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## **Mission Fed ArtWalk Announces 2022 Featured Artists for 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival on April 30-May 1**

*San Diego's Little Italy will come alive with artwork from around the world, including eight featured artists who demonstrate a strong dedication to the arts*

**SAN DIEGO (January 21, 2022)** – [Mission Fed ArtWalk](#) announces this year's Featured Artists for its 38<sup>th</sup> annual event. This weekend-long premier arts and culture event is returning to the streets of the historic Little Italy neighborhood on Saturday, April 30, 2022 and Sunday, May 1, 2022. The largest and longest running arts festival in Southern California showcases every medium of art including painting, sculpture, glass work, photography, fine jewelry and more. In addition, Mission Fed ArtWalk has selected eight Featured Artists—a select group of artists that demonstrate the depth of creativity among the 250-plus exhibitors. This year's Featured Artists include:



**[Armik Malekian](#) | Oil & Acrylic**

With a storied international career, Armik Malekian is an award-winning artist whose work has been featured in movies and TV shows for several networks through the US, South America and Europe. Armik's work is inspired by an emotional response to the natural world, light, shadow, texture combined with memories and imagination. Armik is influenced by the work of Monet, Sargent and George Inness. Through the main techniques within his paintings utilizing shadow, color and highlights, he has created a visual reflection of the emotional joy of life. His use of dramatic and bright lights creates a dramatic flow on figures in his paintings, which capture the essence of his subjects.

[www.armikmalekian.com](http://www.armikmalekian.com)



### [Charles Sherman](#) | Sculpture

Inspired by the architecture of ancient civilizations, early 20th century architecture and the 19th century mathematician A.F. Möbius, Charles Sherman's creative spirit led him from drawing and painting to sculpture and jewelry design. His sculptures represent the concept of infinity and promote positive energy in its environment, as seen in his popular *Infinity Ring* sculptures. Charles took his larger monumental sculptures and transformed them into smaller scale wearable art for his sterling silver *Infinity Designs* jewelry collection. [www.charlesshermanart.com](http://www.charlesshermanart.com)



### [Daniel Valentine](#) | Acrylic

Self-taught artist, Daniel Valentine developed his technique by experimenting with different paints, papers, metals, canvases, glass, and wood. Daniel's "Ladies Series" features contemporary style female figures inspired by the flowing lines of the calla lily flower. The semi-abstract creations remain faceless, thus allowing the beholder to use their imagination in the connection with each image. Each figure is finished with Daniel's signature trademark, one sparkling earring adorning each woman, representing her inner light. Daniel's work has been featured throughout the country in numerous galleries and art festivals in cities including New York, Chicago, La Jolla, and San Francisco. [www.valentinecollections.com](http://www.valentinecollections.com)



### [Delphine Bordas](#) | Photography

Delphine's inspiration for her photos is nature, with her images depicting black and white landscapes along with colorful botanicals. Early into her career, she knew that black and white was the medium where she could best express herself and would be able to create something more than just a photograph. This mentality also allowed her to view the use of color differently, particularly inverted color, which can make nature truly come alive. She hopes viewers of her work see the versatility, resilience and seemingly chaotic perfection nature provides. [www.delphinebphotography.com](http://www.delphinebphotography.com)



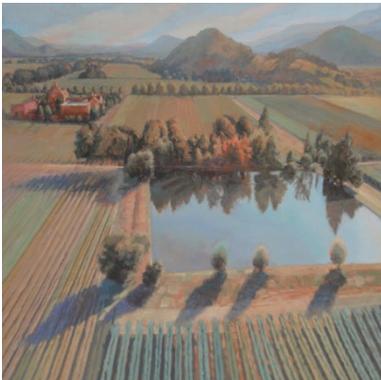
#### [Lisa Bryson](#) | Oil

San Diego native Lisa Bryson is a contemporary oil painter well-known across the globe. Through direct and purposeful manipulation of the physical representation of the human form and media, Bryson's work examines the state of being. She paints with traditional palette knives and much larger masonry trowels to evoke intense and pure artwork. Working in a reductive process, Bryson at once buries and unearths narratives that speak out through the varied marks of quiet and calculated noise. In 2017, Lisa was awarded a Master of Fine Arts in Painting and granted a Teaching Fellowship from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Her work has been featured in several publications and most recently accepted into the *International Painting Annual 9* publication. She intends for her work to evoke emotion, stir the imagination and capture a moment in time. [www.LBryson.com](http://www.LBryson.com)



#### [Mel Sage](#) | Wood

Owner and founder of Sage Woodworks, Mel Sage is a multifaceted artist who draws from her architecture and interior design background to create awe-inspiring topographies of our natural environment. Mel studied architecture and digital fabrication, which is where she learned about site models and laser cutting. She combined these skills with that of woodworking to create 3D wooden art pieces. Each piece uses nature and its varying topographies as inspiration. [www.sagewoodworks.org](http://www.sagewoodworks.org)



#### [Richard Oliver](#) | Oil

Award-winning landscape and plein air painter, Richard Oliver spent many decades as a figurative studio painter before experiencing the beauty of plein air painting. This style allowed him to get a deeper understanding into the existential questions of life and death by completely immersing himself in the ever-changing environment. New green growth pushing up through the soil, decaying trees scorched and blown down by the winds, light and clouds moving across unceasingly across the sky, everywhere he looked there was an expression of the universe. The more time he spent outside, the more nuances he saw, and as the seasons changed, he found inner peace and confidence. [www.richardjoliver.com](http://www.richardjoliver.com)



### **Robin Branham | Abstract**

Abstract artist Robin Branham primarily works with acrylic pigment and polymer to create large-scale paintings. Her work is inspired by the world around her and typically results from intense dialogues she has with herself about texture surface, color balance and opposites. Branham's techniques involve the application of multiple layers of acrylics mixed with different types of acrylic gels to create shapes and texture. Each painting whether on wood, canvas or heavy paper is worked and reworked numerous times to ensure the highest quality. Branham's work is known to be spontaneous and intuitive. Her paintings are in museums across the U.S. and Foo Fighter's drummer owns several of her pieces.

[www.robinbranham.com](http://www.robinbranham.com)

Mission Fed ArtWalk attracts 120,000 art collectors and visitors from all over the country to purchase art from established and emerging artists during the two-day festival located throughout San Diego's Little Italy neighborhood. The event will run from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 30 and 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 1. Attendance is free and more information will be released in upcoming months. For more information on ArtWalk and its programs, please visit [www.artwalksandiego.org](http://www.artwalksandiego.org).

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### **About Mission Fed ArtWalk**

Mission Fed ArtWalk in San Diego's Little Italy is the City's longest-running outdoor fine art festival. In 2022, it will celebrate its 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mission Fed ArtWalk will run from Saturday, April 30 through Sunday, May 1, featuring professional artists from across the globe. Mission Fed ArtWalk offers collectable and approachable art from all kinds of media, such as drawings, sculpture, paintings, photography, metal work, woodwork and much more. More than just a visual arts festival, the event also features several performances by professional musicians and dancers. For more information on Mission Fed ArtWalk, please visit [www.missionfederalartwalk.org](http://www.missionfederalartwalk.org). Become a fan on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

### **About Mission Fed Credit Union**

Mission Federal Credit Union (Mission Fed) is the largest member-owned, not-for-profit, full-service financial institution exclusively serving San Diego County. Mission Fed enhances the lives of its members through financial education and services, providing stability and strength to help San Diegans with financial wellness and success. Banking at Mission Fed means doing good for San Diego. Mission Fed gives money back to our local communities, has helped hundreds of nonprofits and important causes, and builds deep relationships with community partners.

Mission Fed has served the financial needs of San Diegans for 60 years through checking, savings, loans, credit cards and insurance offerings. Mission Fed has \$5 billion in assets, more than 270,000 members, 33 convenient local branches, 30,000 fee-free CO-OP ATMs nationwide and free mobile and online banking services. Mission Fed was recognized as a 2020 Top Workplace by *The San Diego Union-Tribune* and named a Top Workplaces USA winner in 2021. Federally insured by NCUA and Equal Housing Lender. To learn more, visit [www.MissionFed.com](http://www.MissionFed.com).