



# The White Room Gallery Opens “Outside The Box”

August 21, 2018

by Sponsors

## The White Room Gallery Presents “Outside The Box”

### Featuring Paintings & Mixed Media by Four Artists

#### Abstract. Vibrant. Figurative. Narrative.

**Opening Reception: Saturday, August 25, 2018 from 6-8 p.m.**

**On View: August 22 to Sept 18, 2018.**

“[Outside The Box](#)” presents the art of Donna Bernstein, Steve Cohen, Jackie Fuchs and Karen L. Kirshner. The exhibition features mixed media and painting and is on view from August 22 to September 18, 2018 at The White Room Gallery located at 2415 Main Street, Bridgehampton, NY 11932.

Of special note is work by [Steve Cohen](#), Billy Joel’s longtime lighting director for 40 plus years. Cohen unveils his art for the first time at The White Room Gallery in “Outside The Box.” Read more on his story in this [recent article](#) published by Newsday.

For a preview of exhibiting artists in the show, continue to scroll.

## DONNA BERNSTEIN

“It is not horses that I paint; I paint the way they make me feel,” explains artist [Donna Bernstein](#).

“What gives my work its edge is my deep personal familiarity with the physical horse, and an expansive sense that the movement is bigger than what you see.

“I combine a passion for the anatomical horse – having watched them obsessively over many years – with a love both of classic gestural drawing and the element of surprise. There is more to a horse than just a “picture” of him; there is a mythology, a symbolism; an ancient connection we can trace. Horses express “big energy”, and that is what I love to paint.

“I believe that no matter how far our culture moves beyond the speed of the horse, true horsepower lies in his ability to inspire. There is a physicality of the horse that inspires my work. As an experienced athlete, I relate to his strength, his form, his competitive and focused nature. These

elements inform my work with a unique connection. I feel the horse.

“My process often moves me around large canvases placed on the floor; these open white spaces co-create with me. With attention to the correct attitude of the horse I paint in quick, concentrated strokes, mixing mediums in freshly layered spontaneity. My own movement is expressed into my work. Often a final series of wildly contained drips and splashes define each horse’s unique personality and conformation. Their place in the overall composition is revealed.

“As my art matures I blend the persistent complexities of power and vulnerability. The horse’s unique ability to evoke universal personalities is a constant for me. I feel that while I continue in the tradition of the symbolic equine in art, my Urban Equines break new ground in fresh treatments, bold, unexpected colors and mediums, and a contemporary clarity that speaks to a new generation of art collectors.

“Elegant and sophisticated my works articulate a simplicity of what is beautiful, in a fluid style that is at home in both formal collections as well as the large-scale spaces of modern design.”

[www.donnabernstein.com](http://www.donnabernstein.com)



“Where We Meet” by Donna Bernstein. Acrylic inks, Archival spray on canvas 42 x 36 inches. Courtesy of The White Room Gallery.

## STEVE COHEN

“I have been painting with light my whole career,” states artist Steve Cohen.

Steve Cohen has been a professional lighting and scenic designer for four decades. Starting a lighting company in LA in 1974, he is one of the originators of the “lighting for music” discipline which has been the foundation for the creation of emotions that pervade the live concert experience. Cohen has lit stages for Billy Joel, The Eagles, Elton John, Justin Timberlake, Mariah Carey, Blake Shelton, Reba McEntire, Lenny Kravitz, The Global Citizens Initiative, Britany Spears, Paul Simon and countless festival installations.

Fourteen years ago, he picked up a set of oils and began to paint. Alternately meditative and bold in color and composition, Cohen’s art evokes the abstract and the figurative and contains nearly hidden shapes that shift and emerge, according to the gallery.

“Lighting for music is ephemeral,” Cohen stated. “My goal has always been to give the concert experience a visual sense memory. When you hear a song, after the concert, your awareness of color and composition of the lighting and visuals from that moment plays in your mind. Painting is my exercise to create those emotions in the physical realm.”

“My process is to let the negative space drive the creation,” he continued. “The painting takes me on my journey. It is my music soundtrack.”

[www.sacpltd.com](http://www.sacpltd.com)



“Threedot” by Steve Cohen. Oil on canvas 30 x 40 inches. Courtesy of The White Room Gallery.

## JACKIE FUCHS

[Jackie Fuchs](#) was born in Brooklyn, NY, in 1958. As a young adult Jackie began a long career as a salon owner, colorist and stylist in Manhattan. In 1986 she moved from New York to Provincetown, Massachusetts where she lived for 13 years immersing herself in the artist community and began developing a lifelong interest in the creative process. Being a late bloomer had its advantages, she returned to school and obtained a BFA in Art Education, Film and Psychology, at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. She followed that with a Master’s degree in Education at Smith College and began teaching Art and TV Production in NYC.

In 2002 Fuchs moved to Sag Harbor, opened four hair salons in the Hamptons and continued teaching art & clay sculpture to children and adults in a multitude of settings. A recent visit to the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia sparked a new creative interest and she began to explore paints and collage materials as a result. This prolific artist now draws on her years of talent, color theory and imagination to produce highly collectable pieces of art. Her new work is fueled by a whimsical instinct that evidences itself in uniquely imagined pieces that might best be described as freeze frames from a movie set or a chapter in a book.



Artwork by Jackie Fuchs. Courtesy of The White Room Gallery.

## KAREN L. KIRSHNER

[Karen Lynne Kirshner](#) is an award-winning, abstract artist. Her recent awards include Award of Excellence from the Suburban Art League and Best in Show/First Place for her vibrant and highly original painting “Faith” at the Biennial National League of American Pen Women’s National Juried Exhibition.

Kirshner grew up in a creative household, exposed to art at a very young age through socializing with popular artists while watching her artistic mother, Betty B. Kirshner, bring her visions to life, explained The White Room Gallery. Early on Karen received awards for her intricate pen & ink compositions and had her first solo show through her high school cultural arts gifted program. She took numerous courses at the Art Student's League over the years and was soon showing in Greenwich Village with her mother.

Kirshner has a BA from Vassar College, where she minored in studio art. She spent time in England in a graduate art program and earned an MS and an MBA with distinction. Karen is a member of numerous artist associations including BJ Spoke Gallery in Huntington, NY; the National Art League in New York, Artists Alliance of East Hampton; the National League of American Pen Women and the Independent Artists Society. Her paintings have appeared in catalogues and newspapers. She has shown at numerous galleries and her work is in private collections both here and abroad.

In the northern light of her studio, with her easel where her mother's once stood, Karen is in a "zone" painting in a zen-like state. Her art emerges and evolves with interactive decision-making on a conscious intuitive level.

"I never know what I am going to do," Kirshner stated. "I just know if I want to gesso with black or white or clear gesso and whether or not I want to start with a particular color." She has often compared her approach to solving jigsaw puzzles, the more complex the more challenging."



"Razzle Dazzle" by Karen L. Kirshner. Acrylic on canvas 30 x 24 inches. Courtesy of The White Room Gallery.

---

**BASIC FACTS:** "Outside The Box" will hold an Opening Reception on Saturday, August 25, 2018, from 6 to 8 p.m. The exhibition features art by Donna Bernstein, Steve Cohen, Jackie Fuchs and Karen L. Kirshner. The show is on view from August 22 to September 18, 2018 at The White Room Gallery, 2415 Main Street, Bridgehampton, NY 11932. [www.thewhiteroom.gallery](http://www.thewhiteroom.gallery).

---

Copyright 2018 Hamptons Art Hub LLC. All rights reserved.