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East End Arts presents Art Exhibition REGENERATION: Plywood Paintings and Impressions on Paper by Ted Thirlby

The unique collection of wall art brings renewed life and spirit to an often discarded and forgotten material- plywood.



Riverhead, NY – <u>East End Arts & Humanities Council [EEA]</u> presents a solo artist gallery exhibition of works by North Fork artist <u>Ted Thirlby</u>, <u>REGENERATION</u>, on display Saturday, March 25 – Saturday, May 6, 2023 spanning across both downtown Riverhead EEA Galleries. The <u>Opening Reception</u> with the artist takes place from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 25th at the EEA Main Gallery [133 E. Main St., Riverhead] with tours to the sister 11 West Gallery [11 W. Main St., Peconic Crossing, Riverhead].

REGENERATION features over 25 abstract works using Thirlby's signature material, repurposed plywood, in the form of paintings and monoprints. Thirlby's interest in using the discarded construction material stemmed from his career running a NYC contracting company. "I think of them as rescues," notes Thirlby, "And I am deeply aware of the living being that was once a tree; That it was used, maybe abused, and then abandoned." He began creating paintings from discarded scraps about ten years ago, adding subtle geometric shapes while nurturing the raw edges, breaks, and

residues each unique piece endured. The paintings evoke human spirit and sexuality. "This is a process of respect, re-use, resurrection, and perhaps redemption," says Thirlby, "Now the paintings come together with the prints for Regeneration."

Thirlby began working with solarplate printmaking pioneer, local artist <u>Dan Welden</u> in 2021 to evolve his plywood art into monoprints. Using the one-of-a-kind 8' printing press in Welden's Sag Harbor studio, Thirlby inked both shaped and misshapen plywood scraps to create impressions on paper. The resulti8ng monoprints feature earthy colors and range in style from geometrics to landscapes, complementing the plywood paintings while bringing a new light to the medium.

Gallery programs during the exhibition include artist-led tours and an <u>artist talk featuring Ted Thirlby</u> <u>and Dan Welden, moderated by art writer Joyce Beckenstein</u> on April 29, 2023, and a sound bath with <u>Meditation DJ</u> as the closing event on May 6, 2023. Information about the exhibition and its events is on the <u>REGENERATION page of EEA's website</u>. Visitors are encouraged to check the page often for additional events and sign up for the EEA Newsletter for news.

Most works in REGENERATION are for sale, with a percentage of the proceeds benefiting EEA.

Gallery Locations & Hours

EEA Main Gallery – 133 E. Main St., Riverhead, NY 11901 11 West Gallery – 11 W. Main St., Peconic Crossing, Riverhead, NY 11901

Thursdays 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Fridays 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Saturdays 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sundays 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

About East End Arts

East End Arts & Humanities Council is a 501[c][3] nonprofit organization located in Riverhead, NY whose mission is to Unlock Creativity, Build Community. Since its inception in 1972, East End Arts has become a year-round hub for art and music enrichment and showcase for artists who live, work, and visit the area with its Art & Music School, galleries, and community programs and events. The East End Arts Art Gallery's exhibitions act as the catalyst for art collectors and enthusiasts to visit the growing Arts District of Riverhead to view relevant programs from established and emerging artists alike. East End Arts Main Gallery is located at 133 E. Main St., Riverhead, NY 11901 with a sister gallery 11 West Gallery located at 11 W. Main St., Peconic Crossing, Riverhead, NY 11901. The East End Arts Art & Music School is located at 141 E. Main St. and provides private music lessons, group music, art classes for all ages and abilities, workshops, college prep, and camps. Each year EEA brings the MLK Portrait Project, PerformHER, Mosaic Street Painting Festival, Teeny Awards, Summer Soirée, ARTworks Gala, and Harvest Gospel Concert to the East End community. All proceeds support East End Arts 'scholarships, programming, and operations. For more information, email education@eastendarts.org, call 631.727.0900, or visit eastendarts.org.