

## Common Sensibilities: Architectural references regarding home and stability

Brenda Cirioni and Leslie Zelamsky November 15 – December 17, 2017

Opening Reception: Saturday November 18, 3pm - 6pm

First Friday Reception: December 1, 6pm - 8pm

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Boston, MA - Fountain Street gallery opens its November exhibition, *Common Sensibilities*, featuring paintings by Brenda Cirioni and paintings and sculpture by Leslie Zelamsky. The show features new works by both artists, and centers on ideas of home, security and stability.

**Common Sensibilities** explores the concept of home on both a physical and spiritual level. Both artists explore architectural forms in relationship to their place in their environment and society. The concepts of stability, groundedness and security blur the boundaries between aesthetic and concept. Cirioni and Zelamsky use a variety of materials that are commonly found in and around the home.

<u>Brenda Cirioni</u>'s mixed media paintings juxtapose a singular structure against organic form. She uses the house icon as a counterpoint to her energetic, chaotic natural surroundings. Cirioni's selection of materials reflects her interest in the environment using repurposed house paint, fabric and wallpaper remnants and other debris.

<u>Leslie Zelamsky</u>'s work celebrates the contrasting aspects of intuition and deliberate action. She works with common building materials, paint and mixed media to create images that combine organic and architectural elements. Her latest work explores the commonality between her 2D and 3D work.



Brenda Cirioni grew up on a dead end dirt road. It was through her exploration of and connection to the surrounding woods that shaped her worldview and her art.

Landscape is her subject matter, not to represent it but rather explore the feelings and emotions that come from being part of the natural world.

She moved to Massachusetts to attend the Museum School of Fine Art, Boston. She currently lives in Stow near a beautiful old barn which adds to her daily joy. Her studio is in Artspace Maynard where she creates mixed media paintings on cradled panels made by her husband, Peter.

Cirioni has exhibited throughout the US. Her work was recently part of a traveling Brigham Young University exhibition *Beyond Structure: Representations of the American Barn*. She's exhibited in Boston and Metro West galleries, Attleboro Arts Museum, Danforth Museum, deCordova Museum, Fitchburg Museum and the Berkshire Museum. Her work can be seen at Renjeau Gallery, Natick, MA, Fountain Street, Boston, MA, Gallery North Star in Grafton, VT and Portland Art Gallery, Portland ME.

Her work is in corporate collections at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Fidelity Investments, Carroon and Black Insurance Co. and North Hill in Boston, as well as other institutions and private collections across the country, including the Wrigley family collection. Cirioni's painting *Dickinson's Hope* hung in the office of Governor Deval Patrick and now resides in his collection.

Leslie Zelamsky is originally from New York City where she earned her B.F.A. degree from The Cooper Union School of Art. In the years between undergraduate and graduate school, she attended the Oxbow Artist Colony and the Vermont Studio School. After earning her M.F.A. degree from the Maryland Institute College of Art, where she was awarded the Patricia Robert Harris Fellowship, she remained in the Baltimore/Washington DC area. She was a resident artist at School 33 Art Center and was also involved in a number of community based arts education programs. Zelamsky is currently a resident artist at ArtSpace Maynard where she produces paintings and sculpture. Additionally, she is a member of Fountain Street. Zelamsky's work has been exhibited at numerous venues in the DC, Baltimore and Boston/Metro West areas that include the Fitchburg Art Museum, the Umbrella, Fountain Street, ArtSpace Maynard and University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Common Sensibilities will run from November 15th through December 17th. The gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday 12 noon - 6pm and by appointment.



**Image captions:** Top: Brenda Cirioni, *Formation,* mixed media painting, 40 x 48 inches

Bottom: Leslie Zelamsky, Dwelling, mixed media painting, 40 x 40 inches

## Schedule of events:

Opening Reception: November 18, 3pm - 6pm SOWA First Friday: December 1, 6pm - 9pm

Fountain Street, a resource for artist, art lovers and collectors is a contemporary gallery in Boston, MA which exhibits the work of twenty-eight emerging and mid career artists.

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Fountain Street, 460c Harrison Ave, #2, Boston, MA 02118 GALLERY HOURS Wednesday - Sunday, 12 noon - 6pm fountainstfineart@gmail.com, fsfaboston.com