

## Oil & Acrylic Works on Display at Arts Barn Gallery

**Gaithersburg, MD – (January 5, 2012)** The City of Gaithersburg presents the oil and acrylic art of Audrey Salkind, Cassie Taggart and Vian Shamounki Borchert and her students at the Arts Barn Gallery January 13 through March 11, 2012. The gallery is located at 311 Kent Square Road in Gaithersburg. Viewing hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. An artists' opening reception will be held on Tuesday, January 24 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

With an open eye the possibilities are endless, and **Audrey Salkind** finds inspiration in the ordinary. Large and small groupings of objects along with the negative spaces surrounding them stir her artistic imagination. Composition, space, color and above all, tension, are her concerns when beginning her abstract paintings. The negative areas surrounding the image are as important to Salkind as the image itself. Creativity requires elimination and simplification and often representational forms and figures first applied to the canvas will be painted over to depict variations of geometric shapes, sometimes allowing the underlying image to appear on the surface of the canvas. She is keenly aware not only of nature but of architectural forms and tries to selectively depict this in her works. Salkind strives for a feeling of movement, thereby creating the tension she is looking for.

**Cassie Taggart's** art layers humor with tragedy, depravity with purity, and the mundane with the mysterious. Raised in New York City and academically trained in painting, with a Fine Arts degree from Virginia Commonwealth University, she has also studied in Sienna, Italy and New Hampshire. Taggart is fascinated by the idea of multiple truths, and wants them to thrive in her paintings as they do in life. She feels that there is a line straddled between dream and reality, between one truth and another. Her work has been exhibited in New York City, Washington, DC, Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. Taggart is represented by Hamilton Galleries in Santa Monica, California, Tria Gallery in New York City, Zenith Gallery in Washington, DC, and Gallery Piquel in Hope, Pennsylvania. Her work has been on the cover of the *Capital Hill Rag*, been reviewed in the *City Paper*, and the *Cape Gazette*, and she was recently featured in the book "100 Artists of the Mid Atlantic."

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## 2 – 2 – 2 / Oil, Acrylic and Collage at Arts Barn Gallery

Vian Shamounki Borchert is a professional artist and a graduate of The Corcoran College of Art and Design, Washington, DC and has a Master Web Design degree. She is an art educator and a teacher who helps students of all levels explore their inner creative voice. Borchert's expressionistic and abstracted art illustrates a poetic mood and a thoughtful journey in the world of painting. Her work is acquired internationally and locally in places such as The National Gallery of Art in Amman, Jordan and The Jerusalem Fund Gallery in Washington, DC. Borchert has taken part in many group and solo shows in places such as the Kentland's Mansion Gallery, Gaithersburg, The Yellow Barn Studio & Gallery, Strathmore Mansion, Women's Club of Chevy Chase, Cairo Amman Bank Art Gallery, The Corcoran Gallery of Art, The International Trade Center, The French Cultural Center in Amman, Jordan, The BlackRock Center of the Arts, and others. She has many years of experience teaching art classes in acrylic, watercolor and drawing.

Please note that artwork is for sale and all images are copyrighted by the artist. For more information please contact Andi Rosati at 301-258-6394 or email [arosati@gaithersburgmd.gov](mailto:arosati@gaithersburgmd.gov). Visit the Arts Barn online at [www.gaithersburgmd.gov/artsbarn](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/artsbarn).

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