



Exhibitions at  
PAAM

# Susan Lyman

## The Cadence of Uncertainty

CURATED BY BREON DUNIGAN  
ON VIEW MARCH 7 – MAY 11, 2025  
IN THE PATRONS-JALBERT GALLERY

Beauty is often found where one least expects to find it.

Susan Lyman's work exudes beauty whether the subject matter be global warming, global pandemic, poetry or border walls.

Lyman's capable hands move effortlessly between painting and sculpture. The lines often blurring as she draws thoughtfully with wood, primarily sticklike, bringing order to the chaos of nature and often we see the implements of drawing imbedded in her work.

Her drawings too blur the lines. Her paintings often share the same chiseled appearance of her sculpture.

Susan Lyman's work is packed with passion, observation and questioning. Her sculptures are on the move. Slithering, bouncing, flying and strolling, much like the artist herself.

It has been an honor to be with Susan's work through this process and feel intimate with her mad, beautiful genius.

*-Breon Dunigan, Curator*

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*The artwork in this exhibition is for sale; please see the museum front desk for a price list and to purchase works.*

*Exhibition catalogs are available for sale in the museum store.*

**Susan Lyman** "washed ashore" in Provincetown MA in 1981 as a Visual Arts Fellow at the Fine Arts Work Center. She is a sculptor and painter who now divides her time between Provincetown, Tucson AZ and northern Michigan. From 2012 to 2022 she was a member of Boston Sculptors Gallery, where she was featured in 5 solo exhibits, most recently "Harbinger", in November 2021.

In late 2020, Lyman joined a community art project conceived by artist Elizabeth Awalt to commemorate American lives lost to Covid. Artists were invited to make at least 1000 marks on any surface in an attempt to collectively count those lives lost. The exhibition "Remembering Together: Marking Lives Covid 19" was presented in 2021 at The Broad Institute at MIT and Harvard.

In summer 2022, Lyman was awarded a grant to build a site-specific installation, "Songs of Silence v.2" on the campus of the Truro Center of the Arts at Castle Hill in Truro MA, in commemoration of the Center's 50th Anniversary.

Recent exhibitions in 2024 include "Bird Stories: Human Narratives" at Concord Center for the Arts, an installation "Cone of Uncertainty" in Late Wood at Farm Projects in Wellfleet MA. Lyman will present a solo exhibition in 2025, "Postcards from the Border", at Tohono Chul Galleries, Tucson AZ.

## ARTWORK LIST

### **Sculpture on plinths, pedestals, or suspended:**

*Cone of Uncertainty, 2024*

Corkscrew willow, white cedar, pine, 23 carved wood birds, gesso, wood dyes, permanent inks, latex paint, monofilament, 75 x 72 x 96 (suspended)

*Washashore (Survivor), 2021*

White cedar, wood dyes, acrylic, 32 x 53 x 18

*Tipping Point, 2021*

Balsam fir, beech, birch, wood dyes, acrylic varnish, 96 x 36 x 36 (suspended)

*Litany, 2021*

24 bald cypress knees, wood dyes, acrylic, 19.5 x 96 x 24 (overall)

*Botanical Theater #20 (repurposed), 2019*

Oak, poplar, corkscrew willow, beech, balsam fir, pencils, acrylic, 79.5 x 23 x 11

*Blueline, 2017*

Balsam fir, spruce root, mesquite, prismacolor pencils, gesso, permanent ink, varnish, 67.5 x 8 x 8

*Charrue en Lotus Attache, 2015*

Ironwood, birch, wood dyes, acrylic varnish, 23 x 22 x 12

*Hole-in-One (for Conrad), 2014*

Maple, permanent dyes, gesso, acrylics, varnish, clear wax, 18 x 9.5 x 7

*Meredith, 2013*

Spruce, transparent acrylics, 57 x 5 x 6

### **Sculpture on walls:**

*Marking Lives: March 2020-March 2021, 2021*

Basswood, acrylic varnish, 10 x 43 x 2.5

*Hope is the Thing with Feathers, 2021*

Corkscrew willow, pine, wood dyes, gesso, permanent ink, acrylic paint and varnish, 55 x 26 x 11

*Amplexus, 2018-19*

Spruce root, maple root, prismacolor pencils, pigment, varnish, 24 x 13 x 18

*Roots Yoga, 2017*

Pine root, wood dyes, white wash, acrylic varnish, 50 x 57 x 11

*Coy, 2017*

Spruce root, oak, basswood, willow, wood dyes, permanent ink, acrylic varnish, 39 x 19 x 7.5

*Logjam (After-wood), 2016*

Maple, bittersweet, willow, cedar, wood dyes, 18.5 x 15 x 12

Words to Wood/Wood to Words (in four parts, left to right):

*Encountering Trees, 2018*

Cedar, maple, waxed linen, 62 x 8 x 11.5

*Salvage, 2018*

Spruce, wood dyes, 31 x 5.5 x 5.5

*Castalia, 2018*

Oak, unidentified wood, 9.5 x 5.25 x 23

*This Ground Made of Trees, 2018*

Cherry plywood, cedar, oil paint, 28.25 x 10.75 x 4.5 (overall)

### **Paintings:**

*Harbinger (diptych), 2020*

Oil on board, 18 x 36

*COVID at Lago Titicaca, 2020*

Oil on board, 14 x 14

*Granary in the Time of COVID, 2020*

Oil on board, 14 x 14

*Babel as an Island, 2019*

Oil on board, 16 x 16

*The Babble of Babel, 2019*

Oil on board, 16 x 16

*Wrongdoing at Oden, 2019*

Oil on board, 12 x 24

*Clear-cut, 2019*

Oil on board, 12 x 24

*The Deluge, 2018-19*

Oil on board, 16 x 16

*The Hidden Life of Trees, 2018-19*

Oil on board, 16 x 16

*After the Flood, 2018*

Oil on board, 12 x 12

Selections from "Postcards from the Border" series, 2021-24 (left to right on the wall):

*Life and Death at the Border Wall, 2021*

Oil on board, 12 x 12

*Corredor de la Muerte, 2022*

Oil on board, 12 x 12

*"Drop All Belongings and Get in Line", 2021*

Oil on board, 12 x 12

*Mariposa (Pintado por los Niños de Naco, Sonora), 2024*

Oil on board, 12 x 12