



[UPHE AVAL]

June - September 2019
Opens June 7th 6:00 pm
Awakenings
4001 N Ravenswood #204c

[Upheaval]

[Upheaval] weaves together the striking artwork of four artists to tear away the censoring veil that so often hides survivors' truth.

Lynden Cline's sculptures, Miguel Barros' paintings, Joyce Symoniak's photography on metal, and Sky Dai's mixed media come together to show how the violence of sexual assault throws a person into turbulence, into violent change, and how their deepest internal layers become warped. The beauty and grit, the warm mixed with cold, and the soft materials mixed with sharp objects in each artist's work shrouds the viewer in the swirling experience of surviving sexual violence and the upheaval it causes.

Each artist uses their media to wrap, unwrap, swirl, and stretch the expression of survivorship. These artists pull back the censoring cover from what is otherwise perceived as "normal" domestic lives to the outside world and expose the truth. The artists' bold choice of materials and styles amplifies their courageous choice to express this truth.

Abuse happens in the home. It happens to children. It happens to spouses. The upheaval is hard to look at. Awakenings believes in giving artists the space to share their truth. And this exhibit will be no exception.

We encourage you to take Miguel Barros' words to heart as you view this exhibit. Barros strives to be, "a good soul who is there even in silence, just listening to the words, sharing with [survivors of childhood sexual violence] a helping hand, and love, and respect, just to be on their side, side by side..."

Artists

Lynden Cline

Violations of the human spirit are never forgotten

Stories recorded...

**some stories kept close,
some stories kept closer,
some stories kept even closer,
some stories kept hidden**

Self-Portrait

**Link and link and link and link
Said aloud renders the word**

Secrets

...carried to church on Sunday by a white-gloved tiny hand...

Inhibit the inhibitors

**/in'hibit/
verb
hinder, restrain, or prevent (an action or process)**

Bound

**...round and round and round it goes, where it stops
nobody knows...**

[Upheaval]



Self-Portrait
Lynden Cline



Secrets

Lynden Cline



Inhibit the inhibitors
Lynden Cline



Violations of the human spirit are never forgotten

Lynden Cline



Bound
Lynden Cline

Miguel Barros

When I lived in Portugal, until 2008, I've worked for an institution who helped victims of rape crimes, sexual abuses, prostitutions, drugs addicted, and homeless, young and old people...

When I moved to Africa, in Angola I lived there until 2014, and became a close friend of an institution, who helped people victim of rape, sexual exploited, all kinds of human suffer...

I feel honor and humble, because my work and my life were always nearby these people and fighting against this horror of lives, and trying to help the better I've could, the better I've knew, and I know.

I've met personally each one of these persons!

The suffering of these girls and boys, and how much I've learned about life and the meaning of the people who has nothing then the support of a good soul who are there even in silence, just listening their words, sharing with them a helping hand, and love, and respect, just be on their side, side by side...

Through this life experience I always try to be present and in any kind of way to bring out this subject through my work, my paintings!

Those two paintings I did belong to my own private collection, and those portraits are inspired, and I've developed this fiction, these two paintings are created by the influence of experiences of lives, and they do not represent a real person, but it is from real examples, real expressions of silences, just the eyes talking and sharing their hard pass, and how cruel a human being can be, but in these looks we can find kindness, beauty and hope, and perhaps through unavoidable suffering we can sublimate this into a life force!



Portrait of Suffering I
Miguel Barros



Portrait of Suffering II
Miguel Barros

Joyce Symoniak

My series of digitally created images is based upon social and ethical issues that go unseen by many people. Using the power of imagery I give the viewer insight into abusive/violent relationships and the darkness hidden within.

My main focus is on the issues in which many women face. The scope of my work is not only on the subject of women but an overall system which has failed the people it is supposed to protect, this should be a national concern. As an example; our government has cut funding to help protect women and provide them with basic needs such as shelters, forcing them to stay in an abusive relationship. The effects are devastating; for every single shelter to protect women and children there are two shelters for pets. Proving the pets within our society are given higher regard than the women. This is just one example, of our "Systems Failure".

Utilizing my fumage (smoke) technique and photography these images exemplify the human side of what happens when our system fails. The intent of combining the process of my daolistic (daolistic means peaceful) drawings with my digital images is to show a surrealistic life style. My hope is to impact the viewer by allowing them to see a person having a moment of peace within their abusive world, while drawing the viewer into the surrealistic life. This conjoined with the lack or little color brings the viewer into the darken world in which the victim must learn to survive.

I tried to create a view into the life of many who suffer silently; those who have had to live trapped in fear, unprotected and alone. My own life included.



Alone
Joyce Symoniak

Art works





(Left Top) **Silenced**
Joyce Symoniak

(Left Bottom) **Smore**
Joyce Symoniak

(Right) **Trapped**
Joyce Symoniak

Sky Dai

A raw egg hanging from a tree branch, a playground surrounded by caution cones, or half of a body poking out from under a coffee table, my art personifies domestic space to represent the erasure of the childhood home I fled from.

Inspired by how Post Traumatic Stress Disorder causes the brain to reassemble memory through intrusive flashbacks and nightmares, I collect memory fragments that are turned into paintings, ceramic sculpture, performance, and poetry. I investigate the environments that I have found myself in, a treatment facility, hospital, or simply a studio apartment.

The absence of the figure is represented by what is left behind: a rocking chair, a clothesline, or a ceramic sculpture of a plastic razor. I contort domestic imagery through hand built ceramic installations of the household items that we share, such as an unstable medicine cabinet, pill bottles, broken rubber gloves, melted frying pans, and squished hairspray cans. By deconstructing these fragments of the past, I can solidify memory, resulting in a trauma narrative that is contained within the dimensions of a drawing.

[Upheaval]



Blue Underwear
Sky Dai



Mural
Sky Dai

[Upheaval]

Permanent Collection

Linda Ness

Moonlit Cartwheels

Tightrope Romance

Bible Reading

Vacation with Dad

Father Knows Best

Dead Limbs

Rageaholic

The Beat Goes On

Unfinished Nightmare

Artists statements are located next to each artwork respectively

Special Thanks to:

Jean Cozier

Visual Art Review Committee

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