



Exhibitions at  
PAAM

# Julia Salinger

## The Insistence of Memory

CURATED BY SUSIE NIELSEN  
ON VIEW MAY 10 - JULY 7, 2024  
IN THE PATRONS-JALBERT GALLERY

“Why do we choose to retain certain moments and filter the rest, while other lost fragments emerge years later?”

In *Insistence of Memory*, artist Julia Salinger explores these questions through objects, drawings, poetry, paintings, prints, and video installation. Intertwining visual creations and the written word, Salinger layers memory and narrative to uncover and generate meaning. Her work includes paintings mounted on various materials (cloth, silk, plastic), works on paper, imaginary archeologist series “Lost Letters”, sculptural objects, and more.

“What I am looking at with Julia’s work is the consistency of line throughout her work and how it crosses over materials. I am drawn to her mark-making and how it pushes outside of the boundaries of whatever medium it is on...Julia’s work is completely intertwined with the rest of her life. Words that come from her memories are the primary focus, and they are connected by her various marks. It is one continuous line. It is one long poem or song lyric,” writes curator Susie Nielsen.

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### ARTWORK LIST

*All works are courtesy of the artist. The artworks in this exhibition are for sale; please see the museum front desk for a price list and to purchase.*

*Ready, Set, Go*, 2023  
Ink, pen, and gouache

*The Wind Changed*, 2017  
Ink and watercolor on paper

*Ground Control*, 2018  
Ink, pen, marker, and acrylic on paper

*Anger, What Is*, 2019  
Paint, collage, plastic, ink, and acrylic on paper

*When the Butterflies Fade*, 2019  
Marker, gouache, collage elements, and paint on paper

*The Day the Music Died*, 2018  
Ink on paper

*Plan B*, 2016  
Ink on paper

*Self-Portrait*, 2014  
Ink on paper

*Promise*, 2018  
Ink, watercolor, and acrylic on paper

*On Our Way*, 2014  
Ink and watercolor on book page

*Please Hold*, n.d.  
Ink, acrylic, and gouache on paper

*I'll Talk to You Later*, 2014  
Paint, ink, and gouache on book page

*Nomadic Nature*, 2023  
Paint, ink, marker, and crayon on canvas

*For Nabokov @ The Butterflies at Large*, 2021  
Acrylic, oil, print ink, watercolor, gouache, pen, and marker on canvas

*America's Ribcage*, 2023  
Paint, ink, gouache, and marker on canvas

*Layers of Inquiry*, 2023  
Ink, paint, printed collage on canvas

*Big Bang*, 2019  
Mixed media on paper

*Let's Go*, n.d.  
Ink and mixed media on book page

### **Excavated Object Series**

(left to right, up to down)

Pink Box. This was used as a rudimentary birthing tool in the Amazon. Not sure what tribe. Excellent condition.

Shell and Cord. This was the original cell phone, but was called a shell phone. The strings around the shell serve as a visual algorithm for satellite reception. Found in Maui. Sold at auction to Steve Jobs for \$2 million.

Soft Gun. A prop in a Captain Video series. 1950s. Found on the Warner Lot.

Hey Big Nose. Constructed as a teaching tool in elementary school as a symbol against hatred and bullying.

Ceramic. A beautiful specimen made by the tribe in Papua New Guinea. Magnificent glaze. May have been used as a drinking vessel.

Pipe Cleaner Staff. Ceremonial object for a

King, Nigeria. 1950s. Used to announce a birth in the village.

Scenic Route Dress. This dress was found in a trunk in Texas. It appears to be a circus costume. Excellent condition. One of a kind.

Sheet. This was a curious find. Basement in Las Vegas. I speculate it's either a show prop or the work of an outsider artist used as a protective cover. 2023.

Jar and Bird. This jar was first found in the highlands of Peru. I have never seen these intact. Quite a find. I have two theories: either they were for ceremonial use or to honor a dead elder.

Big Rock Candy Mountain. This is an outsider artist creation. It's very different but magnificent. Made from collectibles of the artist. 1960s.

String and Wire Object. This was found in a war zone. It was probably created by a child with bits and pieces of remains. Not sure which war.

Poem Dress. This was worn by poet Julia Salinger, handmade, and used at her poetry book release. 2015.

Venice Letter. This was a chance discovery stuck between a drawer in the Peggy Guggenheim Museum. Not sure if letter was sent.

Wax Flower. Display prop in Rome flower shop. 1920.

Butterfly Key and Drawing. Very unusual. May be a valentine sent in 1899.

Mesh Wire Object. This, we think, was created by a child who collected bits and pieces from the rubble in Iraq.

Rope Envelope. We believe this to be an early Ray Johnson. Before he got serious about Mail art. He then founded his Correspondence School.

White Box. This was an early childhood diorama. Found in Georgia in 1958.



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