



Joel

JOEL ARMSTRONG FINE ART

### BIOGRAPHY

Joel Armstrong is a talented artist who has a deep love for the sea and all things related to it. Growing up in Corpus Christi, TX, he was surrounded by fishing, salt air, humidity, and rust, which all served as inspiration for his work. After attending Texas Tech University, Joel spent over 20 years as both an illustrator and graphic designer before becoming the art director of Group, a magazine for youth ministers. At the age of 39, he returned to college to receive his MFA in drawing from Colorado State University in 2001. During his time at CSU, Joel discovered his passion for wire art and installation art, which he has continued to pursue for almost 15 years after graduation. In recent years, he has expanded his artistic repertoire to include nickel/silver wire, rust and gold paintings, as well as aluminum public art pieces. Joel recently retired from teaching drawing and illustration at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. He is happily married to another artist and has three adult children.

### ARTIST STATEMENT

As an installation artist, I feel that the entire gallery is my canvas. I believe that my art should be an extension of real life, offering connections with memories, feelings, and expressions that can be evoked by the sound of a sprinkler or the beauty of a happy bird. Through my work, I aim to tell stories that reflect our human experience.

During my graduate studies, I began to question what a drawing could truly be. Rather than using traditional materials, I chose to work with baling wire, as it felt like the most natural fit for me. The combination of the metal's sturdiness and the subtle curves it can create make wire an excellent drawing instrument. I create wire drawings of everyday items and finish them off with a rust patina that intentionally references back to my childhood memories of living on the Gulf Coast of Texas.

When it comes to my compositions, time and space are integral. I collect my wire drawings into gatherings that can be attached to walls or suspended from the ceiling. To create a multisensory environment, I add sounds, light, and sometimes even smells that work together with the drawings to make people feel at home and offer them time to absorb each piece.

## CV-RESUME

### JOEL ARMSTRONG

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### GALLERY REPRESENTATION

2019 **Light Art Space**, Silver City, NM.

### SOLO AND COLLABORATIVE EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 **It Figures**, Light Art Space, Silver City, NM
- 2020 **It's Time to Address'er Drawers**, Light Art Space, Silver City, NM.
- 2019 **Clotheslines**, Light Art Space, Silver City, NM.
- 2018 **Clotheslines**, LHUCA, Lubbock, TX.  
**It's Time to Address'er Drawers**, Art Center of the Ozarks, Springdale, AR.  
**It's Time to Address'er Drawers**, Art Gym, Denver, CO.  
**VORTEX**, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR  
**Rusted**, Installation of much of my rust inspired work. Stage 18. Fayetteville, AR.
- 2015 **Rust & Gold**, Arsagas at the Depot, Fayetteville, AR  
**Milestones**, Café on Broadway, Siloam Springs, AR  
**Rust & Gold**, 100 Paintings, JBU Student Art Gallery, Siloam Springs, AR
- 2014 **Gifts of Art**, University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2013 **Through the Eyes of a Child**, Collaboration with 2nd grade class and Drawing II, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR
- 2014 **Gifts of Art**, University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor, MI
- 2013 **Through the Eyes of a Child**, Collaboration with 2nd grade class and Drawing II, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR
- 2012 **Clotheline**, Fayetteville Underground, Featured Artist, Fayetteville, Arkansas  
**Lit Paths**, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR
- 2011 **Garage Sale**, sUgAR Gallery, Bentonville, AR
- 2009 **On the Line**, a collaborative installation with Neil Ward, Living Arts, Tulsa, OK  
**Failing Hearts**, a collaborative installation with Neil Ward, Living Arts, Tulsa, OK
- 2007 **One Body**, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR
- 2006 **John Brown University Faculty Exhibit**, JBU Art Dept. Gallery, Siloam Springs, AR
- 2005 **It's Time to Address'er Drawers**, St. Brides Type Library, London, England
- 2003 **Creativity and the Bipolar Mind**, Access Gallery, Denver, CO

- 2001 **Drawn and Quartered; a Bipolar Frame of Mind**, Hatton Gallery, Ft. Collins, CO.  
MFA Thesis Exhibition.
- 2000 **Emersion) the Sign of Jonah**, Lincoln Center, Ft. Collins, CO
- 1999 **Drawings 1997-98**, Ft. Collins MOCA, Ft. Collins, CO  
**Emersion) the Sign of Jonah**, Mariani Gallery, Greeley, CO  
**ClothesLines**, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO

## **PUBLIC ART**

- 2015 **“Springs”**, Siloam Springs, AR  
**“Gaggle of Geese”**, John Brown University Art Department, Siloam Springs, AR

## **JURIED AND CURATED EXHIBITIONS**

- 2024 **Circles, Squares, and Triangles**, Exhibitzone  
**2024 Toys & Joys**, Exhibitzone  
**Aging**, Biafarin
- 2023 **The Sky Above**, Grey Cube Gallery, (**Honorable Mention**)  
**Autumn Festival of Art**, Camelback Gallery, (**Bronze Award**)  
**Open Competition**, Teravarna, (**Talent Prize**)  
**Children of Men**, Biafarin  
**Plantarium**, Gallerium Exhibition  
**Open**, Teravarna, (**Talent Prize**)  
**Figurative/Portrait**, Teravarna, Camelback Gallery, (**Bronze Award**)  
**Yellow art show 2023**, Grey cube gallery, (**Honorable Mention**)  
**Nuditas 2023**, Biafarin  
**Portrait**, Teravarna, (**Talent Prize Award**)  
**Aesthetics 2023**, Gallerium Exhibition  
**Kingdom Animalia**, Exhibitzone  
**Best in Medium 2023**, Camelback Gallery, (**Finalist**)  
**Abstract**, Teravarna, 2023 Internatioan Juried Art Awards, (**Talent Prize**)  
**Aesthetics**, Gallerium Exhibition  
**Animal**, Gallerium Exhibition (**Talent Prize Award**)  
**Portrait**, Teravarna, 2023 Internatioan Juried Art Awards, (**Talent Prize**)  
**Still Life**, International Painting Award, Camelback Gallery, (**Talent Award**)  
**Flower Power 2023**, Internatioan Juried Art Awards, (**Bronze Award**)  
**Flower**, International Painting Award, Camelback Gallery, (**Bronze Award**)  
**Shades of Red**, International Painting Award, Camelback Gallery, (**Finalist**)  
**Gardenia**, Gallerium Exhibition  
**Precious**, Gallerium Exhibition  
**Faces**, 2023 International Painting Award, Camelback Gallery, (**Bronze Award**)  
**Portraits**, 2023 Art Show International, (**Talent Prize, 2 Honorable Mention, and 2 Finalist**)  
**Shapes and Color**, Gallerium Exhibition,  
**Abstract**, Art Show International Gallery (**Finalist**)  
**Emptiness**, Gallerium Exhibition  
**Faces 2023 International Juried Painting Awards**, The Camelback Gallery (**Bronze Award**)  
**5th Flower**, Art Show International Gallery (**Honorable Mention**)  
**3rd Water**, Art Show International Gallery (**Finalist**)  
**Aqua**, Gallerium Exhibition  
**6th Animal Exhibit**, Art Show International (**Honorablel Mention, and 2 Talent Prizes**)

- 2022 **Flower**, Art Show International Gallery (**Honorable Mention**)  
**Nudus**, Gallerium Exhibition  
**4th Figurative**, Art Show International Gallery (**Talent Prize**)  
**Plantarium**, Gallerium Exhibition  
**5th Portrait**, Art Show International Gallery (**Talent Prize**)  
**4th Color**, Art Show International Gallery (**Talent Prize**)  
**6th Open**, Art Show International Gallery (**Honorable Mention**)  
**7th Abstract**, Art Show International Gallery (**Honorable Mention**)
- 2018 **If You Only Knew**, Old Courthouse Art Center, Woodstock IL.  
**Of A Feather**, Ann Marie Sculpture Garden and Art Center, Dowell, MD.  
**To Be Heard**, Old Courthouse Art Center, Woodstock, IL.
- 2017 **ART INC Exhibition**, Art Center of the Ozarks, Springdale, AR.  
**Holiday Art Sale**, Gallery at Midtown, Bentonville, AR.  
**23rd Annual ANA Regional Exhibit**, Fayetteville, AR.  
**3rd Annual ‘Collaboration and Mixed Media’ Exhibition**, West Palm Beach, FL.  
**All Botanical**, Contemporary Art Gallery Online, **Best of Show**-3D and Mixed Media  
**Word Jumble**, bG Gallery, Santa Monica, CA  
**Sea of Art**, bG Gallery, Santa Monica, CA  
**3rd Annual ‘Collaboration and Mixed Media’ Exhibition**, Gallery at Center for Creative Education, West Palm Beach, FL  
**The Art of the Bloom**, Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington, NC
- 2016 **When Language Meets Art** Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts, Lubbock, TX  
**First Place Award.**  
**Different Paths, Same Direction**, JBU faculty show, Siloam Springs, AR
- 2015 **Bird. Art: The Artist’s Eye View of Birds**, Bathhouse Cultural Center, Dallas, TX  
**Reclaimed, Retold.** Crossroads Art Center, Richmond, VA
- 2014 **Lines Into Shapes**, Art Center of Estes Park, Estes Park, CO
- 2013 **Texas National 2013**, Stephen F. Austin Univ., Nacagdoches, TX  
**Chandelier-An Exhibition of Illuminated Objects**, Living Arts, Tulsa, OK  
**Art that lifts our Spirits**, Manhattan Arts.com, New York. NY.
- 2012 **Material Transformation**, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN
- 2001 **This American Lawn**, Mesa Contemporary Arts Center, Mesa, AZ  
**Jurors Award: selected as part of two-year traveling exhibition.**
- 2000 **Home**, Soil Gallery, Seattle, WA  
**Spark Juried Show 2000**, Spark Gallery, Denver, CO
- 1998 **Lines Into Shapes**, Art Center of Estes Park, Estes Park, CO  
**Pleiades Gallery**, 16th Annual Juried Exhibition, New York, NY. Juror: Ivan Karp.  
**WOW**, Core Art Gallery, Denver, CO
- 1997 **Spark Juried Show 1997**, Spark Gallery, Denver, CO  
**Colorado Open**, Foothills Art Center, Golden, CO  
**Figurative Show**, Core Art Gallery, Denver, CO. **Jurors Choice Award.**  
**Creative Arts Symposium**, Colorado State University, Ft Collins, CO. First Place, Drawing
- 1993 **Colorado/Wyoming Biennial**, One West Art Center, Ft Collins, CO
- 1989 **Dallas Society of Illustrators**, Dallas, TX
- 1987 **Illustration/Dallas**, John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR  
**Dallas Society of Illustrators**, Dallas, TX
- 1986 **Critics Choice**, Dallas, TX  
**Texas Fine Art Association**—Citation, Dallas, TX

- 1985 **Dallas Society of Illustrators**, Dallas, TX  
 1984 **Dallas Society of Illustrators**, Dallas, TX  
 1983 **Dallas Society of Illustrators**, Dallas, TX  
 1981 **New York Society of Illustrators**, Student Exhibition, NY, NY  
**Dallas Society of Visual Communications**, Student Exhibition, Dallas, TX  
**Tienniel**, New Orleans Art Center, New Orleans, LA  
 1979 **Montessori School Artist Invitation**, Fayetteville, AR  
**National Student Graphic Arts Exhibition**, Washington, DC  
**Northwest Arkansas Artists Exhibition**, Fayetteville, AR . **Honorable Mention.**  
**11th Annual Arkansas Artists Exhibition**, Pine Bluff, AR  
 1978 **20th National Sun Carnival Art Exhibition**, El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, TX  
**Texas College Art Exhibition**, Dallas, TX  
 1977 **Works on Paper**, San Marcos, TX

### BOOKS PUBLISHED

- 2011 **Garage Sale**, a wire based installation by Joel Armstrong, Self-Published, 2011.  
 2009 **WIRED!**, Self-Published, 2009.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2022 Colored Pencil Magazine, Featured interview, **Flowers with Texture**. May 2022,  
 2017 Laurinda Joenks, **Rusted But Not Old**, NW Democrat Gazette, Sept 1, 2017.  
 2015 **Joel Armstrong: Mediums and Variations**, online interview,  
[http://artbookguy.com/joel-armstrong-mediums-and-variations\\_1010.html](http://artbookguy.com/joel-armstrong-mediums-and-variations_1010.html)  
 2010 **Armstrong proves victorious in bipolar battle**, The Threefold Advocate, 2010.  
 2009 John O'Reilly and Tony Linkson, **Inspiration by Storytelling, Recharge Your Design Batteries**,  
 How Press. May, 2009  
 Nadia Russ, **21st Century Art: Compendium of New Millinnium Contemporary Art, Neopop  
 realism**. August, 2009.  
 2008 Annie Melion, **iATC's Member Artist Feature— Joel Armstrong**, Art Trader Magazine,  
 Issue 2, Spring, 2008.  
 Sal Scheibe, **The Best of IllustratedATC.com, Illustrated ATCs.com**. August 2008.  
 2007 **Armstrong uses baling wire art to build community**, Arkansas Democrat Gazette, 2007.  
**Artist Drawn to New Dimensions**, Northwest Arkansas Times, 2007.  
**All in one**, Northwest Arkansas Times, 2007.  
**Joel Armstrong draws an intimate portrait of JBU art department**, What's Up! —  
 Northwest Arkansas Times, 2007.  
 2006 **Professor bends wire art into campus installation**, The Threefold Advocate, 2006.  
 2005 **Joel Armstrong, Drawn and Quartered, a Bipolar State of Mind**. CIVASEEN,  
 Christians in the Visual Arts, Fall 2005.  
**Drawing with wire, Our Town—**The Morning News, 2005.  
**JBU art show opens Tuesday**, Arkansas Democrat Gazette, 2005.  
 2004 **Art in London**, Herald Leader, 2004.  
 2000 **Wired; Artist's touches evoke memories**, Loveland Reporter Herald, 2000.  
**Mow better blues**, Newtimes, 2000.  
**American Lawn' fills the eye**, Reach, 2000.

### LECTURES and DEMONSTRATIONS



- 2016 **Pastel Demonstration: The Art of the Bloom**, Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington, NC  
2008 **Inspiration through Collaboration**, Paper presentation, St Brides Type Library, London, England.

## WORKSHOPS

- 2018 **Llano Workshop**, Llano, TX.  
2017 **Llano Workshop**, Llano, TX.  
2016 **Llano Workshop**, Llano, TX.  
2015 **Llano Workshop**, Llano, TX.  
2014 **Llano Workshop**, Llano, TX.  
2013 **Glen West Workshop**, Oil Pastels, Image Journal, Sante Fe, NM.  
**Art New England**, Summer workshop, 100 drawings, Bennington, VT  
2010 **Glen East Workshop**, Weaving Workshop, Image Journal, Amherst, MA.  
2009 **Glen Workshop**, Collage Workshop, Image Journal, Sante Fe, NM.  
2007 **Glen Workshop**, Assemblage workshop, Image Journal, Sante Fe, NM.  
**Art New England**, Summer workshop, Wire Sculpture, Bennington, VT.  
2006 **Visual Arts Summer Workshop**, Figure Drawing, CIVA, Gordon College, MA.  
2005 **Glen Workshop**, Assemblage workshop, Image Journal, Sante Fe, NM.

## EDUCATION

- 1997-2011 **MFA**, Drawing, Colorado State University, Ft Collins, CO  
1980-1981 East Texas State University, Commerce, TX  
**Graduate studies toward an MFA in Design and Illustration**  
1978-1979 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR  
**Graduate studies toward an MFA in Drawing**  
1976-1978 **BFA, Painting**, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX  
1974-1976 **AA, Fine Art**, Del Mar College, Corpus Christi, TX

## AWARDS & GRANTS

- 2010 **John Brown University Shipp's Grant**  
**Res Artis summer fellowship**, Atliers Fourwinds, Aurielle, France, 2010.  
2008-11 **John Brown University Professional Summer Grant**, Garage Sale  
2008-09 **John Brown University Shipp's Grant for Neil Ward/Joel Armstrong collaboration**  
2006-07 **John Brown University Shipp's Grant for One Body Installation**

## TEACHING HISTORY

2003-2017 John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR. Associate Professor of Visual Arts,  
During my career at John Brown I taught the following classes:

- Graphic Design I, II, III and IV
- Figure Drawing I and II
- Drawing I and II
- Illustration I, II and III
- Senior Project
- Senior Portfolio
- Mixed Media
- Fine Art Studio I, and II
- Senior Capstone Exhibition

2001-2003 Colorado State University, Adjunct Faculty in Graphic Design

1999-2000 Colorado State University, Graduate Assistant

- Intro to Drawing
- Intro to Figure drawing

1999-2000 Dallas Art Institute, Instructor

- Color Theory
- Intro to Design
- Life Drawing III
- Graphic Design

1979 University of Arkansas, Graduate Assistant

- Intro to Drawing
- Basic Fine Arts for Non-Majors

### **ADDITIONAL WORK HISTORY**

1991-2000 Art Director, Group Publishing, Loveland, CO

Responsible for the design of Group Magazine, and Vital Ministry Magazine.

1990-91 Art Director, The Promotion Network, Dallas TX

Clients included:

- Frito Lay
- Pizza Hut
- KFC
- Cinnabon
- Host International
- Mrs. Field Cookies
- Nathans' Hot Dogs

1987-89 Art Director, Killion McCabe and Associates, Dallas, TX

Responsible for the design of Kids! Magazine, a Moody Monthly publication.

1986-87 Art Director, Texas Instruments, Dallas, TX

Responsible for design of military trade show displays.

1981-91 Freelance Illustrator, Clients included:

- Dallas Opera
- Carlton Cards
- Tabor Cards and Gifts
- Focus on the Family
- Moody Bible Institute
- Mansion on Turtle Creek
- Hotel Bel Air
- Dennys
- Neiman Marcus

1980-81 Art Director, Teledyne Merla, Garland, TX

Responsible for all collateral material and trade show displays.

### **EUROPEAN ART TOURS**

2017 Co Led Students 6 week Art tour to Ireland and Italy

2013 Co-led Student 2-week Art tour to Paris and Amsterdam

2008 Co-led Student 6-week Art tour to London

2005 Co-led Student 2-week Art tour to London and Paris

