



## *Rising Voices 4: The Bennett Prize for Women Figurative Realist Painters* Traveling Exhibition

The Muskegon Museum of Art presents *Rising Voices 4: The Bennett Prize for Figurative Women Realist Painters*. The exhibition is held in conjunction with The Bennett Prize, a stipend/grant-in-aid program established by American art collectors Steven Alan Bennett and Dr. Elaine Melotti Schmidt. The \$50,000 Bennett Prize is awarded biennially to a woman fine art painter whose primary artistic focus is figurative painting in a realistic style. The Bennett Prize encourages the pursuit of figurative realism by women painters and provides support over two years to a select painter whose work demonstrates excellence in the genre.



(2021 Winner) Ayana Ross, *The Call*

### THE EXHIBITION

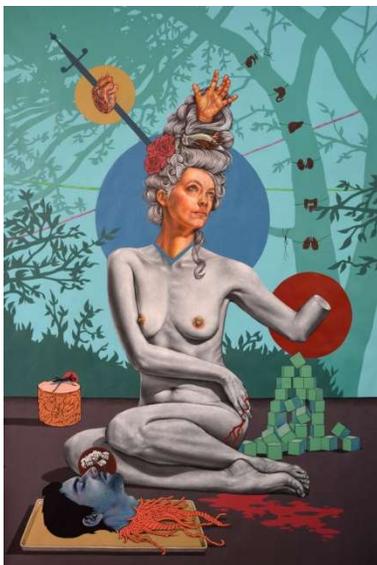
*The Rising Voices* exhibition is held biennially, with each show comprised of figurative paintings by the ten Bennett Prize finalists and a solo exhibition of the work of the prior cycle's winner. The 3,000+ square foot exhibition includes approximately 40 paintings. All of the artworks incorporate the realistic portrayal of the human figure.

Finalists for *Rising Voices 4* are announced in November of 2024 and The Prize winner is announced in May 2025 at the exhibition premiere. Exhibition artworks are available for preview beginning in March of 2025.

The exhibition is accompanied by a full color catalogue.



(2021) Tanmaya Bingham, *Sexy Tickers*



(2019 Winner) Aneka Ingold, *Devil's Bread*

Past finalists and Prize winners can be found at the official site:  
<https://thebennettprize.org>



(2023) Monica Ikegwu, *Nia June*

## Organizer

*Rising Voices 4: The Bennett Prize for Women Figurative Realist Painters* is organized by the Muskegon Museum of Art in Muskegon, Michigan, in partnership with The Pittsburgh Foundation.

## Contents

The exhibition will be comprised of approximately 30 paintings by the 2025 Bennett Prize finalists and an additional solo show of approximately ten paintings by the 2023 winner. Electronic files for a title panel, didactic text, and object labels are provided.

## Space and Installation Requirements

The exhibition requires a minimum of 3,000 square feet. See the checklist for artwork images, media, and size. A link to hires images is available upon request.

**Fees:** The exhibition leasing fee is **\$10,000** for a 12-week time period. Fee includes shipping. Time periods are flexible based on availability.

**Security Requirements:** Medium security. During public hours the exhibition must be under surveillance by trained security personnel or staff. After hours the gallery must, at a minimum, be locked with electronic security and alarms engaged.

**Environment & Lighting:** Gallery HVAC must be maintained at 70 degrees F +/- 5 degrees and 50% RH +/- 5%. No direct sunlight is permitted and lighting must be UV filtered with light levels not to exceed 18 foot candles. Borrowers must supply a facilities report prior to the delivery of the exhibition.

**Shipping:** Muskegon Museum of Art staff will coordinate shipping between venues. Shipping costs are included in the rental fee.

**Handling and Insurance:** Host venues must provide experienced preparators and/or curatorial staff to unpack, install, and pack the exhibition, as well as prepare condition reports upon arrival and before removal. Venues will insure the art while on premises, with values to be provided.

**Booking Information:** Bookings will be accepted in the order they are received. While tentative holds are accepted, a signed contract with a deposit of \$1,000 holds a firm reservation. Cancellation fees apply. For further information, or to book the exhibition, contact Art Martin at (231) 720-2582 or [amartin@muskegonartmuseum.org](mailto:amartin@muskegonartmuseum.org).



(2023 Winner) Shiqing Deng, *ASMR*

## Venues

The Exhibition is available for slots of up to 12 weeks. Venue periods are flexible with advance notice. Dates will be booked to allow a minimum of one week to install and one week to deinstall the show. Length of shipping periods will be determined by distance and availability of transportation.

May 22 – Aug 24, 2025

**Muskegon Museum of Art, Muskegon, MI**

Oct. 13, 2025 – Jan. 2, 2026

**Arnot Art Museum, Elmira, NY**

Feb. 9 – April 24, 2026

**Customs House and Cultural Center, Charlottesville, TN**

June 8 – August 28, 2026

**OPEN**

Sept 14 – Dec. 4, 2026

**OPEN**

Jan. 4, 2027 – April 2, 2027

**OPEN**

Apr. 23 – July 9, 2027

**Studio Incamminati, Philadelphia, PA**



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