

Neil Jussila jus'-il-ah  
3568 Basin Creek Road  
Billings, Montana MT 59101-9148  
(406) 671-7207 cell  
(406) 252-9162 home  
[neiljussila@outlook.com](mailto:neiljussila@outlook.com) or [njussila@msubillings.edu](mailto:njussila@msubillings.edu)

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT

### Why Abstract Expressionism?

*Because it represents absolutely nothing at all yet comes from encounters in life and is fully alive in a very special way which is gut-felt without knowing why...it endures and gives cause to paint.*

## BACKGROUND

Artist in Residence: 11/15 – 10/16, Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings. Professor Emeritus of Art, Montana State University in Billings. Post graduate studies: Columbia University, Atlantic Center for the Arts, Degrees in Art, Montana State University, Combat Infantryman Badge, Army, Vietnam.

## PUBLIC RADIO ARCHIVES

2006 Yellowstone Public Radio Archives: Leni Holliman Interview: *On the Character of Painting*.

## EXHIBITIONS

'14 – '16 Reassessment following retirement after artist/teacher career.

- 2013 Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Great Falls, Montana, (Juried, Group, Painting).
- 2013 Custer County Art Museum, Miles City, Montana (Invited, Group, Painting).
- 2013 Doris Ulmann Upper Gallery, Berea College, Berea, Kentucky (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)
- 2012 Chadron State College, Chadron, Nebraska (Juried, Solo, Paintings).
- 2012 William & Florence Schmidt Art Center, Belleview Campus of Southwestern Illinois College (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)
- 2012 Custer County Art & Heritage Center, Miles City, Montana, "*Joseph in Montana...*"(Invited, Solo, Paintings.)
- 2012 Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, Benefit Auction, (Juried, Group, Painting.)
- 2012 Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Great Falls, Montana, Benefit Auction, (Juried, Group, Painting.)
- 2012 Missoula Museum of Art, Missoula, Montana 40th Annual Benefit Auction, (Juried, Group, Painting.)
- 2011 Two Rivers Gallery, Big Timber, Montana. "*A Stillness Within.*"(Invited Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 2011 Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Great Falls, Montana. "*Joseph in Montana - The Nez Perce Epic.*"(Invitation, Solo, Paintings.
- 2011 Ormand Memorial Art Museum, Ormand Beach, Florida, group of two. "*Image and Abstraction*" Juried, Group of Two, Paintings.)
- 2011 Marysville Public Library, Marysville, Ohio. "*A Stillness Within.*" (Juried Solo, Paintings.)
- 2010 Merced Multicultural Arts Center, Merced, California, group of three.(Invitation, Group of Three, Paintings.)
- 2010 Central Pennsylvania College, Summerdale.(Juried Solo, Paintings.)
- 2009 Yavapai College Art Gallery, Prescott, Arizona, group of three.(Juried Solo, Drawings.)
- 2008 Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, Montana, group exhibit.(Juried Paintings.)
- 2007 Northwest Art Center, Minot, North Dakota.(Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)

2007 The University of Montana Western, Group of Five, "The Nature of Abstraction," curated by Randy Horst, Montana Western Art Gallery Director, Dillon. "...The artists in this exhibit fall into a wide range of visual styles, but all are abstractionists – looking forward, not back." (Invitation, Group of Three, Paintings.)

2007 New Arts Program, Kutztown, Pennsylvania. (Invitation, Group, Painting.)

2007 Custer County Art Center, Miles City, MT, (Invitation, Group, Drawing.)

2007 Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Great Falls, MT. (Invitation, Group, Painting.)

2007 Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, Group exhibit. (Invitation, Group, Paintings)

2007 Bismarck State College, Bismarck, North Dakota. (Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)

2006 botanica fine art, Bozeman, Montana. (Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)

2006 Robert A. Peck Arts Center, Central Wyoming Community College, Riverton, Wyoming, Expressionists exhibit. (Invitation, Group of Four, Paintings.)

2006 Main Stope Gallery, Butte, Montana. (Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)

2007 Northcutt/Steele Gallery, Montana State University, Billings. (Invitation, Featured, Drawings/Paintings.)

2006 Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings.(Juried, Group, Paintings.)

2005 Corvallis Art Center, Corvallis, Oregon. (Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)

2005 South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Rapid City, South Dakota. (Invitation, Paintings/Drawings.)

2005 Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings. (Juried, Group, Paintings.)

2004 Firelands College at Bowling Green State University, Huron, Ohio.(Juried, Solo, Paintings.)

2004 Plains Art Museum, Fargo, North Dakota. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)

2004 The Montana Museum of Art and Culture, The University of Montana, Missoula. (Juried, Group, Paintings.)

2004 Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, Montana. (Juried, Group, Paintings.)

2003 Giles Gallery, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)

2003 Charles Ringer Gallery, Joliet, Montana. (Invitation, Featured, Paintings.)

2003 Northcutt-Steele Gallery, Montana State University – Billings. (Invitation, Featured, Drawings.)

2003 Austin Peay State University, Trahern Gallery, Clarksville, Tennessee. (Juried, Group of Two, Paintings.)

2003 Hockaday Museum of Art, Kalispell, Montana. (Invitation, Group, Painting.)

2003 Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings. (Juried, Group, Paintings.)

2003 Liberty Village Art Center & Gallery, Chester, Montana. (Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)

2003 Schoolhouse Art Center, Colstrip, Montana. (Invitation, Group, Paintings.)

2002 Truckee Meadows Community College, Red Mountain Gallery, Reno, Nevada. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)

2002 Pavilion Gallery at memorial Hospital, Mount Holly, New Jersey. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)

2002 botanica fine art, Bozeman, Montana. (Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)

2002 Enid Joy Mount Gallery, Keyser, Oregon, group of two. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)

2002 H.E. Clack Museum, Havre, Montana. (Invitation, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)

2002 New Arts Program, Kutztown, Pennsylvania, group exhibit. (Invitation, Group, Painting.)

2002 Missoula Museum of the Arts, Missoula, Montana. (Invitation, Group, Painting.)

2002 Lewistown Art Center, Lewistown, Montana. (Invitation, Group, Paintings.)

2002 Campus Christian Center, University of Arizona, Tucson. (Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)

2002 Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings. (Juried, Group, Paintings.)

2002 Shoreline, Washington, LFP Arts Council. (Juried, Group of Two, Paintings.)

2002 Old Firehouse Art Center, Longmont, Colorado, group of three. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)

2002 Depot Gallery, Red Lodge, Montana. (Invitation, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)

2002 Copper Village Museum & Arts Center, Anaconda, Montana, group exhibit. (Invitation, Group, Painting.)

2001 New Arts Program, Kutztown, Pennsylvania. (Invitation, Group, Painting.)

2001 Custer County Art Center, Miles City, Montana. (Invitation, Group, Painting.)

2001 University Center Gallery, University of Montana, Missoula. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)

2001 Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Great Falls, Montana. (Juried, Group, Painting.)

2001 Western Montana Gallery/Museum, Dillon, Montana. (Invitation, Group of Five, Paintings.)

2001 Dickenson State University, Dickenson, North Dakota. (Invitation, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)

2001 Sedona Arts Center, Sedona, Arizona, group of four. (Juried, Group of Four, Paintings.)

2001 Office of Representative Denny Rehberg, Montana, Washington, DC. (Invitation, Group of Three, Paintings.)

- 2001 Toucan Gallery, Billings. (Invited, Solo, Paintings.)
- 2001 Yellowstone Art Museum. (Juried, Group, Paintings.)
- 2000 Arts Center in Orange, Orange, Virginia. (Juried, Group of Two, Paintings.)
- 2000 Carnegie Art Center, Walla Walla, Washington. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 2000 Sycamore House Gallery, Harrisonburg, Virginia. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)
- 2000 Danforth Gallery, Livingston, Montana. (Invitation, Group of Four, Paintings.)
- 2000 Artfusion Gallery, Big Fork, Montana. (Invitation, Group of Four, Paintings.)
- 2000 Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings. (Juried, Group, Paintings.)
- 1999 James Memorial Preservation Society, Williston, North Dakota. (Invitation, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1999 Southern Indiana Center for the Arts, Seymour, Indiana. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)
- 1999 Confluence Gallery, Twisp, Washington. (Juried, Group of Three, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1999 Anderson Gallery, Billings Deaconess Clinic. (Invitation, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1999 University Center, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)
- 1999 Chadron State College, Chadron, Nebraska. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1999 Putnam Cultural Heritage Center, Carrington, North Dakota. (Invitation, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1999 Taube Museum of Art, Minot, North Dakota. (Invitation, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1999 The Arts Center, Jamestown, North Dakota. (Invitation, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1999 Bismarck Art and Galleries Association, Bismarck, North Dakota.(Invitation, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1999 Dolores Chase Fine Art, Salt Lake City. (Invitation, Group of Four, Paintings.)
- 1998 Bullen Center, Logan, Utah.(Invitation, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1998 University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, Connecticut. (Juried, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1998 Eiteljorg Museum, Indianapolis, Indiana, group exhibit. (Juried, Group, Paintings.)
- 1998 Plymouth Art Foundation, Plymouth, Wisconsin. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1997 Worthington Arts Council, Worthington, Ohio. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1997 Saint Xavier University, Chicago, group of seven. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1997 Pavilion Galleries, Memorial Hospital, Mount Holly, New Jersey.(Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1997 Carnegie Arts Center, McCarthy Gallery, Covington, Kentucky. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1997 Spartanburg County Museum of Art, Spartanburg, South Carolina. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1997 Beall Park Art Center, Bozeman, Montana. (Invitation, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1997 The Blue Ridge Arts Council, Front Royal, Virginia. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1996 Hugh N. Ronald memorial Gallery, Jay County Arts Council, Portland, Indiana. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1996 Bountiful-Davis Art Center, Bountiful, Utah. (Invitation, Group of Two, Paintings.)
- 1996 Southern Oregon State College, Ashland, Oregon. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1995 Muse Gallery, Kansas City, group exhibit. (Juried, Group, (Juried, Group, Paintings.)
- 1994 Pearl Conard Gallery, The Ohio State University, Mansfield, Ohio. (Juried, Group of Five, Paintings.)
- 1994 Eiteljorg Museum, Indianapolis, Indiana. (Juried, Group, Paintings.)
- 1994 Atrium Gallery, Salt Lake City Public Library. (Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)
- 1994 Reno Arts Commission, Reno, Nevada, group of five. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)
- 1994 Duluth Art Institute, Duluth, Minnesota. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)
- 1994 The Wiseman Gallery, Rogue Community College, Grants Pass, Oregon. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)
- 1994 Gallery '76, Wenatchee Valley College, Wenatchee, Washington. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)
- 1993 Ucross Foundation, Clearmont, Wyoming. (Invitation, Solo, Paintings.)
- 1993 St. John'sVihlein Peter's Gallery, Inc. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, group exhibit. (Juried, Solo, Drawings/Paintings.)
- 1993 Carnegie Art Center, Leavenworth, Kansas. (Juried, Solo, Paintings.)

Etc.

#### COLLECTIONS

Northwest Art Center, Minot, North Dakota.(Painting.)  
 John Bollinger, Lt. Governor, Montana.(Painting.)

9<sup>TH</sup> Federal District Reserve Bank, Minneapolis.(Painting.)  
Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings.(Paintings.)  
Jade Garden Restaurant, Helena, Montana.(Paintings.)  
Deaconess Hospital, Billings.(Paintings.)  
Billings Public Library, Billings.(Painting.)  
Holter Museum of Art, Helena, Montana.(Painting.)  
Collection of the Reverend Moon.(Painting.)  
Crawley Haughey Hanson Toole & Detrich Law Firm, Billings.(Paintings.)  
Patten Law Firm, Billings.(Paintings.) First  
Bank System, St. Paul.(Painting.) Double  
Tree Inn, Salt Lake City.(Paintings.) Ernst  
and Young, New York City.(Painting.)  
Nadine Strasson, Former Chief Executive, ACLU, New York City.(Painting.)  
David Rosand, Columbia University, New York City.(Painting.)  
Bull Mountain Coal Company, Billings.(Paintings.)

#### MISCELANNEOUS

- 2002 Painting reproduced on CD Album, "Soliloquy," Colcannon, Celtic Music. (Juried.)
- 1998 Painting reproduced in the William and Mary Review, College of William and Mary. (Juried.)
- 1999 "Montana Defined by Images," video documentary (painting), Center for the Rocky Mountain West, the University of Montana at Missoula.

#### SELECTED GRANTS

- 1997 Montana Arts Council Grant; *experimental drawing*. (Refereed award.)
- 1991 National Endowment for the Humanities; *summer seminar in the history and aesthetics of drawing and prints, Columbia University, under David Rosand, Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art Theory and History*.(Refereed award.)
- 1986 Atlantic Center for the Arts; *seminar in the field of drawing and aesthetics under Robert Morris*.(Refereed award.)

Numerous grants for professional development from the university where I once taught.