

Mariah Reading: Waste Water



Presented by Maine Island Trail Association and Casco Bay Artisans

Maine Island Trail Association (MITA) is proud to collaborate with renowned eco-artist Mariah Reading to present WASTE WATER, an exhibition featuring marine debris that has been collected by MITA volunteers and transformed by the artist into exquisite and impactful works of art on display at Casco Bay Artisans through April 16th.

A portion of the proceeds from all art sales will go towards supporting MITA's mission.

For inquiries into the works or any other information, please contact:

Jennifer Swarts
Gallery Owner
jen@cascobayartisans.com

Jess Lauren Lipton
Gallery Manager
CBArtMarketing@gmail.com

Waste Water

A collection of painted litter and marine debris scattered throughout our Maine coastline. Through the extensive efforts of coastline cleanups, the Maine Island Trails Association has provided Mariah Reading with canvases ranging from a bike seat to a car door. All items were found within and around the Atlantic Ocean and repurposed into landscape paintings.

Artist Statement

I have been contemplating my relationship with art and the vast amount of waste creating can produce. Classically trained as a landscape painter, I pivoted to eco art when the parallel between painting landscapes and feeding landfills became overwhelmingly apparent. The landscapes that so richly inspired me were being hurt by the waste I created in order to depict them. To rectify this unwanted connection, I have developed a zero-waste practice that involves creating canvases from debris found during my travels through National Parks and protected landscape environments. The physical pieces of trash are painted only on one side and intentionally left untouched on the reverse so the original piece of debris remains evident. Once completed, I photograph the painted object aligned with the physical landscape to both obscure and highlight the discarded object. My practice revolves around ways I can lessen my footprint upon Earth and leave it better than I found it.



Mariah Reading
'Snowy Saw Blade'
Framed Print
23"x23"
\$1050



Mariah Reading
'Snowy Saw Blade'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
8"x8"
\$1500



Mariah Reading
'Coastal Car Door'
Framed print
34"x23"
\$1800



Mariah Reading
'Coastal Car Door'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
4"x27"x4
\$3500



Mariah Reading
'Marshy Muck Boot'
Framed print
19"x25"
\$1300



Mariah Reading
'Marshy Muck Boot'
Paint on Reclaimed Material 12"
x15"x4"
\$2100



Mariah Reading
'No Drone Zone'
Framed Print
17"x22"
\$1200



Mariah Reading
'No Drone Zone'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
18"x18"x4"
\$1800



Mariah Reading
'Tidal Paddle'
Framed print
19"x23"
\$1050



Mariah Reading
'Tidal Paddle'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
7"x 71" 2"
\$1500



Mariah Reading
'Bass Harbor Buoy'
Framed Print
19"x21"
\$1000



Mariah Reading
'Bass Harbor Buoy'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
6"x20"x6"
\$1500



Mariah Reading
'Frozen Bike Seat'
Framed print
19"x21"
\$900



Mariah Reading
'Frozen Bike Seat'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
7"x9"x3"
\$1000



Mariah Reading
'Nipple Hill'
Framed Print
15"x13"
\$700



Mariah Reading
'Nipple Hill'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
NFS



Mariah Reading
'Hop Off My Bod'
Framed Print
13"x15"
\$700



Mariah Reading
'Hop Off My Bod'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
8"x7"x1"
\$1200



Mariah Reading
'Baby Steps'
Framed Print
24"x20"
\$600



Mariah Reading
'Baby Steps'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
7"x4"x2"
\$800



Mariah Reading
'Flipping Out'
Framed Print
26"x22"
\$1000

Non-framed Prints
\$175 each (closed edition)



Mariah Reading
'Flipping Out'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
4"x10"x2"
\$1500



Mariah Reading
'Hawaiian Flop'
Framed Print
21"x17"
\$600



Mariah Reading
'Hawaiian Flop'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
4"x7"x2"
\$800



Mariah Reading
'From Woods to Waters'
Framed Print
23"x19"
\$900



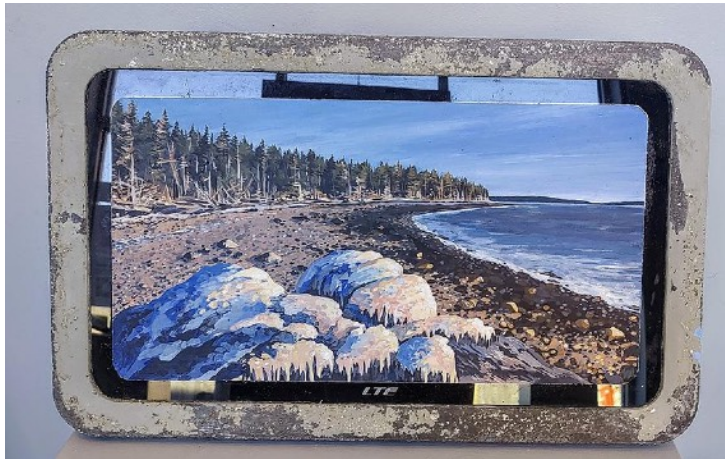
Mariah Reading
'From Woods to Waters'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
5"x4"x.5"
\$600



Mariah Reading
'Framed Trash'
Framed Print
19"x23"
\$900



Mariah Reading
'Framed Trash'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
6"x8"x.5"
\$700



Mariah Reading
'Light The Way'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
21"x13"x8"
\$1800



Mariah Reading
'Vest of the Vest'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
20"x24"x5"
\$1300



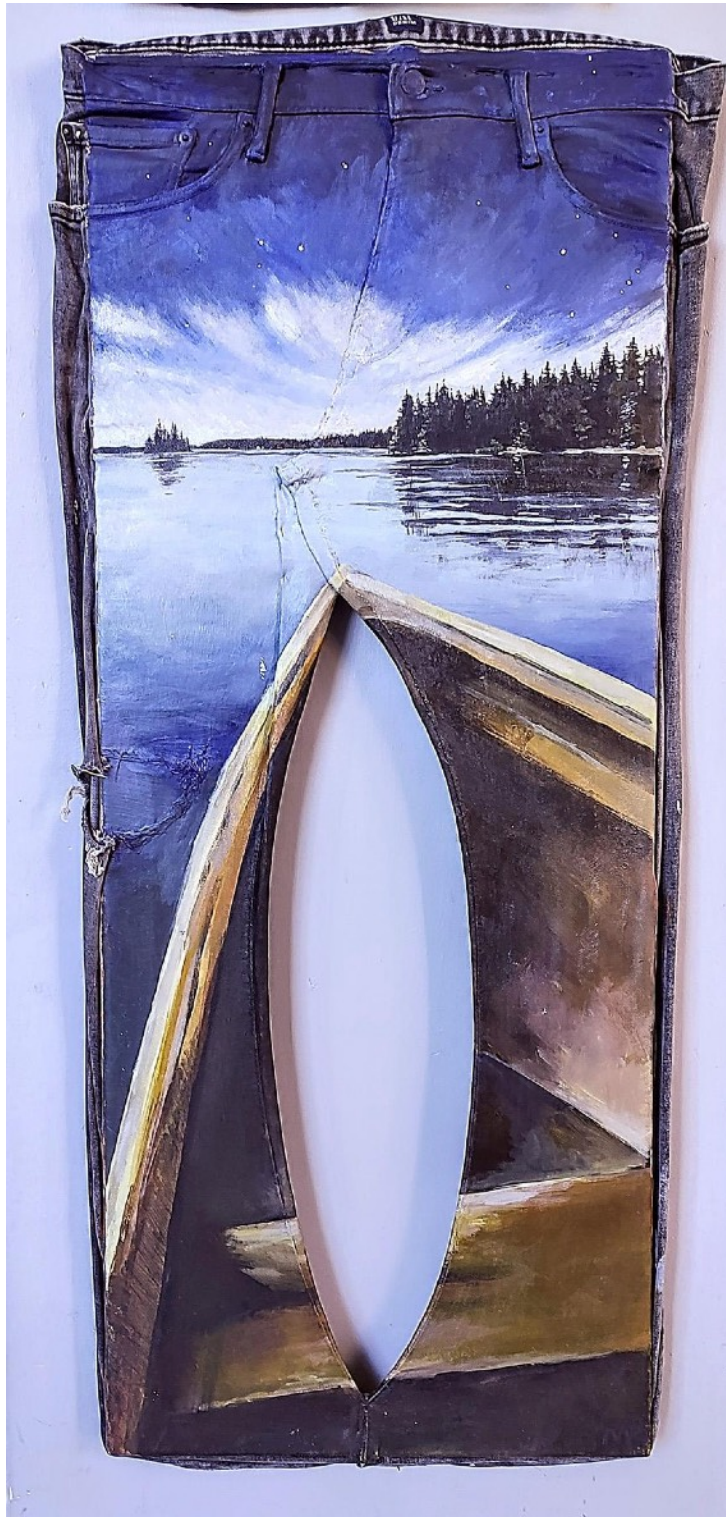
Mariah Reading
'Sunrise Sweatshirt'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
24"x34"x5"
\$1200



Mariah Reading
'Beaver Pond Tank'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
18"x29"x3"
\$1300



Mariah Reading
'Pants on Fire'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
16"x41"x2"
\$1800



Mariah Reading
'Moonlight Pants Dance'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
19"x42"x2"
\$1000



Mariah Reading
'Boundary Water Fish Net'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
12"x36"x18"
\$1200



Mariah Reading
'Santa Cruz Island'
Framed Print
27"x22"
\$1200



Mariah Reading
'BB PFD'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
16"x16"x4"
\$1200



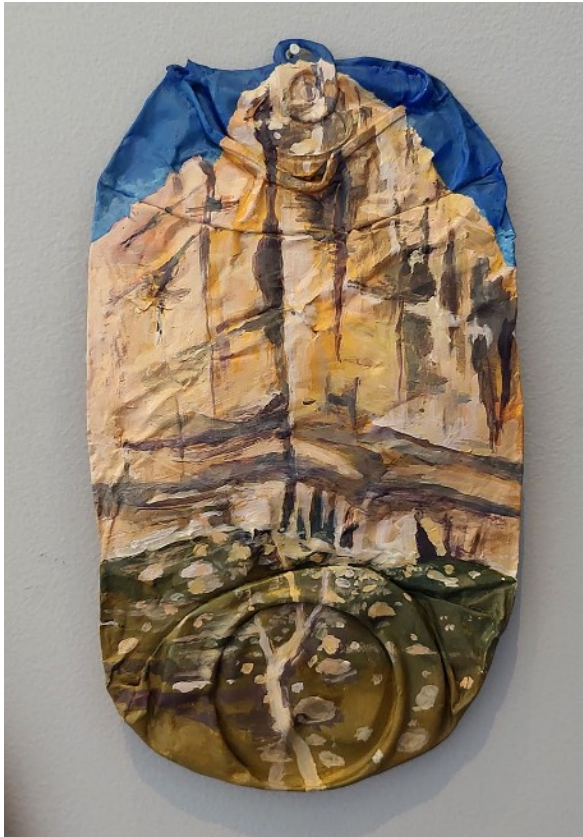
Mariah Reading
Sand Beach Buoy
Paint on Reclaimed Material
16"x8"x6"
\$900



Mariah Reading
Isle au Haut Buoy
Paint on Reclaimed Material
6"x8"x2"
\$600



Mariah Reading
'Bangor City Forest Glove'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
5"x12"x5"
\$600



Maria Reading
'Bud Light on the Rocks'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
5"x8"
\$500



Mariah Reading
Eagle Lake Helmet
Paint on Reclaimed Material
13"x9"x7"
\$900



Mariah Reading
'Oregon Coast Instant Meal'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
7"x5"
\$600



Mariah Reading
'Voyageurs Glove'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
6"x9"x3"
\$800



Mariah Reading
'Crocs and Rocks'
Paint on Reclaimed Materials
9"x5"x4"
\$800



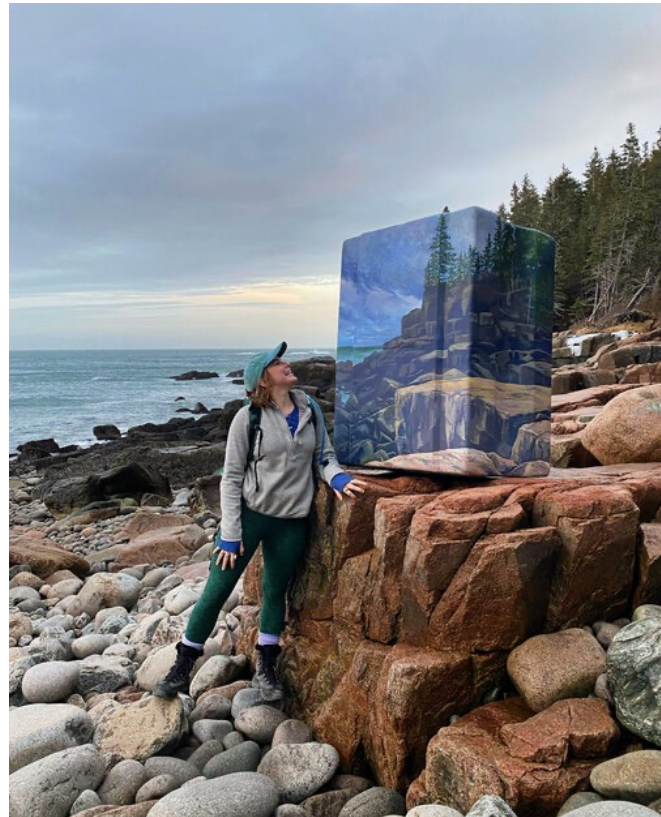
Mariah Reading
Elevated Buoy
Paint on Reclaimed Material
6"x14"x6"
\$1000



Mariah Reading
'Siskiwit Shoe Sole'
Paint on Reclaimed Material
5"x11"x.5"
\$1000

Biography

Mariah Reading is an eco-artist and strong advocate for the existence, preservation, and accessibility of the National Parks. She was born and raised in Bangor, Maine where the surrounding landscape gave her a deep appreciation of nature's beauty that was reinforced by her degree in Visual Arts at Bowdoin College. The 2016 National Park Centennial propelled her Recycled Landscapes, designed to bring attention to the need of preserving and protecting the environment. Mariah has dedicated herself to the field of eco-art through her Artist in Residence at Denali, Zion, Acadia, and the Guadalupe Mountains National Parks, working as an Arts In the Parks Volunteer, assisting in Yosemite Facelift efforts, developing a K-12 STREAM curriculum with University of California Santa Barbara Oceanography students, and creating conservation workshops with the Channel Islands National Park. She has exhibited work in San Antonio, TX; Seattle, WA; Fort Collins, CO; McKinley Village, AK; Brunswick, ME; Kamuela, HI; Poughkeepsie, NY; Davis, CA; and Rockland, ME. From April through September Reading is an environmental interpreter for the National Park Service.



EDUCATION

2016 Bowdoin College, BA (Visual Arts Major, Education Minor)

RESIDENCIES

2022 Sitka Center For Art and Ecology Residency
2021 Guadalupe Mountain National Park Artist in Residence
2019 Acadia National Park [Artist in Residence](#)
2018 Denali National Park [Artist in Residence](#)
McKinley Chalet Resort Artist in Residence
Zion National Park [Artist in Residence](#)

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021 Worn Landscapes, Pence Gallery, Davis, CA
2020 Watershed: The Footprints That Lead to the Sea, Locust Grove Estate, Poughkeepsie, NY
2019 In the Wake of Our Waste, Kahilu Gallery, Kamuela, HI
Landscapes, Not Landfills, Main Gallery, Bowdoin College, ME

- 2018 Recycled Landscapes, PLAYhouse Gallery, San Antonio, TX
- 2016 Reflection, Edwards Center for Art and Dance, Brunswick, ME
- Seasons, Office of Residential Life, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME
- Senior Spotlight, Smith Union, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME
- Over the Years, Verve, Orono, ME

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Art and Nature: Rending Our Impact, Lincoln Center Gallery, Fort Collins, CO
- 2018 TEDxSeattle: Tall Order, McCaw Hall in Seattle Center, Seattle, WA
- Aquatic Cathartic, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
- Pints with a Purpose, Topa Topa, Santa Barbara, CA
- 2016 Convergence, Coffin Pond, Brunswick, ME
- Senior, Ramp Gallery, Brunswick, ME
- 340 Miles North, Ladd House, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME
- Visual Arts Open House, Bowdoin College, Fall and spring semester
- 2015 Mariah Reading and Tess Hamilton, Lamarche Gallery, Smith Union, Brunswick, ME
- National Student Works on Paper Biennial, William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ
- Inter- Ramp Gallery, Brunswick, ME
- 340 Miles North, Ladd House, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME
- Health and Wellness, Brunswick Recreation Center, Brunswick, ME
- Portrait Show, Ramp Gallery, Brunswick, ME
- 2014 Panorama, Dean's Office, Moulton Union, Brunswick, ME
- Visual Arts Open House, Bowdoin College, Fall and spring semester
- 2013 Visual Arts Open House, Bowdoin College, Fall and spring semester

LECTURES

- 2021 Worn Landscapes Zoom Gallery Talk
- 2020 Watershed: The Footprints That Lead to the Sea, Poughkeepsie, NY
- 2019 Texas Art Education Association Conference Keynote Speaker
- Lincoln Center Gallery, Fort Collins, CO
- 2018 Zion National Park Watchman Campground, Springdale, UT
- Southern Utah University, UT
- Denali National Park Visitor Center, AK
- Trinity University visiting artist guest lecturer, San Antonio, TX
- 2017 Artist talk at Crane Country Day School, Santa Barbara, CA

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND COLLABORATIONS

- 2020 Subaru: The Road to Creativity Promotional [Video](#)
- 2019 Merrell Range Promotional [Video](#)
- 2018 Project 16x Grant
- 2016 Delta Sigma/ Delta Upsilon Art Competition Award
- 2015 National Student Works on Paper Biennial Award
- Delta Sigma/ Delta Upsilon Art Competition Award
- Delta Sigma/ Delta Upsilon Public Art Grant
- 2013 Preston Public Interest Career Fund, Bowdoin College
- 2011 Haystack Scholarship

PRESS

- 2021 This Eco Artist Turns Litter Into Landscape Paintings, [People Magazine](#)
- 2020 This National Park Art Has an Important Message, [Outside Online](#)
Maine Artist who uses her trash as her canvas journeys to Antarctica, [News Center ME](#)
- 2019 In The Wake of Our Waste, [Osprey](#)
How This Subaru Owner Turns Trash Into Art, [Subaru Drive](#)
Reading '16 Advocates Through Art, [Bowdoin Orient](#)
Bangor Native Transforms Park Trash into Art for Acadia Residency, [Bangor Daily News](#)
- 2018 Merrell Range Promotional [Video](#)
- 2018 Meet the Artist Who Turns Trash Into Works of Art, [Adventure Sports Network](#)
Washington Trails Association Magazine [Feature](#)
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Turning Art into Art in Denali National Park, [Osprey](#)
Conservation Artist Mariah Reading, [Teva](#)
Artist Mariah Reading '16 Turns Litter into Landscapes Archives, [Bowdoin Community](#)
Recycled Landscapes: The Art of Mariah Reading, [Trek Light Gear](#)
Artistry: Mariah Reading's Recycled Landscapes, [She-Explores](#)
Meet the artist who makes trash into art, [High Country News](#)
Artist Turns The Rubbish She Finds On Her Nature Hikes Into Amazing Works Of Art, [Cooler Lifestyle](#)
- 2016 Former Fraternity Honors Students at 17th Annual Art Show, [Bowdoin News](#)
- 2015 Students Collaborate with Brunswick on Public Art Project, [Bowdoin Orient](#)
- 2014 Bowdoin Art Activists Brighten Local Rec Center, [Bowdoin News](#)
New Public Art Installation at Rec Center, [Times Record](#)
Brunswick rec center art comes with message, purpose, [The Forecaster](#)
- 2013 Mariah Reading '16 Brings the Joy of Art to Kids, [Bowdoin News](#)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020 Environmental Interpreter
- 2019 Environmental Interpreter
California State Park Aide, Big Sur Sector
- 2017 Arts in the Parks Volunteer, Guadalupe Mountains National Park
- 2016 Crane Country Day School Art Education Teaching Fellow
Bowdoin College Craft Center Instructor
Alternative Spring Break Arts as Empowerment Leader
- 2015 Brunswick Public Art Bowdoin Liaison
Bowdoin Public Art Leader
- 2014 Deer Crossing Wilderness Art Instructor
- 2013 Marvin Billeck Printmaking Intern
University of Maine Museum of Art Education Intern

ART IN PUBLIC SPACES

- 2018 Kids Size 11 Narrow, Zion National Park, UT
Grotto Glow, Zion National Park, UT
The Narrows, Zion National Park, UT
The North Rim, Grand Canyon, AZ

CASCO BAY ARTISANS | INTERNATIONAL FINE ART GALLERY



- Fireweed Keyboard, Denali National Park, AK
- Recycled Mountain, Denali National Park, AK
- Denali Trash Sculpture, McKinley Chalet, AK
- Potato Fin, Santa Barbara Kayak Company, CA
- 2017 Hunter's Boot, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, TX
- Recycled Color Wheel, Crane Country Day School, CA
- 2016 Convergence, Coffin Pond Bridge, Brunswick, ME
- Seasons, Office of Residential Life, Bowdoin College, ME
- 2015 Health and Wellness, Brunswick Recreation Center, ME
- 2014 Panorama, Dean's Office, Bowdoin College, ME