

# Shany Porras – Artist C.V.

## Artist Statement

To me, painting is about communicating abstractly with the viewer. Since no words are used, we need to stop and look at the paintings to try to understand what is happening. Because of our diversity, one painting can mean many things to different people, and I like that. So is the case for music. Because of my classical music training when I was young, music has remained an essential part of my daily living. I also hear music as an abstract language that I can translate into paintings, much in the same way I would translate one language to another.

I work primarily with acrylic and water-based paints on canvas, paper, or wood panels. I start my paintings by studying the music I wish to translate. I read and make notes in the music scores, perhaps much in the way as musicians or conductors would, but my notes focus on the translation of that phrase or section into visual elements that I want to use in the painting. I listen to the music often performed by various orchestras and select the performance I am most connected to.

Once I am ready to paint, I will have the musical piece playing on a continuous loop and I begin my intuitive mark making across several canvases or supports. I then start to place some of the images and mark-making onto the canvas with paint and mixed mediums, building up the paint and the colors. I often refer back to my notes to ensure I am capturing the parts of the music that are integral to its visual translation. Towards the end of the painting, I slow down to ensure that I have achieved a clear statement of what this music means (to me). The paintings travel around my home for weeks to ensure the recount is honest, and if not, I rework the art until the cycles are complete.

## Artist Bio

Shany Porras received her B.F.A. from Rice University in Houston, Texas. During her time at Rice, she started as an architecture major and then transferred into the art program after her sophomore year where she focused on painting and lithography. Once she graduated, Shany moved to San Francisco for 10 years where she learned about the West Coast painters and the light they capture so eloquently on canvas. Shany continues to paint abstractly, drawing on her knowledge of architecture, Bauhaus, and the Abstract Expressionists of the New York

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## **Shany Porras**

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School. Shany currently lives in the Boston area and actively shows in both juried and groups shows around New England and New York City. Shany is an associate member of the National Association of Women Artists ([thenawa.org](http://thenawa.org)).

## Exhibitions

### Juried and Group Shows

- **NAWA Associate Member Online Exhibition, 2020. (upcoming)**  
<https://www.thenawa.org/associate-members-online-exhibition/>
- **ATAC 11th Annual Juried Art Exhibition - Framingham, MA. September 12 - October 31, 2019.**  
Artist Shany Porras has four paintings accepted to ATAC's annual juried show. Jurors: [Lena McCarthy](#) and [Gail Dodge](#).
- **Berkshires Arts Festival - Great Barrington, MA. July 5-7, 2019.**  
Juried art show featuring 'Music Translation' Series by Shany Porras.
- **The Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts, 108th Annual Exhibition. Mystic Museum of Art, April 19 - June 1, 2019.** [CAFA Exhibition Website](#)
- **Conception Art Show - Boston. May 15, 2019.**  
Shany Porras was awarded "Honorable Mention" at this juried art show for the 'Music Translation' series.
- **Conception Art Show - New York City. May 9, 2019.**  
Featuring new works from Shany Porras as part of a small group show.

### Art Fairs and Festivals

- **Mother Brook Arts Winter Market - Dedham, MA. December 7 and 8, 2019.**  
As a visiting artist at Mother Brook Arts Center in Dedham, artist Shany Porras will be displaying and selling her current works from the 'Music Translation' series.
- **Howard Street Studios 2019 Fall Open Studios - Framingham, MA. November 16 and 17, 2019.**  
As a resident artist at Howard Street Studios, artist Shany Porras will be displaying and selling her current works from the 'Music Translation' series.
- **New England Home Show at Boston Seaport. February 22-24, 2019.**  
Featuring current works from the 'Transition' series.

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