

The Isla Center for the Arts at the University of Guam announced the opening of its “Creative Hands: Selected Works by Pacific Artists” art exhibition in a virtual format.

The exhibition is the 15th in a biennial series of juried exhibits at Isla Center for the Arts.

“The pandemic has pushed us to explore new platforms, and I am pleased that we are able to continue this series online,” said Velma Yamashita, exhibit coordinator and director of the center.

Selecting the theme and works to be featured was juror Jill Deupi, director and chief curator at the Lowe Art Museum at the University of Miami.

She holds a bachelor’s in political science and French literature from Mount Holyoke College, a master’s in art history from Birkbeck College/University of London, a juris doctorate from American University, a doctorate in art history from the University of Virginia, and a certificate in arts administration from New York University.



“Serving as a juror is a tremendous responsibility, but it is an even greater privilege and pleasure,” she said.

Among 205 submissions, Deupi selected 96 works by 26 artists.

“What I saw confirmed my belief in the power of art,” Deupi said. “The works I reviewed also introduced me to Guam, the beautiful muse of so many participating artists.”

The selected works feature a variety of media, including prints, photography, collage, acrylic, watercolor and oil paintings, batik on silk, copper sculptures, wood carvings and mixed media compositions.



She named two pieces “Best-in-Show”:

- “Alternate Universe-Guam Textures Series” by Dawn Lees Reyes; and
- “Portrait of a Lady” by John Dierking.

Additionally, seven works received honorable mentions:

- “Patchwork Rooster” by Elisa Dizon;
- “Fisherman” and “Two Girls” by Don Seery;
- “Langasat” and “Les Danseuses Pago” of the Guam Textures Series by Dawn Lees Reyes;
- “Eric” by John Dierking; and
- “Afrique” by Richard Olmo.

The online exhibition will be accessible until Feb. 26
at <https://url.uog.edu/creativehands>.