



na/keed

**#na/keed** truth

# nakedtruth

#nakedtruth is a themed exhibition for  
and curated by current CWCA members.

All artists addressed the theme,  
#nakedtruth, in their exhibited art

## The artwork in this catalog embodies “the naked truth”.

“**Naked**” means without clothing, without protection, or without disguise or embellishment.  
“**Truth**” is factual accuracy and honesty—knowledge of events that actually occurred (including transcendent or spiritual reality).

Together the words “**naked truth**” imply openness to exposing what is real, raw, natural—without embellishment or concealment. The expression “**naked truth**” derives from an old Roman fable in which Truth and Falsehood went swimming: Falsehood then dressed in Truth’s clothes, and Truth, refusing to take another’s clothes, went naked.

#nakedtruth is open to literal, symbolic, metaphorical, or political interpretation.



Eldon-Schulz Photography ©2018

ARTISTS: Adrienne Aaronson  
Anoush Bargamian  
Paige Bennett  
Caryl Carlsen  
Laura Cerf-Dahl  
George C Clark  
Anne Farley Gaines  
Maxine Frankel  
Caren Helene Rudman

Diane Johnson  
Laura Lein-Svencner  
bert leveille  
Ara Lucia  
Roberta Malkin  
Kelly Mathews  
Jeane Kat McGrail  
Carolyn Owen Sommer  
Ginny Pitre-Hay

Alice Revelski  
Dusty Rose  
Judith Roth  
Heather Sepanik  
Susan Zale  
Marcia Zuckerman

*This Chicago Women's Caucus for Art (CWCA) #nakedtruth catalog was produced by CWCA  
design: bert leveille; photo editing: Jeane McGrail; graphic assistance: Stephanie Pelzer;  
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# #nakedtruth

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The artwork presented in this exhibition embodies "the naked truth."

"Naked" means without clothing, without protection, or without disguise or embellishment.

"Truth" is factuality, accuracy, or honesty — the knowledge or insight that actually occurred (or is transcendent or spiritual reality).

Together, the "naked truth" implies honesty to what is, raw, naked, without embellishment or concealment.

The expression "naked truth" derives from an old Roman fable in which Truth and Falsehood went swimming; Falsehood then dressed in Truth's clothes, and Truth, refusing to take another's clothes, went naked.

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Carey Nelson-Balaban  
The artist's work is a blend of abstract and figurative elements, often exploring themes of identity and perception. This piece is a study in texture and color, with a focus on the interplay of light and shadow.



Anna Kelley Galvin  
This work is a study in light and shadow, capturing a moment of quiet reflection. The subject's hair is the central focus, creating a sense of movement and depth.



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**ANNE FARLEY GAINES**

This ceramic sculpture created from life represents the mythical character, Persephone, a beautiful and vulnerable woman who was abducted by Hades, God of the Underworld, and taken down to the Underworld for 6 months. The earth was so sad, so the tale goes, that the flowers died, the leaves fell from the trees, and winter set in. When she was returned 6 months later, spring returned. Persephone can represent women of the 'Me-Too' controversy of today, whereby women feel alone and victimized until they find ample support.

*"Persephone in Repose," ceramic sculpture, 10"x10"x18"*



**JUDITH ROTH**

Facing the reality of one's existence is one thing, but the reality of one's own body is yet another. The reality of the human form in all its beauty, variety, and manifestations of every type, is a wonder. But the reality of the rules of the game often disallow the human body to be represented in an exhibition of art. Now in this #MeToo era of sexual harassment, unwanted predatory acts & secretive forays into porn - as in most other Western countries - it's time the art of the human body came out of the closet!

*"The Naked Truth," oil on canvas, 36"x48"*



**MAXINE FRANKEL**

My paintings vary in subject and style - some are created to push the boundaries of the place women occupy in history and myth - some are reactions to my past - others are reactions to the political climate we live in. This painting presents the viewer with the stark reality - The Naked Truth - that I know.

*"The Swamp," acrylic and oil on canvas, 24"x30"*



**LAURA LEIN-SVENCNER**

I was invited to present an exhibit about my process of creating a collage sketch from magazine to a final composition that was explored in many concepts. Along with this opportunity I faced a fear of photographing myself nude and using the photo as a image transfer in my own collage work.

*"Title," medium, size*



**CAREN HELENE RUDMAN**

To be naked is to be stripped down, undressed, and bare; leaving us unprotected and raw. Our nakedness exposes vulnerability, the possibility of illness, and the inevitability of death. Using photo transfers, cut up snapshots and mixed media, I layer the complexities of memory, loss, and grief, deconstructing my mother's past to reconstruct my own story. I draw the boundaries of body and self to explore the struggle between separation and connection, to show how when we face our mortality, we find meaning in life.

*"Woman Rising," mixed media on unstretched canvas, 36"x60"*



**ANOUSH BARGAMIAN**

SHE 1 Painting: Watercolor and Charcoal on Canvas. This painting is loosely based on my shadow figure outline. A range of watercolor hues and values are used with reds and golds dominating the work. Charcoal is featured as an outline element and as a background wash.

*"SHE I," watercolor and charcoal on canvas, 40"x50"*



**ROBERTA MALKIN**

With women more outspoken about their perceived inequalities with men they are reaching out to do more in fields that were thought of as strickly male.

*"Emily," mixed media drawing, 30"x40"*



**ARA LUCIA**

As I was growing up clothes for personal expression were inaccessible to me. Inspiration garments spark the initial gestures. I use pattern paper to texture the surface, followed by an impasto technique as I continue with layers of paint. I also paint my body and press it directly upon the canvas. I've begun weaving in the text from love letters between women. With this work I hope to explore the body and intimacy. They are blue for a reason. What that reason is, I still don't know.

*"She opened her heart for an instant," acrylic on pattern paper on canvas, 48"x36"*



**JEANE KAT MCGRAIL**

Furiously shaking her head—as she expresses “No” to earth’s traumas—Madonna is blurred, “naked” and direct. She anguishes over the horrifying traumas, the abuses, the plundered souls of humanity. Encountering such distress, the esteemed and gifted rhino conveys the precious, golden merits of “truth.”

*"Conservation Madonna: Golden Rhino," photographic, 25"x38"*



**GINNY PITRE-HAY**

Underneath the appeal of the street drummers is an economic reality. For many youths this is a viable way to earn a living. While the viewing audience may view these drummers as colorful entertainment, it is in truth an honest days work. This is also an communal activity that avoids the allure of gang activity.

*"Street Rhythms," oil on canvas, 6"x12"*



**CARYL CARLSEN**

In today’s society, the truth has become distorted into many degrees of falsehood. As a maker of images, I try to respond to the visual stimuli of forms as they relate to my individual perception.

*"Baring all," oil on canvas, 40"x30"*



**ALICE REVELSKI**

The ‘Truth’ is the ‘Mean Doll/Girl’ is not, really your friend.

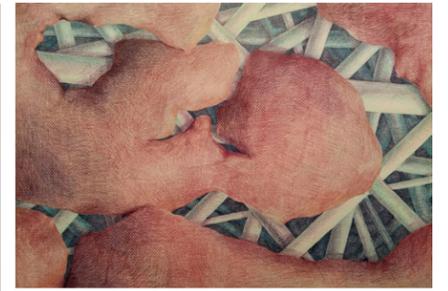
*"Mean Girl," acrylic on paper, 12"x8"*



**PAIGE BENNETT**

Intimacy is so often sexualized when in fact there are many ways of being intimate that don’t revolve around sex. Even nudity is so often sexualized when in reality it can be a form of intimacy because being exposed is so vulnerable. These images show intimate detail of the subject that show the non sexualized intimacy between the photographer and subject.

*"Untitled #1," digital photography, 4928 pixels x 3280 pixels*



**SUSAN ZALE**

This colored pencil drawings explore interior and exterior areas, or the differences between an upper and a lower strata. The skin or outer surface is no indication of what might be underneath. A smooth soft outer surface is in the process of tearing apart, allowing the viewer to see the layer below. This idea allowed for explorations with color, shading and texture.

*"Strata 5," colored pencil on Arches Paper, 22"x30"*

**ADRIENNE AARONSON**

Alter Ego It was my first and only night dive. Five minutes into my dive I put my hand on the spine of a sea urchin. The pain was excruciating. Fear, pain and anxiety stayed with me for the remainder of my 40-minute dive. “Alter Ego” is everything I wish I were. She is a mermaid with strength to fight off any adversary. She is beautiful and built. And most of all she is not afraid of the dark or the deep.

*"Alter Ego," acrylic on canvas, 30.75"x40.75"*



**BERT LEVEILLE**

I believe we go about our daily life routine — and are occasionally jarred by a realization, a situation, a life event, a catastrophe, a global event... This can alter our situation, our life, our perception. It can have a profound effect on who we are and how we relate to our world. My art is an offering of my experiences filtering through me and connecting to my world and perhaps the greater consciousness that I believe we are all connected to.

*"911," acrylic on canvas, 10'x7"*



**LAURA CERF-DAHL**

Paraphrasing Picasso: ‘All art is a lie that points the way to the truth!’

*"Standing Man," glazed white clay and concrete, 6.5"x8"x24"*

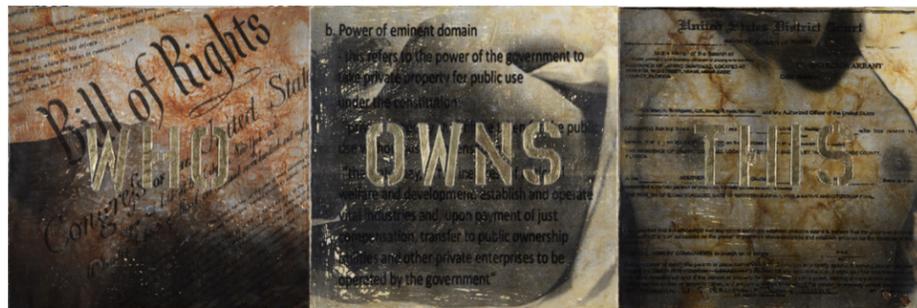
*"Terra Laura," oil and sand on canvas, 48"x36"*



**GEORGE C CLARK**

Life drawings of nude models.

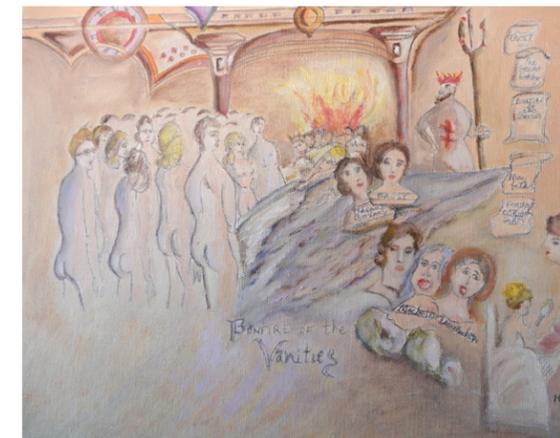
*"Patience," colored pencil on toned archival paper, 42"x36"*



**KELLY MATHEWS**

Let’s face it - the question of ‘what is true?’ is more important than ever. When facts become open to interpretation we find people that are able to justify even the most heinous of actions.

*"Who Owns This," encaustic, oil paint, image transfer, gold leaf, three 24"x24"x1" panels*



**DIANE JOHNSON**

We are all bonded by truth and exposed to the watchful eye of others. It helps us to find our place in society. To influence to help shape the world around us.

*"Bonfire of the Vanities" pen and oil, 12"x12"*

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EXHIBIT VENUE:

Old Court House Arts Center  
101 N Johnson St, Woodstock 60098  
<http://www.oldcourthouseartscenter.org>

EXHIBIT DATES:

JULY 5 – AUGUST 11, 2018

# #nakedtruth

CWCA thanks the exhibition committee:

Caren Helene Rudman Jeane Kat McGrail Arlene Rakoncay,  
Laura Cerf-Dahl,  
Bert Leveille, Judith Roth and Mary Krebs Smyth.

A special thank you to the Old Court House Arts Center; to all of our CWCA exhibiting artists, to all of our CWCA members; and to our president, Arlene Rakoncay for her untiring participation and leadership.

The Women's Caucus for Art (WCA), founded in 1972 in connection with the College Art Association (CAA), is a national member organization unique in its multi-disciplinary, multicultural membership of artists, art historians, students, educators and museum professionals.

Chicago Women's Caucus for Art (CWCA), the WCA Chicago chapter established in 1973 is committed to supporting women in the arts.



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