

ARTIST JJ GRAHAM EXPLORES THE UNSPEAKABLE IN BUNNELL, FL

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JJ Graham in his studio at the Salvo Art Project. Photo by Petra Iston

JJ Graham is an expressionist painter in the Florida's East Coast whose work depicts the psychological response to a human's inner and outer landscape.

“There is a thing out there that I’m trying to get at. I call it the Unspeakable.”

JJ Graham, Photo by Petra Iston

Recently JJ, with graphic artist and painter Petra Iston, created the Salvo Art Project. This new endeavor in Bunnell, Florida is a 6,000 sq. ft building featuring studio space for artists, a gallery space, outdoor painting areas, an artist residency program, and a classroom.

“At Salvo we wish to work together as a community of artists to create, inspire, and craft a culture within our community that is original, authentic, and diverse. We are providing a platform for exhibition and opportunities for education in the visual arts.”



Across the Bridge and Dreaming by JJ Graham. Private Collection. Photo by Petra Iston

Born John Joseph Graham, he began drawing at an early age. His first major influence came when his family relocated to San Angelo, Texas. Willie Zuniga, a Native American high school art teacher fostered him to use art to cope with the early loss of his mother.



Musing by JJ Graham. Private Collection. Photo by Petra Iston

In 2012 he became an international artist when he was granted an artist residency by the Labirint Gallery in Krakow, Poland. Two of his paintings have been accepted into the permanent collection of The Polish and Slavic Center in New York.



The Arrival by JJ Graham. Private Collection. Photo by Petra Iston

WHY DO YOU THINK FLORIDA IS FAB?

Being here at Salvo Art Project in Bunnell, Florida, I'm fortunate to be surrounded by a unique blend of creatives. Whether it's the children who come here to study, the artists that occupy our studios, or the guest artists we invite to show their work in the main gallery, I'm always enthralled by the talent that finds its way here. The art here is highly authentic and that is something I value greatly.

FAVORITE FLORIDA SPOTS

Hands down Miami Beach during Art Basel. The whole city comes alive with art. Art Miami and Context are my favorite venues to visit during that week. I always leave feeling inspired and creatively charged.

FAVORITE FLORIDA PRODUCTS

- There is a place in St. Augustine called the Ice Plant Bar that distills their own gin. Their gin & tonic is to die for.
- The paintings of my friend and fellow artist **Christine Sullivan**. She is becoming quite successful and I'm very proud of her and the work she is creating.

Check out classes and up coming shows at Salvoart.org and see more of **JJ Graham's** work.