



WENDY SHALEN | *BECOMING ABSTRACT*

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From October 5 - 30, 2021 with an Opening Reception from 5 pm to 8 pm on October 7, 2021, Prince Street Gallery will exhibit 35 - 40 paintings by Wendy Shalen. Ms. Shalen will be at the gallery during the opening, and on each Saturday from 11 am to 6 pm.

Wendy Shalen, an Instructor of Drawing, Painting and Portfolio Development at the Art Students League of New York since 2005, works in multiple media from observation and from her imagination, starting with watercolor, pastel and oil color landscape and portrait studies, which she then transposes into large pigmented handmade paper pulp landscapes and fused glass paintings.

Exhibited work in her current show will mix smaller, realistic and carefully observed pastel plein air landscapes of Martha's Vineyard, with large abstract HMP ocean views. The large handmade paper seascapes are aerial views, some revealing embedded plastic ropes and debris, floating with the currents. Ms. Shalen's work continues to be concerned with the degradation of our oceans and our environment due to floating plastic caused by human carelessness. Her watercolors of MV seascapes are shown alongside kiln formed and abstracted glass panels of ocean waves. There are also subtle and dramatic small glass panels -the results of Shalen experimenting with the chemical reactions in the kiln between copper, sulfur and lead infused glass.

In the spring of 2018, Ms. Shalen began learning about kiln formed glass. She initially experimented with sheet glass and powdered glass frit using both a painting and collage technique. Eventually she transposed her painted plein air landscapes and drawn portraits into glass underglaze drawings and glass frit paintings. After years of painting landscapes and portraits in pastel and watercolor, carefully from life, measuring proportions with a concern for extreme delicacy and accuracy, Shalen now lets the kiln's heat work take over and alter her careful work. She marvels at the unpredictable results and enjoys the sense of freedom gained from departing from careful rendering.

For inquiries, please send emails to wshalen@gmail.com



WENDY SHALEN

Becoming Abstract

October 5 - October 30, 2021

OPENING RECEPTION:

Thursday, October 7, 2021, 5 - 8 pm

Artist will be present Saturdays, 11-6 pm

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Left: Self-portrait, kiln-formed glass frit on opaline glass, 12"x12", 2021

Right: Self-portrait within a tree knot, kiln-formed glass over Reusche over Tekta glass, 8" x 10", 2019