



Williamsburg Art & Historical Center  
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# WAH CENTER



## Origins + Garden of Color Press Release

**Show Dates:** Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 – Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Gallery Hours:** Friday – Sunday 12-6PM

**Opening Reception:** Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 4-6 pm

**Curated by:** Gabe Turow

**Co-Curated by:** Thomas Lollar

Paintings by Annette Turow

Ceramics by Gabe Turow

**In the Small Gallery: Garden of Color, Paintings by Orin Buck**

### About the Show:

The WAH Center (Williamsburg Art and Historical Center) is pleased to present the works of Annette Turow and Gabe Turow, a Mother-Son duo whose unique and organic creations echo one another stylistically despite their disparate mediums and processes.

Annette Turow's work is imbued with a natural flow and harmony, the undefined, unrestrained forms and colors dance across the surface of her work, the washed tones resonating throughout the pieces. In describing her process, she states, "I always start with a sensation. It builds in my mind from an amorphous distraction to an active expression from my brush." In his ceramics, Gabe Turow seeks to explore and revel in the imperfections of the pottery making process, elevating the tension and disruptions in his creations, discovering that "perfection suddenly felt boring... it had no tension, no action" and concluded that "every asymmetry and crack is utterly unique, and so holds out the possibility for beauty if we get up close and really look."

### About the Artists:

**Annette Turow:** I always start with a sensation. It builds in my mind from an amorphous distraction to an active expression from my brush. Sometimes I am aware of a color lingering in the back of my mind and I have learned to trust it. I try to use it soon.

The sensations come from years of painting, observing and becoming self aware enough to exploit the ideas that are expressing themselves quietly in my soul. Many ideas come from the Torah or a prayer. They then take on a life of their own. I have learned to trust my process. The various media give me the freedom to follow my instincts that I have honed during my 35-year career.

**Gabe Turow:** As an artist, I feel like my job is curate the cracks—to search for and find ways of hanging in between the perfect and the ugly, to expand my own and others' definition of what is beautiful. I want to stop hunting for something that I'm never going to find: After having spent

years throwing on the wheel with purely technical goals, pursuing the otherworldly perfection of smooth surfaces and symmetrical forms, I suddenly became interested in grit, in asymmetry, in texture, and then I started to see ceramics as a vehicle for metaphor, and the controlled mess of it all. Perfection suddenly seemed boring to me; it had no tension, no action.

Today, with the shape and texture of pots, I know I've found a medium I am comfortable speaking through. The stretching and cracking, and breakage, that somehow all hangs together despite the stress, represents the way I view reality: the reality that nothing is finished, nothing is perfect, and nothing lasts. These are Buddhist ideas of attachment and impermanence (the futility of holding everything too tightly) expressed in a visual form (Wabi Sabi). I still work hard at mastering different shapes, and expressing what I see through my hands. But I expend serious effort to examine the potential in imperfect forms before I toss them aside. Every asymmetry and crack is utterly unique, and so holds out the possibility for beauty if we get up close and really look.

**In the Small Gallery: Garden of Color**  
**Paintings by Orin Buck**  
**Curated by Yuko Nii**

**About:** Orin paints from a love of color, and invites you into his land of color. The work references landscape, life forms, geometry and forces of nature and the universe, but this is a dimension where colors are characters playing out their own dramas on the stage of modern traditions of painting. Aside from this theme, these are first of all paintings, and they use an expansive set of the ideas of abstract art and painting in general. He tries to preserve the energy of the gesture and the beauty of the paint while finding "significant form" and the mysterious space beyond the surface.

Orin pursues painting as part of his art practice, which also includes algorithmic computer art, video art, photography and music ([orinbuck.com](http://orinbuck.com), [lightdreams.tv](http://lightdreams.tv)). In recent years he has mostly avoided painting while producing many small line drawings. But about a year ago he discovered the availability of small, cheap pre-stretched canvases, and found that he can be very productive in by working on a large number of small canvases, exploring with a new freedom the ideas discovered in the small drawings. Just as important to him, the small paintings are affordable and easier for people to welcome into their lives. The present exhibition is a selection of the paintings produced since August 2015.

**About Orin Buck:** Orin Buck, Ann Arbor MI native and New York City resident, is an artist working in visual, audio and computer arts. Having pursued English and history majors at the University of Michigan he is mostly self-trained in the arts of painting, photography, videography, computer programming and music. He began painting seriously and playing music in his teens.. Since moving to New York he has been involved in the Internet as a web designer and producer, a happy combination of his interests in hypertexts, publishing, visual design, and computer and video technologies. In his freelance business he has also continued to work with video, photography, and audio engineering. He currently exhibits computer art, video art, photography, and painting ([orinbuck.com](http://orinbuck.com)), and plays bass in the eclectic New York rock band Fist of Kindness ([fistofkindness.com](http://fistofkindness.com)).