



For Immediate Release
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Exhibition *The Webs We Weave* opens at Clare Gallery

Hartford, CT — The Clare Gallery is pleased to present *The Webs We Weave*, an exhibition of paintings by international artist, Amy Hannum, and poems from members of the Connecticut Poetry Society. Previously, the Clare Gallery has displayed exhibitions that included words in artwork (or were the artwork) each highlighting a different conceptual theme—*The Power of Words* in 2017, *Intimate Spirits* in 2015, *John Karrer: Morning Walks and Talks with The Creator* in 2011, and *Letters from Prison* in 2005. Continuing in this tradition, this fall the Clare Gallery will further investigate how visuals and poetic language intersect. The exhibition will be held from September 17 through October 31, 2018. **A reception and poetry reading will be held on Thursday, September 20th from 6 to 8 p.m., with the poetry reading beginning at 7 p.m. An artist talk will be held on Thursday, October 25th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.,** during which Ms. Hannum might just share her secret method of transferring a web to her canvas.

Prior to this exhibition, Ms. Hannum's spider web paintings will be shared with the poets. The poets will create new poems inspired by her work. Creative people often inspire one another and share the results in a variety of ways, from dance to music to theater and literature. This collaboration will bring forth new work from Ms. Hannum and the poets, both being inspired by the creative process.

Spider webs are delicate, almost ephemeral, and ever changing. They can be destroyed in a flash, however, their makers often create new ones soon thereafter. Amy Hannum became enamored with spider webs and their beauty in 2006. She studied the variety of spiders and noticed their web diversity. Wanting to capture the beautiful webs and preserve them forever, Ms. Hannum decided to develop a method for integrating actual spider webs into her paintings, thereby using them as a medium for her work.

During her complex process of creating the work, "chance" plays a large role in the process. Ms. Hannum is comfortable with not being in complete control, working organically, and allowing larger forces to have an impact on the work. Occasionally, the piece will be destroyed by a gust of wind. At other times, an unknown element will cause a new visual characteristic to expose itself. This might sound very magical, and partly it is, but Ms. Hannum enjoys the challenge of working with nature to express universal and metaphorical themes and emotions. She also enjoys collaboration and states: "My goal with art is to remind people of our basic human nature, to bridge our many differences by focusing on our commonalities. I like to bring people together using art."

The poets included in the exhibition are: Joe Adomavicia, Eileen Albrizio, Steve Balkun, Tarringo T. Basile-Vaughan, Joanie DiMartino, Brent Terry, and Rhonda Ward. More information about Ms. Hannum can be found at paintdragon.com. Additionally, please visit the Connecticut Poetry Society's website, ctpoeetry.net, for more information on their events.

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CLARE

GALLERY

at the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry

The Clare Gallery primarily features exhibitions that emphasize world religions or interfaith themes, as well as social justice themes, on either a global or local level. The Gallery is housed in the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry at 285 Church Street, Hartford, CT. The Center is part of St. Patrick – St. Anthony Church, a vibrant and active downtown faith community.

The Clare Gallery's hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays; Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The Gallery and all related events are open to the public. Free parking is available directly across from the church, and the facility is handicapped accessible. More information may be found at www.spsact.org/clare2.