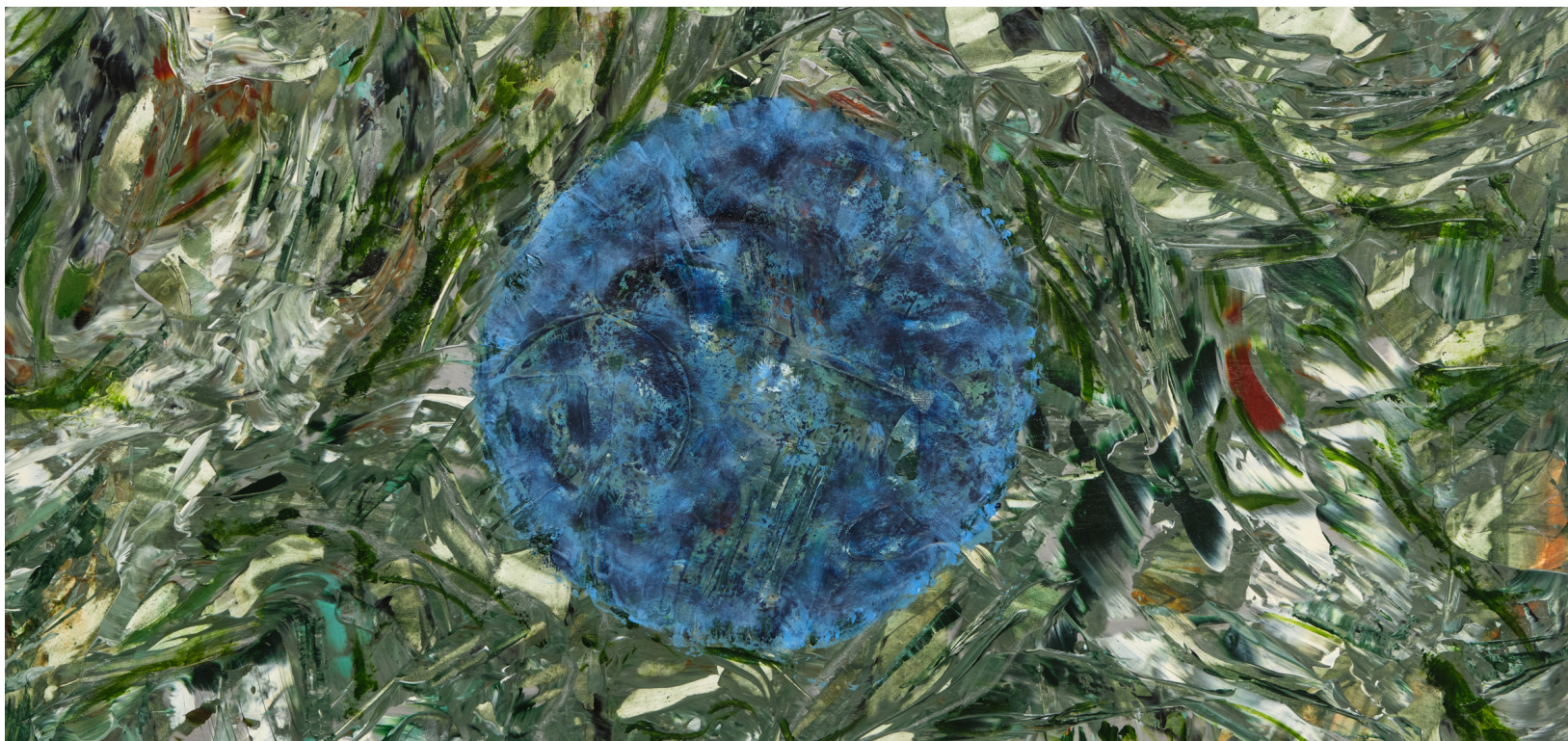


DENISE DI NOVI | PORTAL



The Honarkar Foundation for Arts & Culture is proud to present 'Portal', an inaugural exhibition of works by the acclaimed filmmaker and artist Denise Di Novi.

Di Novi, a long-time Laguna Beach local known for her influential career in film and television, turned to painting as a form of solace and expression following the tragic passing of her husband on March 20, 2020. Her journey through grief and healing is powerfully depicted in her artwork, which serves as both a reflection of her interior emotional life and a tribute to the love she shared with her husband.

Di Novi shares how painting became a profound medicine for her during an incredibly difficult time. "When my husband passed, I promised myself that I would ensure my grief journey was intentional, to honor him and the love we shared. Three days after he died, I started painting. When I painted, a portal opened, allowing me to enter places where my love was still very much alive. Art made the unbearable bearable."

'Portal' offers a unique opportunity for visitors to engage with Di Novi's layered, alchemical approach to art. Each piece begins without rules, unfolding layer by layer as she molds, scrapes, scratches, and sculpts with intuitive tools and materials, giving the canvas a sense of history and depth. The resulting works are direct reflections of her inner world, revealing themes and subjects often hidden until completion.

The Honarkar Foundation invites art enthusiasts and the community to experience 'Portal' and witness the transformative power of art in the face of profound loss. The exhibition will be open to the public from August 6 through September 14, with an opening reception on Saturday August 10 from 4-6pm.

EXHIBITION DATES: 6 August - 14 September 2024

For additional information, please contact: Genevieve Williams, curator@thehonarkarfoundation.org | +1 714-274-3635

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

Founded in 2019, The Honarkar Foundation is a cultural organization dedicated to supporting and promoting arts, culture and education in Laguna Beach. The Foundation envisions a world where the arts and humanities are not exclusive privileges, but rather cherished resources that inspire, empower, and connect.

Launched in 2023 and situated within the historic former post-office building at 298 Broadway Street, our expansive 4,200-square-foot exhibition space is dedicated to showcasing a rotating series of curated shows, with a specific focus on Southern California artists. The space also plays host to a diverse range of public programming and collaborations, including performances, screenings and discursive events.

The Foundation's overarching mission is to create a welcoming and inclusive space where art becomes a conduit for dialogue, exploration, and community engagement. We aspire to enrich the communities we serve with free, public programming that is intellectually stimulating and that has creative, cultural, and educational value.

