen eye for color, composition and light, Cindy's paintings are a blend of a devout appreciation for artistic tradition and a contemporary aesthetic sensibility.



*North American River Otter*

Cindy Procius

oil on wood panel

16" x 12"

Retail price: \$3,500

# BRETT WEAVER

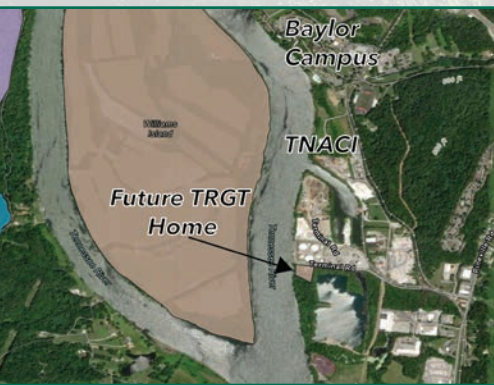
*I have a great love for rocky cliffside views of the Tennessee River Gorge that abruptly end in a wide expanse...and there it is, your destination—the Tennessee River! It's a bit like the reward of climbing a mountain and reaching the summit. 'Split Rock' was one of those amazing views that—upon seeing for the first time—I was immediately compelled to paint.*



Brett Weaver is a contemporary American impressionist who currently works and resides in Chattanooga, Tennessee with his wife and their twin children. Growing up in rural Tennessee, where his early childhood influences included faith, farming, engineering, and his family's small-town country store, taught him to see the value of people, family, community, and the beauty of the world around him. Brett's work offers a genre of visual poetry spoken through expressive shapes and layers of pigment to interpret and respond to his subject, or lack thereof. His work relies more on design than subject matter, allowing for freedom and diversity ranging from traditional landscapes to abstract expressionism.

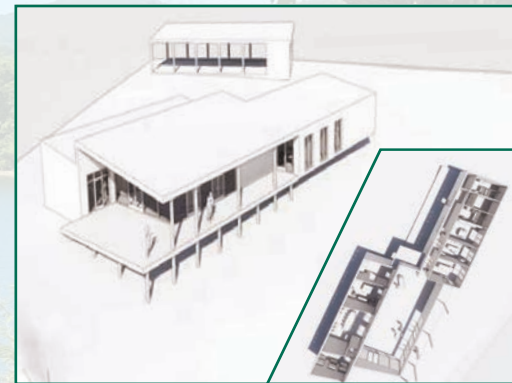
*Split Rock*  
Brett Weaver  
oil on canvas  
30" x 20"  
Retail Value: \$4,000





# HOME

is where the heart is.



As we began to dream of a new permanent home for TRGT, we envisioned what the building would look like inside. We visualized a space that would communicate our core mission while capturing the truly special places throughout the Tennessee River Gorge.

Since 2019, we have worked with many local visual artists to help us capture the essence of the gorge by creating original artwork for our annual fundraiser. Artwork can describe, transport us to, and capture the beauty of the gorge in ways that words or photos sometimes do not.

We have commissioned two internationally-recognized and highly-collectable Chattanooga painters to create artwork for the permanent collection in our new headquarters. Both artists are longstanding partners of TRGT who have created many pieces inspired by the gorge.

***These large-format paintings on the following two pages—each valued at \$10,000—will hang prominently in our Hampton Board Room.***

## Please help us fund the artwork created for our new home.

Donors who contribute at least \$3,000 will have their name listed on a permanent plaque in the Hampton Board Room.

The first donor who pledges \$10,000 will receive prominent recognition in the Hampton Board Room and Mia Bergeron's preliminary sketch for her painting, "Aetna's Song." *The sketch is a 5"x9" acrylic on yupo paper, with an 11"x14" mat.*

Please contact Alishea Hixson with any questions at [alisheah@trgt.org](mailto:alisheah@trgt.org) or 423-266-0314.

# TIMUR AKHRIEV

This commissioned artwork  
will be on permanent  
display in the new home  
of the Tennessee River  
Gorge Trust.

*Illuminated*

Timur Akhriev

oil on linen

48" x 36"

Retail Value: \$10,000



*I always wanted to paint The Gorge in super-vibrant fall colors. When this opportunity came along, I immediately asked Rick to take me to help me find the spot to make this piece. The forest is beautiful, rugged and raw, just as nature should be. But passing through some of the forest is difficult going. I wanted the composition to include the brush, thorns and whatever is in the way, to then open onto one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen. Just as it takes your organization a significant amount of work through the tough tasks to get to where Tennessee River Gorge Trust is going. The reward awaits in the distance.*

Timur Akhriev lived with his family in Vladikavkaz, the territory where southern Russia meets Chechnya, until moving from the region during the conflict of 1991. He attended the St. Petersburg Ioganson Fine Art School at the age of 12, and later, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in the Fine Arts Program. His early career efforts were primarily objective observations of the world through still life and plein air painting, moving towards a more symbolic visual practice, but still using the vocabulary of Realism.

# MIA BERGERON

This commissioned artwork  
will be on permanent  
display in the new home  
of the Tennessee River  
Gorge Trust.

*Aetna Song*

Mia Bergeron

oil on wood panel

48" x 36"

Retail price: \$10,000



*My piece depicts the sun about to set on Aetna Mountain. When I visited, there were Giant Plume Grasses blooming and catching the last light. In every shadow, I wondered if I would see a secret happening- maybe the quick silhouette of a deer, or coyotes about to sing their dusk songs before the long night.*

Mia Bergeron is a representational painter originally from New York City, but who now considers Chattanooga her home. Bergeron studied at the Rhode Island School of Design, but left to pursue a more traditional education at the Charles H. Cecil Studio in Florence, Italy in 2002. Her work is featured in collections in the United States and Europe, including the Bennett Collection and the New Salem Museum. In 2022 her painting "Tranquil Ghosts" was featured on the cover of *American Art Collector Magazine*. In January 2024, her painting was featured in the fiction section of *The New Yorker Magazine*.

# Special Thanks



BLACK CREEK  
— CHATTANOOGA —

HOSTS

Andy & Kate Stone



Located in The Arts Building in downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee, Townsend Atelier is a visual art school, gallery, and materials store. They offer demos, classes and year-round workshops in painting, drawing, printmaking, and sculpture; a weekly figure-drawing studio, and a summer Art Camp for kids. All classes are taught by professional working artists who are top in their field. Our students are of all ages and range from the beginner to professional artist who seeks to develop their artistic skills in a unique and welcoming atelier setting.

We are thrilled to partner with the Tennessee River Gorge Trust on this project and to continue the time-honored tradition of capturing the essence of our natural environment through art.



trgt.org  
423.266.0314