
Rita Blitt

Artist's Biography

Rita Blitt, international award winning painter/sculptor/filmmaker, has been creating art all of her life. Jewish Family Services of Greater Kansas City is proud to own her works seen on the walls throughout their building.

In 2017, her art will be celebrated at the grand opening of the Rita Blitt Gallery and Sculpture Garden at Mulvane Art Museum, Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas. It will connect to the Concert Hall of the University.



“When lines come from my hands, I feel like I am dancing.” – Rita Blitt

Museums with Blitt Art in addition to Mulvane:

Albrecht-Kemper Museum of Art
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum
Kansas City Children's Museum
Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art
Kennedy Museum of American Art
National Museum of Singapore
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art
Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art
Nevada Museum of Art
Skirball Museum
Spencer Museum of Art
Spertus Museum

Artist's Biography

*“Rita Blitt's art makes energy visible.”
- David Barg, Conductor*

The art of Rita Blitt has been shown or installed in Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Singapore, Spain, Taiwan, Uganda, China and the United States. Blitt has installed over 40 works of public art up to 60 feet in height, and has had over 70 solo exhibitions.

Her most awarded works are: ***Caught in Paint***, a 6 minute film collaboration with the Parsons Dance Company and ***Inspiration*** sculpture. Her words “Kindness is Contagious. Catch it!” have inspired people all over the world.

The award winning book ***Rita Blitt: A Passionate Gesture*** published by Ram Publications and Brandeis University, 2000, traces the development of Blitt's art. A limited edition of this book includes a 6 x 6 x 2.5 inch, two part wood sculpture.

Films from the DVD ***Rita Blitt: Visions of My World: 9 Films of Creative Inspiration***, can be viewed on www.ritablitt.com. Blitt's Kindness poster ***Kindness is Contagious, Catch It!*** and a sculpture pattern from ***Nessie the Sculpture***, a Blitt children's book, can be downloaded at www.ritablitt.com.

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Rita Blitt

JFS ART COLLECTION

Selected Works

Selected Works in the JFS Collection

A generous gift of more than 60 pieces of original artwork by Rita Blitt adorn the public spaces and offices of JFS in Brookside. Blitt donated the works to show her support of JFS' important work of caring for people in our community.

Rita's art adds a dimension of beauty throughout the building. The pieces were hand-selected by the artist to offer calm, hope and inspiration to our clients, staff and guests for years to come.

JFS is honored by and grateful for this gift, and eager to share the power and beauty of Blitt's art with others.



**Hand-like Branches Make
Shadows in the Snow**

1964
Acrylic on canvas, 20 x 24 inches

"I was fascinated by my deeply felt thought that tree branches remind me of hands. In this painting, the tree branches are shadows in the snow."



Me, Myself and I

1986
Acrylic gel on masonite, 40 x 36 inches

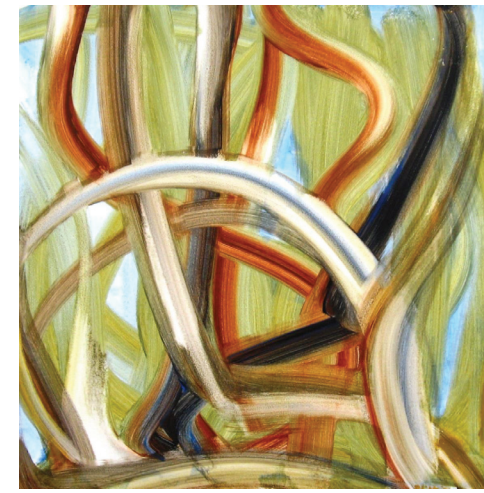
"In 1986, deeply involved in creating sculpture, I was also yearning to return to making works that would hang on the wall. I then combined paste and gel, put gloves on my hands, and let my hands dance on masonite."



Awakening II

1989
Acrylic on paper, 30 x 22 inches

"My art inspires my titles. I wish for my work to be viewed creatively and to inspire other titles."



In the Woods

1991
Acrylic on masonite, 22 x 22 inches

"This painting on masonite was my favorite in this series of works that seemed to be related to nature."



Lunarblitt

2006, edition 8/16
Stainless steel and bronze, 11 x 17 inches

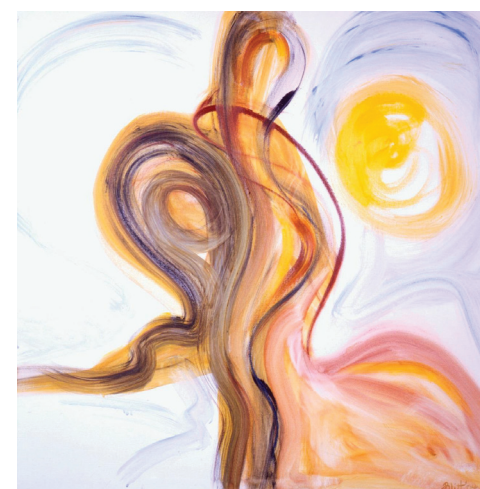
"Lunarblitt was originally created for Oakpark Mall, Overland Park, Kansas in 1975. When I walked up to that 72" sculpture, I said to my husband, "This feels more like me than anything I have ever created." I then realized that the drawing which inspired the sculpture came from a 1" doodle. I concluded that my doodles must be the essence of me. This realization has guided everything I have created ever since."



Freedom

1997
Acrylic on paper, 30 x 22 inches

"For many years, I began my day by letting spontaneous lines flow. In 1977, I wrote about my drawings, 'I feel like I am dancing'."



Spirits Rising

2004
Acrylic on canvas, 36 x 36 inches

"This painting was the result of listening to the brass quartet while standing in the back at the Aspen Music Festival in 2004."



The Courage to Hope

2004
Acrylic on canvas, 54 x 108 inches

"*Courage to Hope* was painted in Aspen, Colorado. It received its title when it was chosen for my exhibition *Fear of War, Courage to Hope*, which opened at Mt. San Antonio College in 2009."



The Dance

2012
Watercolor on paper, 11 x 15 inches

"This tiny painting was one of a series created while I sat in the Japanese Tea Garden listening to the Aspen Music Festival concert. I was painting in response to Michael Udow's request for a film of my art related to nature to which he could compose music. The resulting film collaboration, *Abyss of Time*, premiered in China and can be heard and seen on www.ritablitt.com."

Art on cover: **Future Dreams**

1985, Acrylic gel on masonite, 30 x 24 inches