



### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

“Beautiful and Powerful Statements” is an art exhibit featuring the arts of calligraphy and re-purposed materials. It opens Saturday, January 28, 2-5pm at Nails in the Wall, the Gallery at St. Luke’s, 17 Oak Ave., Metuchen.

The exhibit includes nearly 70 pieces in many media, from photography and video to fabric, ceramic and glass as well as all manner of re-purposed materials. Work from all over the U.S. and as far away as Israel is included in this show, along with the work of New Jersey artists.

The approach to calligraphy was a very broad one and was open to any work that was text-predominant. That has allowed us to include not only work with elegant traditional calligraphy in many diverse languages, but other pieces that are very powerful and direct. “Anatolia” by Woodbridge, NJ artist **Gozde Ture** includes a quotation from the Orkhon Inscriptions with calligraphy in the Goturk alphabet that speaks about time. **Ruth Schreiber’s** works, from Israel, while connected to the Hebrew Scriptures, employ a “fantasy writing” using porcelain and other images. And California calligrapher **Beverly Womack** creates her work using layers of materials and images.

The photography-based altered prints of East Orange artist, **Onnie Strother**, on the other hand, use bold text to speak directly to their viewer, and Georgia-based **Craig Wilson’s** almost stream-of-consciousness words dance all over the page.

The art from “repurposed materials” makes their statements by way of the material itself...employing everything from actual bees and beeswax as Montclair artist **Art Paxton** does in “Buzz”, to the steampunk-related cast-offs used by NY artist and teacher **Seth Apter**, and Metuchen artist **Amy Brooks** in her work “Post-Truth Apocalypse”.

“We were sought to incorporate in the show work featuring calligraphy or text that made, individually and collectively, a powerful statement. We were also interested that the work accepted using re-purposed materials had an inherent, accessible beauty. We were constantly weighing those two interests as we reviewed the work and decided what would fit well in this show, so that each piece really was appropriately “Beautiful and Powerful,” noted Gallery Board Member Robert Hopkins.

The Opening will be carried by Facebook Live, beginning around 2:30pm. This will be especially helpful for the artists who live great distances. It will allow anyone who wishes to log on to the Nails in the Wall Gallery FB page and interact with the visitors present at the gallery.

Nails in the Wall is in the midst of its fifth year presenting international, interfaith exhibits of high-quality fine art. To learn more about the gallery, visit [www.nailsinthewall.org](http://www.nailsinthewall.org) or call the Director 732.322.6512.