Our Mission: To restore the dignity and self-respect for those with substance use disorder and who may have lost hope.
FOCUS COUNSELLING SERVICES

30TH ANNIVERSARY ART EXHIBITION

August 25th to September 22nd, 2023

CELEBRATING 2ND CHANCES

Opening Reception and Auction Friday August 25th 5:30 – 7:30pm
Masterworks in the Rick Faries Gallery
Focus Counselling Services was created in the spring of 1993 and was founded by two addition counsellors, Jerry Griffith and Sandra Butterfield. These two individuals recognized a gap in the helping services system. As a result of their passion the Programs' education and training efforts commenced in August of 1993 at the Salvation Army Shelter located on North Street Hamilton.

It has been 30 years and during this time Focus Counselling Services has made significant strides in empowering individuals and transforming communities. The organization can provide services up to 25 individuals in outpatient services offering them personalized care and guidance. Additionally, we can accommodate up to 12 men in Sober Living/Residential Treatment, giving them a safe and nurturing environment to recover.

As we celebrate our 30th Anniversary, we invite you to join us in reflecting on the countless success stories and milestones achieved with the help of our dedicated staff and the support of our community/donors. Together, we have made a real difference in the lives of those affected by substance misuse and substance use disorder. For more information about our services or to donate, please visit us at https://www.focus.bm or call 296-2196.
ALEXIS STEPHENS AKA BUST THE DRIP

Born in 1983 Alexis STEPHENS aka BUST THE DRIP first dedicated his time to dance in the Hip-Hop Parisian Scene before evolving onto pictural expression the question which led him to this expression was: How can he transfer the dance energy from 3D to 2D...?

His message revolves around the love of gesture. We are not made up of much and yet we all carry an internal boil. He likes to think of the body as being a sum of organized waves.

Inspired by abstract expressionism and graffiti, he manages to successfully transcribe movement in his works. Profound yet subtle vibrations animate and allow the image to recreate the movement of bodies by associating gesture with the projection of paint. His way of painting is extreme in gesture and energetic. Associating technique and instinct. His works combine mainly acrylic and crayons (graphite) and (oil).

The line is initially intended to be abstract and jarring, but as it detaches itself from the painting, by taking a step back, the canvas becomes articulated, alive.
Barbara Russell returned from a Massachusetts spiritual retreat hosted by a Native American shaman reborn as Ms B short for Ms B the Doodle Queen. Her organic doodle rendering initially collected by Bermuda Masterwork Museum & their patrons since 2010 spun a need to help mankind learn her art process to safely release tension and stress as demonstrated in her therapeutic workshops: "Doodle to Dabeat" & "Doodle to Refresh your Noodle" attracting schools, hospitals and holistic centers bookings. Inspired by Romare Bearden, Leroy Clarke, Willem de Kooning, Shantel Martin, Julie Mehretu, Robert Motherwell and Cy Twombly artistic works.
CARMEN DOMARCO

Sevilla, 1964

Carmen Domarco is a Spanish artist known for her eyepopping paintings and prints addressing questions of cosmic origins, the evolution of life and consciousness, and earth’s future. Educated in Seville, Madrid and Santo Domingo, she has lived and worked in South America, the Caribbean, North America and Europe before moving to Bermuda in 2017.

In Bermuda she has had five solo exhibitions beginning with her first shows at Masterworks and the Bermuda Society of Arts in 2018. In 2023 she continues to be active as a commissioned artist and Masterworks and BSOA member and contributor.

carmendomarco.com
Danielle Frith is an amateur photographer based in St. David’s, Bermuda. Her artwork focused on themes of nature and architecture. She enjoys creating layers within her work through double exposure and digital layering. She finds beauty in unique and uncommon settings. She received an art minor from Albion College, in Albion Michigan, U.S.A.
JULIETTE O’CONNOR

The quote ‘a picture speaks a thousand words’ captures everything that Juliette believes and feels about photography. From an early age, Juliette has been passionate about photography and aims to capture what she ‘sees’ from behind the lens.

Juliette is moved by the texture and contrast seen in nature. From the first moment she picked up her father’s Canon AE-1 camera, she has been ‘the girl with the camera’ at every family gathering, social function or workplace event.

Juliette participated in several Members Shows at Bermuda Society of Arts (BSOA); in 2007 she had her first solo show, Snap Happy. Since that time her work was published in the local publication The Art of Kite Making by Eugene O’Connor.

Through her business Eclectic Design Bermuda, a line of accessory tote bags and beautiful note cards were produced showcasing her images.

Juliette enjoys nature and lifestyle photography and aims to capture moments that will invoke emotion and bring joy to the viewer.
LANCE TUCKER

My Art a representation of my journey as a Mixed Media Artist as the different textures of sand glass within a flow of paint is a new beginning, the broken glass represents the brokenness in my past and the fine glass represents a smoothness of what is my now.
MARI HARPER

Author and photographer Mari Hill Harpur grew up in an agricultural culture in the American Midwest. Farming and forestry have been her professional life. While photography is her love, she frequently focuses her lens on iconic pastoral landscapes and livestock portraits. She has had over forty photographic exhibits internationally. "One of my most memorable artistic experiences was the three months I spent as the 'Artist in Residence' with Masterworks in Hamilton, Bermuda, in 2010. The subject I chose was "Agriculture in Bermuda with Black and White Photography." It resulted in an exhibit in their Rick Feries Gallery.

I currently live and work in Bermuda. In 2014 I began writing, illustrating and publishing books. My Bermuda experience has been an invaluable grounding. I am inspired by its people's warmth and inherent natural beauty.
Milton McKenzie II can now add “Published Photographer” to his list of accomplishments as his photograph, Splash!, was recently featured in The Bermudian magazine in June 2023.

Milton is also a published poet who has two books of poetry, Excursions and Me Personally. In addition, he has authored a book for young readers entitled The Invisible Boy Who Was Really There, a semi-autobiographical summary of his childhood experiences with racism and to empower his audience to confront its sinister effects.

Photography has now become Milton’s latest medium of expression, utilizing the handle #thesimplethings, whose goal is to highlight that which we as humans may tend to overlook during the hustle and bustle of our daily lives.
NealJhay Morris, 34, is an artist who isn’t afraid to express himself through his work, telling stories through each piece he creates. "It’s so easy to recreate something that already exists, so why not dream? Why not bring a nonexistent idea to life?"

He used to believe his work was solely abstract but later discovered, his viewers so other examples such as surrealism, realism, etc. "My purpose and destiny in art is to express and inspire. It’s not just about me but about connecting and networking with others. I also want to show other creatives that if I can do it, so can they."
NIKHOLAS ROACH

Nikholas Roach. Inspired by the beauty of the island, I wish to create a social revolution through art using the familiar effigies of my island home. With provocative and compelling imagery, I create art to capture stories of love and war, metaphors for dissent and injustice, and historical narrative through a Bermudiana lens.
SHERENA DICKINSON

I’ve always been interested in art as a hobby throughout my younger years. In more recent years I’ve reconnected with my passion for art. When I’m painting, I’m in my happy place as I’m at peace and unbothered. I usually say, “I’m in my zone”. Primarily, I use acrylic paint as I love bright colors. However, I’ve also had experience using watercolor and pastels. I enjoy trying new mediums and pushing my boundaries artistically.
TREVOR TODD AKA ‘COSMIC CONSCIOUSNESS’

Trevor was born in Hamilton, Bermuda in 1965 and is a diverse artist whose works consists of mixed mediums. This technique allows him to express himself freely, with the intent of encouraging each individual viewer to interpret and take their own personal journey as they observe and analyze his work. Trevor also expresses his artistic talents at times through music (didgeridoo), photography, poetry, as well as through performing as Bermuda Gombey dancer; an iconic symbol of Bermuda with indigenous, African and Caribbean roots.

Trevor’s journey to becoming an artist is a combination of self-discovery and a trip Australia in 2005. It was during that particular journey while exploring the Aboriginal people’s unique culture and art in particular, that he credits to opening up his mind to the possibilities within artistic expression and the freedom it provided him to express himself in such a way that was new, invigorating and therapeutic for his soul.

Originally self-taught, Trevor later continued his progression as an artist through formal classes at the School of Visual Arts in New York City; studying different artistic styles and techniques whilst there, gaining a deeper understanding of different artistic methods that intrigued him, in addition to utilizing the experiences to help him further develop his own craft.

Email: cosmic@co2arts.com    Website: www.co2arts.com
ZO WAKEFIELD

I am a 21-year-old Bermudian artist located in Canada. I work in several different styles and a mix of mediums. Primarily, I enjoy working with acrylic and charcoal, but I also love incorporating elements of photography, collage, sculpture, and digital art. My style of art is anything that makes you tilt your head and think "What does that even mean?!". I am inspired by people and human psychology. I make art to try and understand people, and share my art so that they can try to understand me.
CREDITS

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WORDS OF THANKS

Focus Counselling Services would like to take this time to thank all the artist for their participation in making the event a success. This would not have been possible without you donating your time and work.

We would also like to thank Masterwork for their patience and guidance in this process.

Lastly, but not least, thanks to all the volunteers who have given of their time and efforts behind the scenes for you are the backbone of any charity organization.