

YONKERS RISING

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YOHO Artist Spotlight: Shelley Haven



Artist Shelley Haven in her YOHO studio.

Shelley Haven can be found most days in her Yonkers studio, surrounded by an abundant collection of nature objects and lush plants, painting favorite moments in nature. Created with layer on layer of color and mark, her artwork chronicles a journey of discovery and memory that explores nature's hues and shapes, its patterns and rhythms, transparencies and reflections - all transformed by light and time, in one moment barely discernible and in another, explosive.

Warm weather lures her to paint outdoors at favorite local gardens or parks – Untermyer, Wave Hill, New York Botanical and Heather Gardens – as well as at fantastic sites discovered on hiking adventures. As she works amidst nature's cacophony, light and temperature shifts, petals and leaves dance, birds and insects sing, waters flow and occasionally

boulders shift. The hours and days reveal secret transformations special to each place.

Haven was the summer 2017 teaching-artist-in-resident at the Hudson River Museum, and she has previously taught at Wave Hill. In the local community, her artwork has recently been exhibited at the Riverfront Gallery, Blue Door Art Center, PC4 Gallery of Purchase College, in Yonkers; and at Iona College Chapman Gallery and Media Loft Gallery in New Rochelle.

Her works are included at the Library of Congress, Museum of Modern Art, New York Public Special Collections and Amsterdam's Stedelijk Museum, as well as university, corporate and private collections. Her artworks have been exhibited in the U.S. and abroad, and she has received arts grants and artist residency fellowships locally, nationally and internationally. Haven currently teaches at the School of Visual Arts and independently.

Haven, a native New Yorker, engages with her local and global community as an artist, educator, hiker and nature enthusiast. For more information, visit www.shelleyhaven.com

Haven will be among 60-plus artists Puropening their studios to the public for the 15th annual YOHO Artists Open Studio weekend at Yonkers Carpet Mills Arts District. This free event will take place at 540 and 578 Neperhan Ave., on Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6 from noon to 5 p.m.

For more information about Yoho Open Studio Weekend, visit www.yohoartists.org.