

PRESS RELEASE
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For additional information and images, please contact Paula Martiesian at 401-521-7634 or at artsong5354@gmail.com. Attached images: Carrion in her studio with two of her quilts and a detail of her quilt *Jardin*.

The BankRI Galleries present:

BankRI Turks Head Gallery: “Quilts by Priscilla Carrion,” July 7 through August 31, 2022 The branch is located at One Turks Head Place in downtown Providence. Hours are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m to 5 p.m. There are two Gallery Night receptions Thursdays July 21st and August 18 from 4 to 6:30 p.m. The branch is not open on weekends. For more information, contact www.bankri.com or call the branch at 401 456-5152.



MEET THE ARTIST – PRISCILLA CARRION

Multi-talented artist Priscilla Carrion is a lot like one of her quilts – a patch work made from dissimilar fabrics. Born in Providence and a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, Carrion is a contemporary artist working in both paint and fabric. Her heritage, however, is more traditional. Her parents immigrated from Ecuador to Rhode Island many years ago and instilled in her a love of both their native and adopted cultures.

At RISD, Carrion majored in textiles, experimenting with screen printing and pattern making. It wasn't until after she graduated that Carrion found herself drawn to the more intimate arts of quilting and sewing. A DIY person at heart, she started by making her own clothes and gradually progressed to making quilts and sewing costumes for a dressmaker in Boston.

Sewing is traditionally thought of as women's craft, and Carrion embraces and celebrates the humble nature of the art form in her own way. She is drawn to the idea of

community, of women getting together to make something larger than themselves and it appeals to her to make something useful that is also considered art. “{A quilt is}a painting for your bed,” Carrion explains. “My grandmothers and aunts would not call themselves textile artists, but some of them are the most masterful handwork women I have ever met.”

The concept of sisterhood flows through her work and in fact, Carrion is a member of Sista Fire, a network of women and non-binary people of color building a foundational structure for political, social and economic transformation.

Carrion is exhibiting her quilts at the BankRI Pitman Street Gallery and both her quilts and watercolors at the BankRI Turks Head Gallery. Her quilts make use of Carrion’s multiple talents – designing and printing her own patterns to use in her quilts. The color palette is contemplative, the designs bold and graphic. These quilts are meant to be lovingly used, but they also have a quiet visual strength that would look good on any wall.

Carrion’s watercolors are playful, brightly colored and full of joy. “I’ve been painting animals, trees and sunshine,” Carrion says. “I’m making what the 10-year old me loved to paint.”

The grown up Carrion has taken her youthful interests in “shapes, music, animals, justice and feelings” and crafted a useful and creative life.

The BankRI Galleries are curated by Paula Martiesian, a Providence-based artist and arts advocate.

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