



# **FUSED**Chicago

artists creating with the medium of encaustic



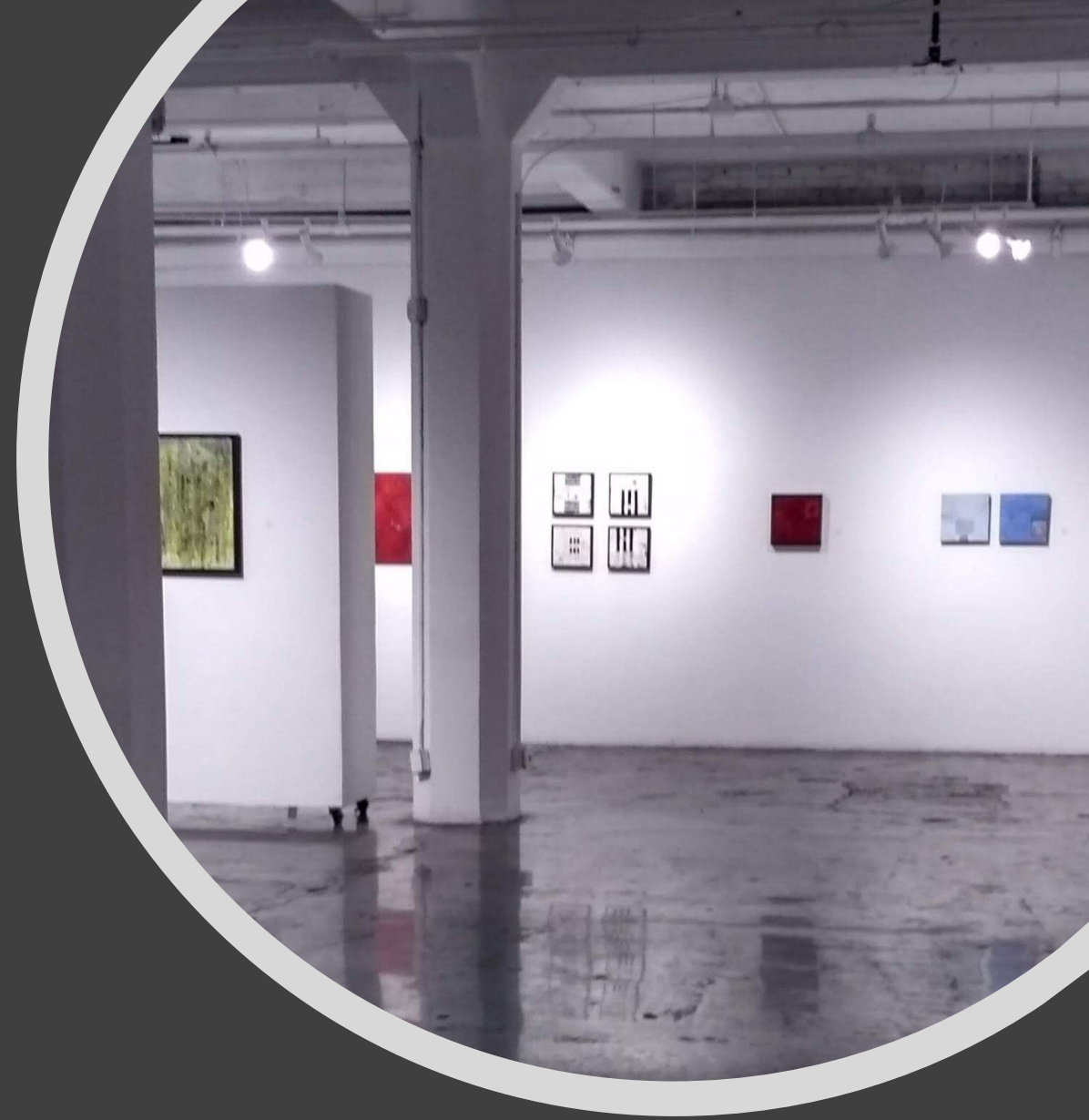
# About FUSEDChicago

FUSEDChicago is an organization of artists in the Midwest who share an interest in encaustic, a method of making art using pigmented wax fused to a surface by heat.

Our mission is to advance public awareness of encaustic art through workshops and thematic exhibitions of member work, and to create professional opportunities for networking and learning exchanges for our members.

**FUSEDChicago artists are painters, sculptors, printmakers, and photographers who bring contemporary sensibilities to their art and use modern technology in creating their work.**

**Many members are inspired by the qualities of wax itself - the brilliance of its colors, its tactility and malleability, the luminescence of wax layers, and the textural possibilities of its surface.**







**From traditional landscape painting to abstract perceptions of time and place, the artwork of FUSEDChicago members illustrate the power and potential of art to build relationships and engage communities in a diverse world.**

**These artists react to the world around them creating artwork that is highly textured, stimulating not only the sense of sight but also the sense of touch.**



**The artwork of FUSEDChicago artists visually mesmerizes viewers with the translucent and radiant quality of beeswax.**

**Several artists extend their use of wax by myriad combinations with other mediums: monoprinting on paper and fiber; applying smooth or textured wax to photographs; surfacing sculptural forms with wax; embedding organic and found objects; image transfers; shellac burn; collage, and mixed media.**





# About Encaustic

Encaustic consists of natural beeswax and dammar resin (crystallized tree sap). The medium can be used alone for its transparency or pigment can be added. The medium is applied to an absorbent surface and each layer of paint is heated to fuse it to the previous layer. The word 'encaustic' comes from the Greek word enkaiein, meaning to burn in, referring to the process of fusing the paint. The now famous Fayum portraits, painted on mummy casings by the Egyptians during the Roman period, epitomize an early notable use of encaustic. After revivals of the medium during the 18th and 19th centuries, Jasper Johns' paintings in the 1950's brought encaustic to the forefront of modern art. Contemporary artists are drawn to this ancient medium for its dimensional quality and luminous color. The nature of encaustic paint allows artists to manipulate the surface by building texture, carving into the beeswax, embedding various items or maintaining a glasslike finish.

# FUSEDChicago Curriculum Vitae

## 2023

*Connections*, ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL

*Tranquility*, Wauconda Area Library, Wauconda, IL

*Small Works*, Blue Moon Gallery, Grayslake, IL

## 2022

*Beyond the Surface*, Brushwood Center, Ryerson Woods, IL

## 2020

*The Sum of the Parts*, Oesterle Library Gallery, North Central College, Naperville, IL

*#FusedAtHome*, online exhibition

## 2019

*Beyond Fayum*, Arts Place, Inc., Portland, IN

*FireWORKS*, Dole Mansion, Crystal Lake, IL

*Painting with Fire*, Zhou B Arts Center, Chicago, IL

*Variations in Wax*, The State Street Gallery, Robert Morris University, Chicago, IL

*Contemporary Ancients*, South Haven Center for the Arts, South Haven, MI

*Fayum 21*, Union Street Gallery Chicago Heights, IL

## 2018

*Bijou at Brickton*, A Small Works Show, Brickton Art Center, Park Ridge, IL

*Radiance*, The Healing Art, Monroe Arts Center/Monroe Clinic Hospital Gallery, Monroe, WI

*Compendium*, Old Courthouse Art Center, North Gallery, Woodstock, IL

## 2016

*The Dot Show*, Collaborative art installations, Chicago Arts District showPODS, Chicago, IL

## 2015

*Expansive Visions*, Christopher Art Gallery, Prairie State College, Chicago Heights, IL, curated by Beth Shadur

*Textural Encounters*, ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL

## 2014

*FUSED*, Union Street Gallery, Chicago Heights, IL, curated by Jessica Segal

*Diptych Project with New England Wax*, Engine Gallery, Biddeford, ME

## 2013

*FUSEDChicago: A Group Encaustic Exhibition*, Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art, College of Lake County, Grayslake, IL, curated by Steve Jones

*GREEN*, Fine Arts Building, 2nd Floor Gallery, Chicago, IL

## 2012

*Rhythm in Wax*, Norris Cultural Arts Center, St. Charles, IL.

*Tactile Encounters: The Influence and Appearance of Texture*, Kemper Gallery, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, IL

*The Buzz*, Zhou B Art Center, Gallery 303, Chicago, IL, curated by Jenny Learner

## 2011

*New Encaustic Explorations*, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, Evanston, IL

*Fused*, Black Cloud Gallery, Chicago, IL

## 2010

*Encaustic: Hot Art*, The Art Center, Highland Park, IL

*Fused 2: Art+Wax in Chicago*, Fine Arts Building, Chicago, IL

## 2009

*Fused! Art+Wax in Chicago*, Fine Arts Building, Chicago, IL





# About FUSEDChicago Members

All artist members of FUSEDChicago create art partly or entirely from encaustic. Our members are represented in art galleries locally and nationally, have been included in world-class expositions including EXPO Chicago and SOFA (Sculpture Objects Functional Art and Design) and have work in collections throughout the world.



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