

Good Hart Artist Residency welcomes new Artist-in-Residence

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Harbor Light News Staff

April 16, 2025

The Good Hart Artist Residency is pleased to announce Berkeley, California-based artist and writer Robbin Légère Henderson as its current Artist-in-Residence. Henderson will reside at the Good Hart residency from April 17 through May 1, 2025.

Robbin Henderson is an artist and writer whose practice focuses on graphic narratives rooted in legacies of resistance. Henderson also spent many years as director and curator for renowned community galleries in the San Francisco Bay Area, including the Berkeley Art Center. She published her graphic narrative *Matilda Rabinowitz: Immigrant Girl, Radical Woman* with Cornell University Press in 2017.

Initially a painter of natural scenes and landscapes, Henderson has shifted back to narrative art drawing with scratchboard after uncovering previously unknown family histories. About this shift, Henderson said; "My grandmother Matilda was a union organizer during the great depression, and after discovering and transcribing her memoirs I created and illustrated a book about her life. There's an illustration I love of her standing on a soapbox, organizing for the IWW at a Studebaker plant. Radicalization- whether through inclusivity, ethnicity, gender, age, environmental, economic, or social justice are all part of my history and my work."

In scratchboarding, artists use sharp knives and other tools to engrave through a black layer of ink to reveal a white or colored surface beneath. "I first picked up scratchboard during a residency trip to New Zealand. My husband, Jos Sances, a wonderful printmaker, suggested bringing scratchboards along because they're portable and easy to work with. Unlike linocut, which has a similar look, scratchboard allows you to 'erase' mistakes by filling them in with black ink, making it ideal for travel and experimentation," Henderson said.

During her residency, Henderson will lead a Memoir Scratchboard Art Workshop on April 21, 2025, from 1:00-4:00 pm at The Friendship Centers of Emmet County, located at 1322 Anderson Road, Petoskey. In this workshop, participants will create scratchboard art pieces inspired by childhood



Good Hart Artist Residency welcomes artist and writer, Robbin Henderson. (Courtesy photo)

memories, significant places, and important life events. Registration for this free event is required, and space is limited to 10 participants.

To register, please call The Friendship Centers of Emmet County at (231) 347-3211.

"We're thrilled to host Robbin Henderson, whose deeply personal storytelling and artistic expertise will offer a unique creative experience for our community," said Greg Fuller, Associate Director at Good Hart Artist Residency.