

welcome world

Welcome World is a group exhibition that addresses the sense of happiness in times of uncertainty and the artists' visions of happiness in the near future. The global pandemic has instilled uncertainty and a sense of despair that has changed many lives and has reshaped the artists' practice. Cristina Beard, Allie Collier, Emmye, and Nate Prati each provide a unique creative expression of what joy means. In a time filled with tumultuous social conditions and mandatory distancing, the artists' different disciplines create an exhibition that uses a similar color palette which embodies a symbolic unity.

In the search of a more optimistic future, the artists imagined themselves in a visual conversation shaping adversity in a more optimistic and ideal place. Each artist advocates for what they imagine could be a better place and share this approach with the audience.

Welcome World is a unique collaborative exhibition by four emerging artists that try to create a space of happiness in strenuous times. The artists' vision of happiness is unique and challenging.

the artists

Cristina Beard is a Latina painter, iconographer, and visual artist based in Washington D.C. Beard is currently attending the MFA graduate program at the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design. In *Welcome World* Beard presents an opportunity to explore the tensions between the social, economic, and political climate in the United States and her vision of happiness. Her works use satire, mixed media, and technique elements using clay, embroidery, and fabric that incorporate generational crafts of her Latin heritage. Beard's work creates an opportunity to see the benefits of immigration and, at the same time, question inequalities and empathize with immigrants. In this exhibition Beard wants to expose what should be discarded from American society.

Allie Collier is a graphic designer and illustrator from Nashville, Tennessee and is currently a graduate student in the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design's MFA program. Her work explores a range of ideas including the meaning of home in the aftermath of a hyper-religious upbringing and gender and sexuality in light of such a background. Her work primarily manifests as digital paintings in the styles of the Pre-Raphaelites and the Impressionists; she also works with vector design and collage in an effort to bridge the gap between digital and fine art in her own work.

Emmye is a 1st year graduate student at the GWU Corcoran MFA Fine Arts program based in DC. She merges fantasy multimedia with a style of bundles of knots called "NODs." She works in 3D and 2D within digital and traditional realms that mimic the human and plant vascular systems while advocating for blood clot recovery from her own challenges and survival. The NODs are therapy to express life's entanglements while dancing in chaos. Her work takes the form of several different appearances using textiles, resin, and silicone as well as drawing, printmaking, painting and more. Her research interests include surrealism, plant roots, the human body, street art/murals, fractals, Mirror Lab, materiality combinations, 3D animation/modeling, sci-fi, anime/kawaii culture, & pastels.

Prati is an American Painter who resides in the DC metro area. Born and raised in Maryland, Prati studied traditional painting and studio arts at Montgomery College and the Maryland Institute College of Art. He is currently working as an Adjunct Professor at Baltimore County Community College and earning his master's degree in painting at the Corcoran School of Arts and Design. His technique acts as an homage to a traditional painting practice while his content serves the conundrums of the contemporary world. In *Welcome World*, Prati's work addresses the out-sourcing of cultural and material manufacturing taking place within the United States.



Resilience
Oil on canvas
48 x 36 inches
Cristina Beard



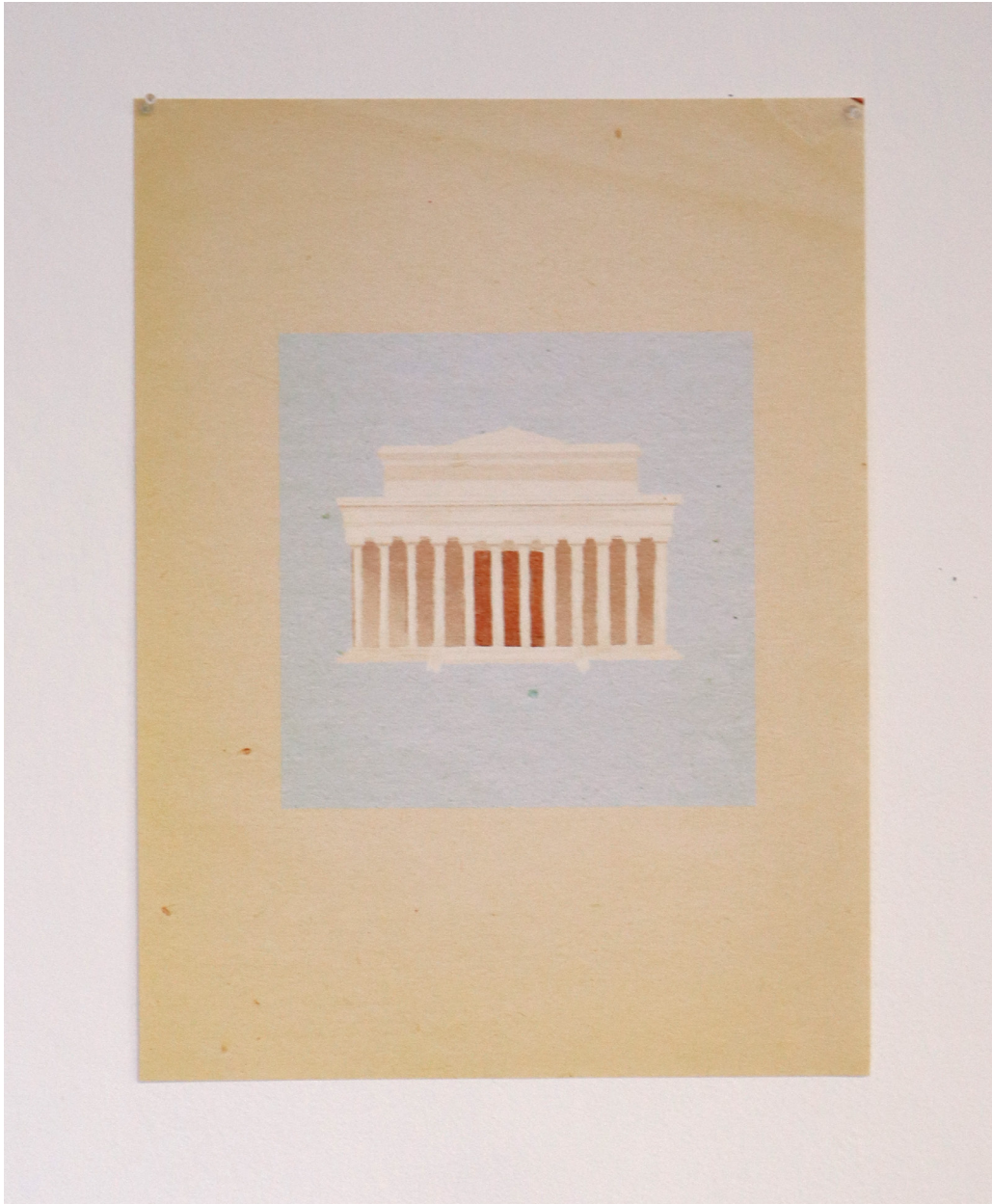
Fair Trade
Embroidery
10 inches
Cristina Beard



Still Life, Flushing the Toilet
Egg tempera and oil on canvas
72x46 inches
Cristina Beard



Capitol
Digital Painting
24x36
Allie Collier



by day
Digital Painting
18x24
Allie Collier



by night
Digital Painting
18x24
Allie Collier



rosy
Illustration
18x24
Allie Collier



Sequelae Triad 1

Foam, basswood, plywood, steel, LEDs,
plexiglass, fabric, and POSCA pens

Emmye



Sequelae Triad 2
Foam, basswood, plywood, steel, LEDs,
plexiglass, fabric, and POSCA pens
Emmye



Sequelae Triad 3
Foam, basswood, plywood, steel, LEDs,
plexiglass, fabric, and POSCA pens
Emmye



Fabric of Life: Recovery Nod
Shag fabric, steel wire, aluminum foil, fishing
wire, compression rope, chicken wire, magnets,
spray foam insulation, and spray paint
10 ft x 6 ft
Emmye



Remade in America
Acrylic and oil paint
3x5 nylon flog (made in China) and
balloons
Prati

