

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 18, 2024



Ruffles Acrylic and mixed media 44" x 33"



Fishing Acrylic and mixed media 48" x 24"



Eve Has Second Thoughts Acrylic and mixed media 33" x 27"

Persons of Interest by Charlene Nield Opens at Touchstone Gallery May 1 - May 27, 2024

Charlene Nield's latest exhibition, *Persons of Interest*, is a series of paintings with mixed media elements that challenge the conventional notions of portraiture. In these works, Nield returns to the space between—a place between the seemingly ever increasing stress of life and the high drama of the world. Within this enigmatic realm, she uncovers a captivating interplay of light and whimsy; drenching her paintings in vibrant hues and patterns that exude joy, with the intent to honor the beauty of everyday moments.

Left faceless, Nield intentionally blurs the lines of gender, race, and ethnicity to invite viewers to immerse themselves in the artistic process. Nield states "I am encouraging visitors to mentally envision and paint the final strokes. It is an act of co-creation; to spark an internal dialogue and become an active participant in shaping the narrative of each piece."

Charlene Nield has been painting since 2013 and is a juried resident artist at the Torpedo Factory Art Center. Nield's previous solo exhibitions include *The Space Between* at Soul Gallery (Winnipeg, Canada) and *The Art of Happenstance: Chance Meetings & Destined Friends* at Saville Gallery (Cumberland, Maryland). She has also exhibited work at The Arts Club of Washington, Foundry Gallery, The Art League Gallery, Hill Center, and more. This is her first solo exhibition at Touchstone.

An Opening Reception will be held on Saturday, May 4 from 4–7 pm. Touchstone Gallery is free and open to the public Wednesday through Sunday from 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm. The Gallery will also be open on Monday, May 27 (Memorial Day). For more information or to RSVP to events, visit **touchstonegallery.com** or contact Abbey Alison McClain at **abbey@touchstonegallery.com**.