

# Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Lady Pluto

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting *Chrono: The Dimensional Portal*, featuring works by Lady Pluto, on view in Gallery II, through June 25, 2022. A reception and artist talk will take place on June 16, from 6-9pm.

Lady Pluto, whose first “Chrono” exhibition at ACS was held in April 2021, says this year’s show will include “dreamscape, abstract and figurative works. You can expect to see an abundance of bright colors.”

She adds, “I consider my art to be fragments of my spirit. The pieces in this exhibit represent passing moments in my life, emotions I’ve felt and intuitive thoughts and dreams that have made an impact on me.”

“As always, my hopes are, through my art, to help others become more aware of the present – to be more accepting of what you feel. I want people to understand that even our negative feelings give us the potential to create something positive. The world would be even more beautiful if we all made the conscious decision to do just that.”

She wants those who visit the exhibit to “walk away with artwork and the inspiration to use negative energy as fuel to propel themselves into their own version of a beautiful life. We cannot destroy energy, but we always have the power to transform it. In doing so, we can inspire each newer generation to do the same.”

The 20 pieces in the exhibit will be offered for sale, with prices starting at \$40.

“There isn’t any one thing that inspired this exhibit,” she says. “My goal is to bring peace and love to the world. What that may look like changes constantly just like the clouds in the sky.” She adds that she “aims to provide inner peace for those acknowledging their spiraled, never-ending journey through spiritual enlightenment.”

Pluto, a native of Austell, GA, is a self-taught artist who began learning to paint at age 24, following her “spiritual path” through her paintings.

In February of this year, she had works exhibited at the Bruh Mentor Sneaker Gala. In 2020, her works were exhibited in *Hit Refresh: New Member Exhibit* at the Artists Collective | Spartanburg, *Black Artists of Spartanburg Exhibit* at the



Work by Lady Pluto

Chapman Cultural Center and she assisted the late Madding artist with his “R” in the Black Lives Matter mural in downtown Spartanburg. She also painted a mural inside The Tulip Tree restaurant in downtown Spartanburg last year.

Previously, she has had works displayed in *An Unfinished Story* in Spartanburg’s Montgomery Building, *Birth Matters Garden Party and Silent Auction*, Habitat for Humanity Spartanburg’s *Upcycled Art Show* and Thomas Koenig’s exhibit *Seeing Big*.

She also has done live paintings in downtown Greenville and held a paint-and-sip event last year. She has had pop-up shops at Anderson Mall, Drayton Mills and Midtown Lounge.

A member of ACS since 2019, Lady Pluto is excited about exhibiting there again. “I’ve met some of my best friends at ACS. The collective will always hold a very special place in my heart and soul,” she says.

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, located on W. Main Street, provides a forum and home for the arts and creative population of Spartanburg, providing facilities and services to artist members for exhibits, performances and creation.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit ([artistscollectivespartanburg.org](http://artistscollectivespartanburg.org)).

# Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Sydney McMath

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting *the thing with feathers: expressions of grief and hope*, featuring works by Sydney McMath, on view in Gallery III, through June 25, 2022. A reception and artist talk will take place on June 16, from 6-9pm.

Upstate artist Sydney McMath is using her works to illustrate that hope and grief are intertwined, and she hopes visitors to her upcoming exhibition will see the two “cannot exist without one another, which is the very meaning of life.”

The show will include new 2D works, including paintings and jewelry, using acrylic, mixed media, mixed metals and found objects.

“These paintings are darker than mine typically are, I think because the subject matter is often desolate, heavy and grey,” says McMath, a founding member of the Artists Collective | Spartanburg, formerly the West Main Artists Co-op, which opened in 2009. “I believe hope and light can’t be appreciated fully unless we can see and feel utter sadness and grief. Even my more optimistic paintings in this exhibit will have a somber appearance for this reason. I am also incorporating bird-themed jewelry and a few mixed-media pieces to give the show some texture.”



Work by Sydney McMath

McMath says she wants those who see the works “to be comforted by knowing that we all share the same cycle of hope and grief, building and rebuilding. Just like continuing to go on as an animal rescuer, seeing so much pain, we also can continue life between our own highs and lows. I want people to know that grief and hope are intertwined, inescapable and cyclical, both good and bad.”

The inspiration for the art in the exhibition is that “the parallels between grief and hope are shared among all species, human and non,” McMath says. “My love of animals, especially birds, influences the majority of my life, down to making jewelry to fund my rescue efforts. In

[continued on Page 14](#)

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