

ALISON RINNER FULLERTON is a mixed media artist specializing in encaustic wax. She has exhibited in the US and Europe, has authored articles about encaustic wax. Her work was recently on 10 Nashville billboards through ARTPOP gallery, and on the cover of "Wax Fusion" magazine.

She writes: *"I have always been interested in different cultures and anthropology. This curiosity led me to a career in consumer research, and to encaustic wax. My portrait studies are visual anthropologies as they seek to capture and understand a particular culture or group of people."*

Returning to the U.S. after 3 years abroad, her work took on American themes of women's rights and equality. For example, her series "Native Women Warriors" shares stories of Native American women who abandoned their traditional female roles and instead fought alongside male warriors in the late 1800's.

Her current work, "Fly Girls," is a tribute to the all-female WWII Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPS) that history forgot and serves as reminder of the injustice's women have suffered.

Alison plans on using the Project Grant to fund the creation of "FLY GIRLS", a 12-portrait exhibition of the WWII Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASPS) which has museum and public venue exhibition commitments beginning October 2023 and through 2025.

Each 30x40-inch portrait integrates vintage photographs, artifacts, news clippings, digital art, and encaustic wax paint, and the grant funds will be used for panels, prints, wax, and photo retouching.

Alison continues *"Though over 1100 women served as WASPS and 38 died while performing military missions; their records were classified, sealed and they were left out of the history books for over 30 years. Women were not 'officially' permitted to fly planes for the military until 1976. As a portrait artist I like to tell stories of female empowerment and overcoming obstacles. "FLY GIRLS" will serve as an important reminder of gender and racial injustice in America."* The Texas Women's University, which houses the official WASP archives, notes that the first art exhibition about the WASPS. The portraits will be exhibited at the US Women's Military Memorial and Museum in Arlington Virginia, located at the entrance of Arlington National Cemetery.



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Alison Fullerton: Project Grant Recipient: October 2023

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