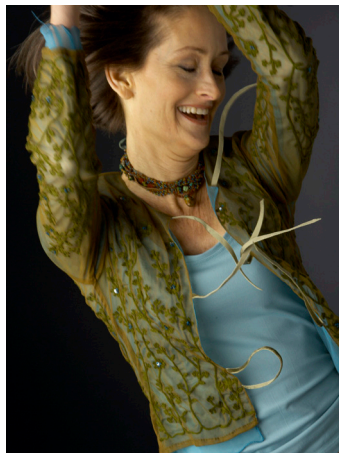


# lovefest

an aesthetic symposium of faith

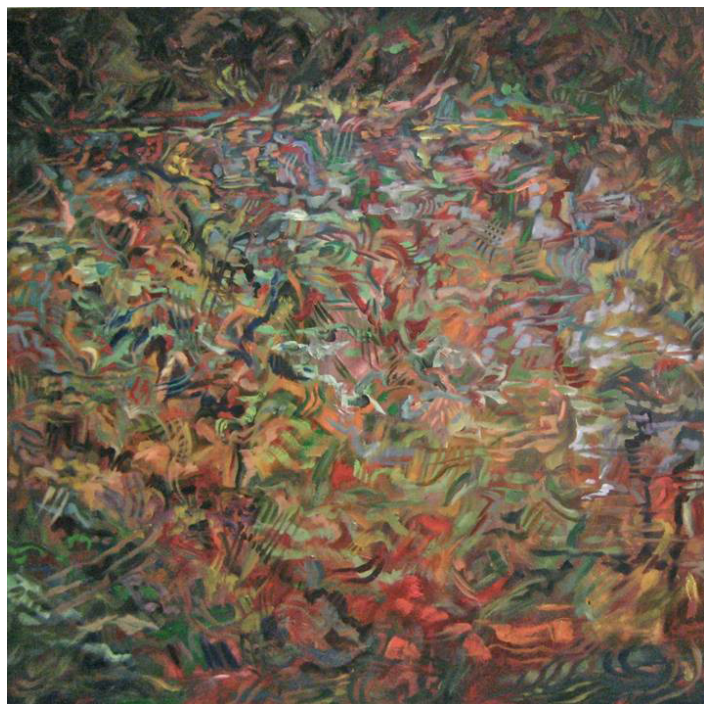
## 2011 Artist Profiles



*Virginia Schenck*, [www.airborneecstasy.com](http://www.airborneecstasy.com), is a nationally recognized singer, teacher, and music therapist who uses the power of music and improvisational singing to bring joy, connection, healing, and profound learning to the human experience. Virginia's work draws on extensive training in therapeutic modalities, lifelong musical study, and a searching and ever-deepening spirituality. Her most recent accomplishments include an inaugural healing conference at Kanuga (NC) Episcopal Retreat Center, the Singing Darwin project, and Circle Songs under the tutelage of Bobby McFerrin.

*"Everyone needs music. As ancient civilizations remind us, the Hopi, Aboriginal, and Egyptian cultures proclaim in their mythologies 'sound generates life.' Sound is certainly in our bones."*

*Diane McPhail* is a profound painter and sculptor of sacred



*Depth*, by Diane McPhail

imagery who holds an M.F.A. in Studio Art, an M.A. in Clinical Art Therapy, and a D.Min. in creativity and spirituality. Diane's thirteen-figure experimental sculpture installation, *penetralia*, was commissioned as a sculpture garden for Lenox Park in Atlanta, and her recent solo show at Galerie Gigi in the New Orleans French Quarter paralleled the harlequin with redemptive aspects of the sacred feminine.



Diane's work is powerfully linked to the narrative form and the construction of testaments which reflect her personal journey as poet and therapist, juxtaposing revelations of the soul's depth and breadth.

*"Everything I create is cloaked in mystery. For me, the holy is mystery. Whatever emerges in my work through the written word, paint, clay, and through relationship emerges from the holy mystery in a process of discovery."*

Sonja Weber Gilkey, [www.sonjawebergilkey.com](http://www.sonjawebergilkey.com), is a



*Sole of the Woman*, by Sonja Weber Gilkey

renowned textile artist, psychologist and practitioner of Kundalini yoga whose rope sculpture spans the world in galleries and private collections. Ms. Weber Gilkey has exhibited throughout the United States, Asia and Europe and has been active in the academic arena, teaching and lecturing at the undergraduate level in Paris and throughout Chicago.



*“Rope sculptures are each Kundalini manifestations of our own infinity on earth. From my childhood spent with ropes on boats along the waterways of Holland to sailing amidst the salt encrusted ropes washed ashore in Maine, living and working with rope has been a lifelong experience.”*



*Leather Dragon*, by Wendy Ellertson



Wendy Ellertson,

[www.ellertson.com](http://www.ellertson.com), is an internationally known mixed media and leather artisan. For over 40 years she has been creating story-filled three dimensional mixed media mythic figures, masks and magical books. A long time resident of Boston's inner city, Ms. El-

lertson was born in California and maintains a passionate connection to the Pacific Ocean. Her blog as she wanders the road of an artist, [www.wendyellertson.blogspot.com](http://www.wendyellertson.blogspot.com), chronicles reflections as well as the transformation of materials into playful embodiments of myth. Ms. Ellertson is on the Executive Board of the Interstitial Arts Foundation where she networks with others who thrive in the world of the “in between.”

*“I believe that objects have a power and a force within them, just as music, poetry, stories and dance do. I love to see people connect to that essence. Our job as artists is to keep creative energy swirling in the universe. We are fortunate to be able to tap into it and make it manifest.”*