



Art speaks for itself

But what's behind the mask? Beautiful Jae, a young fine art painter in Hawaii learns how to make it from the best. From the sandy beaches at sunrise to the masked ball at sunset she shares her dreams and leaves her mark with us.

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short synopsis

Beautiful Jae, a young fine art painter and teacher in Hawaii is on a mission to meet and learn from the best. From the sandy beaches at sunrise to the masked ball at sunset she shares her dreams and leaves her mark on us.

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hi on art



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Hi On Art Director statement:

"The purpose of being great is making others better."



Fred Vanderpoel

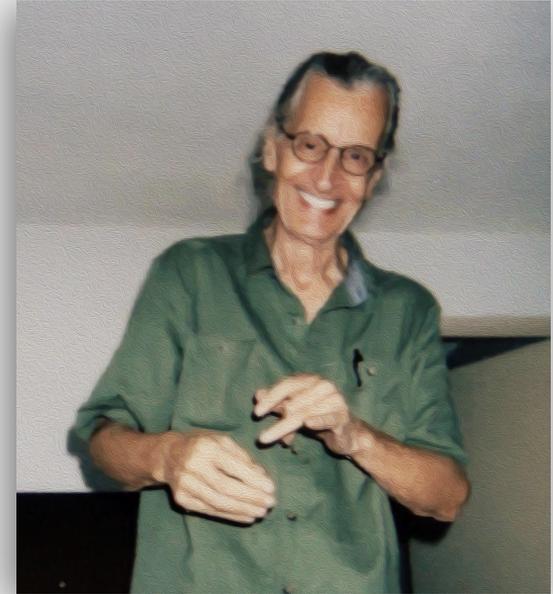


Photo by Jae Tracy

Ruben Aira



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Ruben Aira Jr. was born in Havana, Cuba in 1964, and immigrated to the United States at the age of one. By 1998, he had made Hawaii his new home, living for the majority of the time on the laid-back North Shore of Oahu, where he has been continually inspired by the sea, the flora and the fauna surrounding him. He has been an artist for as long as he has been human! His journey began in a house on top of Pupukea, where the earliest of his creations centered on his discovery of a new Hawaiian art form: the carving of reliefs from surfboards whose glory days of riding waves had passed. He prides myself on creating art for the land from a product made for the ocean, and this innovative art form has now become part of his family's heritage, something to be passed down from one generation to the next as a timeless treasure. That original vision then inspired him to experiment with different materials, such as wood, stones, resin and cut paper, reimagining these items into one-of-a-kind artworks. His newest body of work consists of a series of sculptures intricately carved from high-density urethane and coated with colored layers of translucent oil paint.

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Jae Tracy





Jae Tracy is a Honolulu based artist and undersea photographer, born in Seattle, raised in Portland, and a resident of Oahu, HI since 2013. Much of her art focuses on the relationship between land and sea, the human form, and diversity. Her mixed media, oil paintings, and photography works celebrate all genders, ethnicities, and societal roles. David Del la Mar, Audrey Kawasaki, and Andrew Tischler are her biggest artistic influences, but her grandmother is her greatest inspiration. Jae was always more comfortable using a pencil to create her art until her grandmother taught her to love painting.

Jae uses her art to represent the diversity of life in a fun and positive way with oils, en Plein Air, impressionism, photography, and mixed media as her favorite mediums and styles. She is also a PADI certified Dive Master ocean photographer focusing on deep sea, nature, beach, maternity and underwater scenes. She purposely avoids overt sexuality in her art, choosing to align her clients with the beauty of natural environments. Musashi Flores is her photography mentor, saying: "You have the eye", inspiring her to acquire her own gear and blossom into an ever evolving underwater artist.

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Ashley Nakanishi



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Ashley Nakanishi is an Uchinna poet, actress, playwright and human rights activist based out of Hawaii. She travels to prisons, detention centers and domestic violence action centers nationally to teach poetry as a means of therapy. She currently teaches English/Philosophy at Honolulu Youth Correctional Facility. Ashley has written "Blood, Sweat, and Breastmilk" and her forthcoming books include "She Crazy," which is a poetry and prose collection revolving mental health, diaspora, and healing, and "The Last Sakura," which is a graphic novel about Kiko, a young Okinawan girl who returns to Okinawa after her mother's death and learns about her family's past as shamans.

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Patrick Ching





Patrick Ching (born 1962) is a wildlife artist, ornithological illustrator, and author of children's books including coloring books. He is known as Hawaii's Nature Artist. His natural talent mixed with formal training at Otis/Parsons School of Design in Los Angeles quickly launched Patrick Ching into an internationally known and respected painter. His works of art can be seen on the 1986 Hawaiian Telephone Phone Book Cover featuring Haley's Comet, Hawaii's first Wildlife Conservation Stamp featuring the Hawaii state bird the nene and a hundred foot mural for the Salt Lake Public Library depicting the artist's favorite historic scenes from the Salt Lake/Moanalua area on the island of Oahu. Patrick has been celebrated as the "feature artist" for various events around the island including the 2008 Haleiwa Arts Festival and the "CELEBRATION of the SEA" Art Miles Murals Project Hawaii 2008. Additionally, his artwork has been featured in Wildlife Art News, Audubon, and Birders World. He is also a prolific author of many detailed books on Hawaiian wildlife and continues to dedicate his life to preserving and capturing the essence of the islands through art.

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Artists/Cast: Jae Tracy, Eva Makk, Ruben Aira, Chas Beasley, Adriana Franc, Patrick Ching, Chandra Fisher, Ashley Nakanishi, Chelsea Tran, Tim Nguyen, Estria Miyashiro, Lauren Roth, Leo Aira, Megan Green, Sandra Pohl, Robert Mace, Mary Anne Long, Wendy Roberts, Dawn Yoshimura, Patrice Federspiel, Jodi Endicott, Allie Deliz, Dorine Drake, Kiana Luna, Mariah Milton, Ilene Cerda, Sora Roberts, Natalie Abe, Jayati Sulastri, Ashton Obrera, Megan Antoinette, Sebastian Shaw, Jack Keller, Emma Seehusen, Fay Juyoun Miller-Beasley

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Leo & Jay

scene from HI ON ART the movie

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Music: Waiting for the Storm / Josh Fuhrmeister, Nina and the Waves / James Forest, Mythologica / Ofrin, Love like You / Ryan Mclaughlin, Morning Breeze / James Forest, Memories / Geva Alon, My Metallic Opera / Alon Perez, Hummingbirds / James Forest, Go - Akinyemi, Burgers and Guitars / Steve Poloni / Beautiful Day for the Road / James Forest, Trial of Love / Leroy Wild, Empty Beaches / Paper Planes, Only You / Adi Levi, Sultan's Dagger / James Forest, Ballerina / Jehezkel Raz, Helpless in Your Arms / Leroy Wild, The Queen of Art / James Forest, Kindness Courage / Kolby Knickerbocker

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Long Synopsis

Its an early morning in her garden as chirping birds welcome the rising of the sun. Jae Tracy, a young fine art painter, still in pajamas has her coffee outside, listening to music as she is sketching her dreams. This morning she meets with fine artist Patrick Ching for a painting session at Patrick's beach house on the South Shore of Hawaii. Its the beginning of a full day of laughter and learning from the best artists on the island of Oahu. Eva Makk tells her war story, Bill Braden drives his giant hamster wheel, Chas Beasley dives for honus and feeds his baby goats. Before she visits Ruben Aira and his surfboard sculpting, his son Leo gets to snorkel with Jae, who is also a certified diving instructor, Estra Miyashiro, the great muralist, is being meditative with Jae, and Tim Nguyen shares his garage full of art. Art speaks for itself, but the healing power of art is a subject that Jae Tracy and her friend Chandra, both survivors of personal tragedies, know well. They dive into art, literally, submerged under water to create stunning visuals in motion. Jae, who also teaches art to other women, and best friend Ashley, who teaches young boys manners at an institution, mince no words about prejudice, toxic men and sexual abuse. Drugged and incoherent, Jae recalls her traumatic dream in which she floats with artists Adriana Pizzia Franc, Robert Mace and Mary Ann Long to the center of the art world where she emerges as the real Queen of Art of the masked ball at the Serene Gallery, celebrated by Wendy Roberts, Dawn Yoshimura, Patrice Federspiel, Ruben Aira, Chas Beasley, Patrick Ching, students, collectors and all her friends. Who is Jae without the mask? A permanent mark. An enigma.

Executive Producers

Will Espero, long time advocate for artists as Hawaii State Senator, is the incubator for the successful launch of HIONART TV, now in its second season of broadcast interviews with more than a hundred artist friends in their studios, set against a backdrop of art and music.

Sonya Serene, President of HIONART INC, Art Angel and sponsor of the HI on ART movie, brings her 30 years of executive experience casting, collecting and introducing art and artists, from the Canvas of Manhattan to the Heart of Hawaii, her home since 2012.

Fred Vanderpoel, CEO of HIONART INC, left a 40 year CLIO Awards winning career (shooting ads and commercials for hundreds of ad agencies and their clients), for Hawaii in 2005 to write and make movies that challenge perception. Yours. In 2008 he wrote and directed the Vietnam era feature film REDLOVE, (the art and consequence of illusion), filmed on Oahu with an all Hawaiian cast and crew. In 2017 he was the writer/ director/ dp/ editor of PUEA, a short film about a day in the life of a boy on the Mana Ai and since 2019 Fred is the writer/director/dp/editor of the HIONART TV series, now in its second season documenting art and artists in Hawaii. Fred is also the writer/director/dp/editor of the feature film HI on ART, (starring Jae Tracy), now in post and slated for release December 8, 2020.

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