

For Immediate Release

Virginia Bradley and Chris Malcomson host Fall Open Studio Event

**11-5 pm – Friday and Saturday, November 25th and 26th
234 Long Pond Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230**

**Artist Reception and Instagram Live @virginiabradleyart – Saturday, November 26th,
3pm**

**Contact Virginia Bradley for more information or to arrange a studio visit
at virginiabradleyart@gmail.com or by cell 302 540 3565**

This event is free and open to the public.

Painters Virginia Bradley and Chris Malcomson will host an Open Studio during Thanksgiving weekend in Great Barrington at 234 Long Pond Rd at their 1800 sf studio. Bradley will showcase her newest Corallium Series. Malcomson will be presenting his Signs Series and his Puerto Rico watercolors.

Virginia Bradley (www.virginiabradley.com) is an abstract painter whose work is based in alchemy and the transformation of materials. Her latest series Corallium was inspired by the rejuvenation of the coral reefs in the Playa Santa Bay in southwest Puerto Rico where Virginia has a winter studio. As recently as 15 years ago, the reefs were almost completely decimated due to pollution and boat traffic. In 2011, the Obama administration undertook an extensive federal project to bring back the coral reefs. Today they are thriving!



Corallium 6



Corallium 1



Corallium 11



Corallium 3

Coral reefs are some of the most diverse and essential ecosystems on Earth. Besides supporting more species per unit area than any other marine environment, they also form a barrier that protects coastal land and communities.



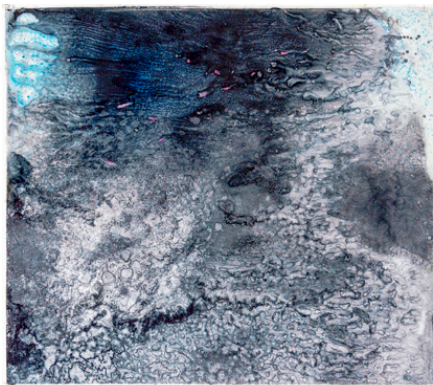
Corallium 21, 32"x41", oil on archival film, 2022

Swimming and snorkeling among the beautiful coral reefs have embedded the images of the underwater world in Virginia's visual vocabulary. Those images re-emerge in her painting process.

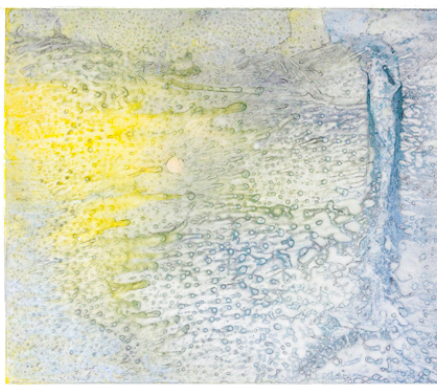
Experimentation with oil paint, sea water, alcohol and other painting mediums in the 95-degree sun create a watery environment in which the paintings form. Heat from the sun acts as a catalyst in coalescing the materials into new images. Physical intervention - like pouring layers of paint onto the canvas, sanding, drawing, adding to & subtracting from the painting surface - is key to the creation of the Corallium Series. Transparent film, canvas and wood panels serve as the foundation of these works. And built on them, materials and interactions mirror nature's own inventive process. All of life has been formed - and transformed - by the water, elements and powerful forces of the sea. This perpetual churning materials both creates the infinite variety of life on earth - and sustains it.



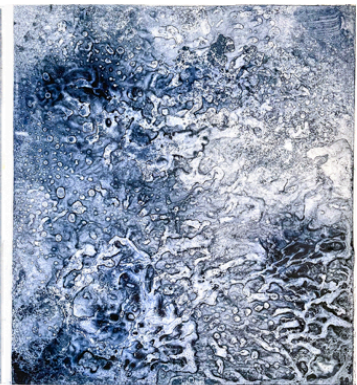
A new series of Studio talks on the Corallium series on Virginia's Youtubechannel. Stephanie Kouloganis spent a day in the studio and they were talking about the inspiration and process going into the work.



Corallium 7 28"x 31" oil on archival film 2022



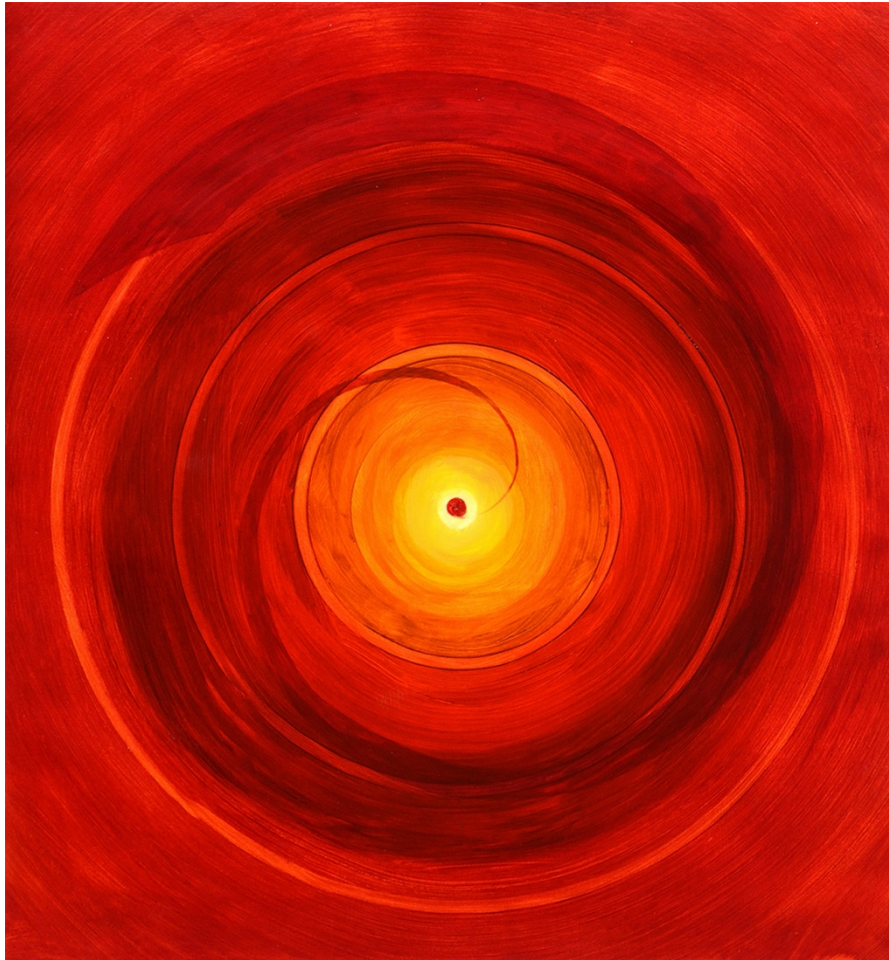
Corallium 8 28"x30" oil on archival film 2022



Corallium 5 30"x26" oil on archival film 2022

Chris Malcomson (www.chrismalcomson.com) is an established British painter who is based in the US. He has exhibited his work internationally and is included in many public and private collections. He is heavily influenced by Jungian and Transpersonal psychology, the poet Rumi, and icons, which are reflected in his artistic studies of inner landscapes. Each of his paintings showcases spatial balance and harmony, as well as layered colors and pure geometric forms that immerse the viewer in a rich visual realm. Chris ultimately seeks to remind us of the mythological resonance present in our

daily lives, and of the psychological and cultural depth that lies beyond what we typically perceive.



"Signs 22" 39"x36" oil on paper 2020

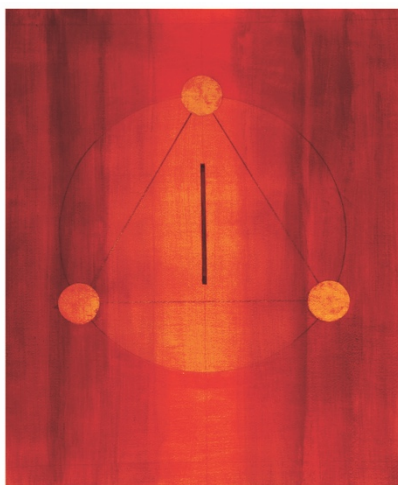
Chris's painting now takes on three forms: "I always carry a small notebook, which I use to catch the Muse. It is a place to jot poems, ideas and drawings to which I might add watercolors".

The second are small more formal watercolors, these are pleasing to do in Puerto Rico as they dry so quickly.

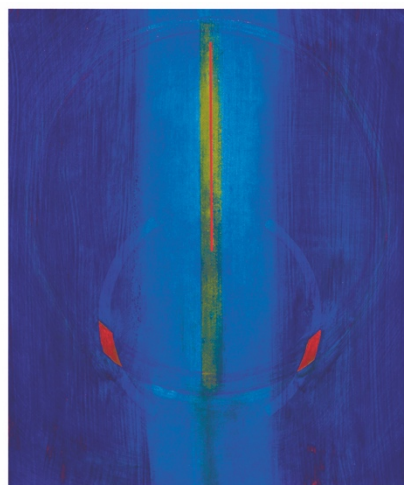


PR 19 Watercolor on paper 7"x10"

Lastly are larger abstracts on canvas which go up to about five-foot square. For many of these I have used a fixed form, which allows concentration on colour. Currently I am developing the Signs Series -- paintings which consider the resonance of symbols which immerses the viewer in rich visual worlds".



"Signs " 24"x21" oil on paper 2020



"Signs 14" 24"x21" oil on paper 2020



"Signs 11" 24"x21" oil on paper 2020

Bios

Virginia Bradley is a contemporary abstract painter who resides in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Prior to moving to the Berkshires, Virginia lived in Philadelphia and was Professor of Art at the University of Delaware where she taught painting and drawing.

Virginia has been the recipient of several fellowships, including a 2020 Massachusetts Cultural Council Finalist Fellowship for Painting, a McKnight Foundation Fellowship in Painting, Arts Midwest NEA Fellowship for Painting and two Minnesota State Arts Board Fellowships in Painting and Drawing. She has also completed several Percent for Art Commissions for the Minnesota State Arts Board. Virginia has also been a fellow at Acme Studios in East London, Zoological Society of London, Yaddo, Sanskriti Kendra (New Delhi, India), Fundacion Valparaiso (Mojcar, Spain), Ragdale and the Virginia Center of Creative Arts. Virginia's work has been exhibited widely, venues include; Blue Star Center for the Arts, Hoyt Institute of Art, Freedman Gallery (Albright College), Abington Art Center, The Minneapolis Institutes of Arts, The Soap Factory and the Florence Biennale and most recently at Art on Paper, NYC.



Chris Malcomson

As a Fellow of the Institute of Civil Engineers, Chris was for many years a Consulting Engineer advising Architects in London, England. Initially, he was involved with Hospitals and new Universities, eventually his specialty became Inner city redevelopments. This complex work required the ability to see the essence of a problem, encouraging his love of the minimal which has become a feature of his painting practice. In 1993, he decided to commit to full-time painting and attended the Chelsea Art School.

In 2004, he was invited to an Artist Residency in Spain which led to marriage and emigration to the US where he now lives and works.

