



Abstractions by Anne Marchand

At Sacred Heart University's Discovery Science Center

November 15, 2021- May 15th, 2022

***Abstractions: Anne Marchand*, opened to the public Saturday, November 15, 2021 in the STEAM gallery of the SHU's Discovery Science Center in Bridgeport, CT. The exhibition, which features bold, colorful, large-scale abstract paintings by renowned artist Anne Marchand, remains on display through May 15, 2022.**

An artist reception will be held Saturday, March 5 at 6:00pm

Inspired by the Hubble Space Telescope photographs, Anne Marchand's work is an exploration of the surprisingly colorful and frequently fluid-like state of the universe. Her mixed media pieces combine texture, color, and negative space to convey the dichotomy between the chaos of entropy and cohesion of nature.

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, Anne Marchand says that growing up in such a colorful environment, redolent with Spanish, French, and African influences left a lasting impression on her color sensibility. She traveled widely throughout the South, which had a profound effect on her developing a visual vocabulary of form and color derived from nature. She earned a bachelor's degree in art from Auburn University in 1971 and a master's of fine arts degree from the University of Georgia in 1975. Since graduating, she has lived and worked in Washington D.C. Anne and her artist husband have continued to explore the world, experiencing the visual cultures of Europe, Central America, India, and Thailand. The varied landscapes they have seen continue to serve as inspiration for her art.

Anne's vibrant paintings are alive with shifting space, moving color, and animated lines. They reflect a range of perspectives: images of deep space, views from airplanes and automobiles, perceptions of natural and manmade textures and patterns, along with their emotional resonances, all distilled together. Her mature work is the result of years of experimentation, particularly with acrylic mediums and interference and pearlescent pigments. With these materials, qualities of radiance and light became active metaphors reflecting an inner state of being. Images of planets from the Hubble telescope inspired the painter to introduce circular imagery into her work. The nebulas and galaxies suggested biological structures, and Marchand realized the connection between space and the body as manifestations of the same universal energy. Her paintings capture a sense of wonder, introspection, and imagination.

4450 Park Avenue • Bridgeport, CT 06604 • 203.372.3521 • www.discoverymuseum.org

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“Space, color and mystery are calling cards to begin the work of layering materials on canvas,” said Marchand. “Moving with both conscious and spontaneous actions, I combine themes of spirit and matter. My choice of materials conveys transparent layers and depth of meaning reflecting the mysteries of creation and destruction. The painting process is metaphor for patterns emerging in nature and from invisible forces. I am drawn to images that open the viewer to questions about personal experience, consciousness and transformation.”

Marchand’s work has been recognized with many honors and awards. It is part of many corporate and private collections across the country, and has been exhibited widely in museums and galleries from New York to California. She teaches private classes and maintains a studio in Washington, D.C.

The Sacred Heart University’s Discovery Science Center & Planetarium is an interactive science center in Bridgeport, Connecticut, that serves as both a tourist destination and an educational resource for area families, schools, and other groups. Discovery was founded in 1958 & opened to the public in 1962. Originally named the Museum of Art, Science, and Industry (or commonly referred to using the acronym MASI), Discovery has offered interactive learning opportunities to generations of local residents.

Discovery Science Center & Planetarium is open to the public 7 days a week. The hours are Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m., and on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m..

For more information about Discovery visit <https://www.shudiscovery.org> or call (203) 416-3521.



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