

For Immediate Release

Contact: Catherine Wynn

October 2024

chatcat141@gmail.com

**New exhibit: *Divine Cosmos*, October 24–December 8, 2024**

Hartford, CT — Connecticut artist, Jill Harrington Nichols, will close the Clare Gallery's 2024 season, which was focused on the environment, with *Divine Cosmos*. The exhibition celebrates the heart, soul, and beauty that connects us all. Lyrical compositions of color and light transcribe the visible and invisible, the unseen, the other, the divine in all things.

The artist's painting surfaces of reclaimed metals (aluminum, steel, or copper) forged from the earth's crust combined with her subject matter—clouds, water, and the outer expanses of our universe—speak to balance, unity, and inclusion of the sacred feminine.

The Gallery will be hosting an **artist talk and reception on Sunday, October 27. The artist talk is 12:30–1:30 p.m., with a reception to follow.** The public is welcome to attend.

Nichols' work is in international collections including those of a former FBI director, a U.S. congressman, Yale Medical, and the Vatican. Her paintings have appeared as scenic design for the CBS news show, "Face the Nation." Other works appeared on Showtime's "The Comey Rule," an American political drama mini-series. The piece, *Phi*, which celebrates the Divine Feminine, was part of the "Nasty Woman" art social movement in New Haven, CT. Archival metallic canvas prints of her works, *Phi* and *Juno*, are installed in the Vatican Observatory Museum in a gallery dedicated to astronomical art. Clare Gallery's *Divine Cosmos* exhibition will include both original paintings, *Phi* and *Juno* (more information on these paintings found on the artist's website).

Nichols has received awards from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, and Connecticut Office of the Arts. She is an active participant in the art community. Her paintings have been exhibited at the Lyme Art Association, Kershner Gallery, Small Blue Mountain Gallery, Schelfhault Gallery, Carriage Barn, Greenwich Art Society, Mary C. Daly RSM Art Gallery, Lyman Allen Art Museum, Wisconsin Maritime Museum, and Minnesota Marine Art Museum. Nichols' aesthetics have developed over 30-plus years as a commercial artist. She earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Colorado, Boulder. In 2000, she trained at the Art Students League in NYC, and in 2015 earned her MFA in painting at Western Connecticut State University. Nichols regularly conducts workshops nationally and abroad, as well as holds virtual painting classes. For more information, visit [jillnichols.com](http://jillnichols.com)

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 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, and Sundays from 9–11:30 a.m. The Gallery is open to the public. Free parking is available directly across from the church, and the facility is accessible to all. Masks are optional.