

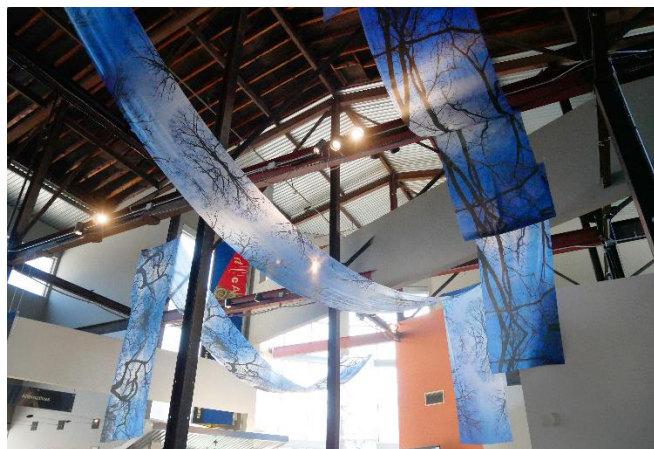


**AMIE POTSIC**

*Midnight Mass* at The Delaware Contemporary



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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Amie Potsic "Midnight Mass (installation detail #6)"  
250 liner feet of silk, 2020

## INSTALLATION 2020

### *Midnight Mass*

**Amie Potsic**

**Exhibition: January 24 - April 25, 2020**

**Art Auction and Fashion Event:  
Art & Couture: A Contemporary Centennial  
April 25, 7 – 10 pm**

<https://www.decontemporary.org/art-couture>

Tickets available

**Location: The Delaware Contemporary**  
200 South Madison Street, Wilmington, DE 19801  
<https://www.decontemporary.org/>  
301.656.6466

**Hours:** Tuesday and Sunday 12:00 – 5:00 PM  
Wednesday 12:00 – 7:00 PM, and Thursday  
Friday, and Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Closed Mondays  
Admission is free.

**Artist creates monumental installation with 250 liner feet of silk  
addressing climate change and deforestation at  
The Delaware Contemporary.**

WILMINGTON, DE: Our design integration program continues to bring an exhilarating display of visual aesthetics and offers regional artists the opportunity to explore the range of possibilities for aerial installations. Erica Loustau, Adjunct Deputy for Design Integration, invited **Amie Potsic** to display a silk installation for our 2020 season. Potsic exhibits her **site-specific, large-scale installation** "Midnight Mass" from January 24 through April 25, 2020. Potsic's work is also on view in **Focal Points: Women Advancing the Aperture** culminating in **Art & Couture: A Contemporary Centennial**, a benefit on April 25 with tickets are available for purchase. Museum hours are Tuesday and Sunday 12:00 – 5:00 PM, Wednesday 12:00 – 7:00 PM, and Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Closed Mondays.

Working with the expansive industrial architecture of The Delaware Contemporary, Potsic strives to punctuate the height, scale, and proportion of the interior space. With over **250 linear feet of silk**, Potsic has designed a monumental site-specific installation involving panels suspended on wires in the atrium plenum. The semi-translucent silk with photographic imagery of silhouetted tree branches weave and dance throughout the space in sweeping, graceful, abstract lines. By grafting the panels into the space and extending them from the entrance at a lower level and upward toward the clerestory windows, Potsic's work not only enhances the museum's architecture, but also affirms how art is intrinsically related to the existential human experience as viewers gaze at the **billowing, twilight forest canopy overhead**.

Potsic's work investigates the idea of woodland reveries surrounded by evocations of deciduous trees in winter, as though the landscape itself has been pulled from the earth and the nave at Midnight Mass replanted in the lobby. Like medieval basilicas that were designed to confer a

cosmological concept of the dome of heaven, Potsic festoons her silk in single point perspective to conjure the grand processions during Midnight Mass. The sheer immediacy of the work **evokes a sense of triumph** and joy; the vast array of willowy draping in cobalt blue creates the illusion of a dome of heaven thus serving as a metaphor for celestial realms. Further, the dramatic sweeping arms symbolize a welcoming gesture for the viewer. As such, Potsic strives to awaken and nourish the divine mysteries of liturgical space. In its presence, her work challenges viewer's notion of a forest sanctuary as an invitation to contemplate the immensity and sublimity of nature and their place in it.

As an observer of the natural world, Potsic's composition of undulating elliptical arches rests within a hemispherical stage, which point to a global call for action. Her work is not only breathtakingly beautiful and enchanting but **underscores the urgency of climate change** and the need for environmental protections. By creating both a visceral and cerebral connection to trees and the natural world, Potsic's panoply of silk hold a double entendre: they offer a metaphorical protective covering, while drawing attention to universal deforestation and the loss of the earth's essential protective layer.

In addition to her installation in the atrium, Potsic's work is also featured in **Focal Points: Women Advancing the Aperture**. The exhibition aims to present images representing a diverse spectrum of subject matter that pushes the boundaries of photo-imaging and technique. By manipulating light, focal points, shutter speed, filters, apertures, and subject material, the photographs reveal and articulate the persistence of the female voice through the visual language of the camera lens creating visible shifts in illusion and perception between abstraction and representation. The exhibition is on view through April 24.

Focal Points: Women Advancing the Aperture, coincides with a series of programs, events and exhibitions to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. The series is grounded in an event by artist Shawn Baron Pinckney, who has designed an interactive fashion experience, Art & Couture: A Contemporary Centennial, to showcase the powerful role art and fashion plays in celebrating the strength, conviction, and advancement of gender equality made over the last century, and to recognize the individuals and organizations that carry the torch today. Using fashion, history, and literature as the armature of inspiration, Pinckney elicits contemporary discourse about societal norms inviting viewers to broaden their perspective. **Art & Couture: A Contemporary Centennial** is on April 25 with a fashion runway that meanders through the galleries and concludes with an art auction. Tickets are available for purchase.

**Amie Potsic** received her MFA in photography from the San Francisco Art Institute and her BA in Photojournalism and English Literature from Indiana University graduating with Distinguished Honors and a member of Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. She has held faculty appointments at University of California, Berkeley, Ohlone College, and San Francisco Art Institute; and, has been a guest lecturer at The University of the Arts, Ursinus College, and The International Center of Photography. Potsic is currently the CEO and Principal Curator of Amie Potsic Art Advisory, LLC, and Chair of the Art in City Hall Artistic Advisory Board in the Office of Arts and Culture of the City of Philadelphia. Her work has been exhibited locally, nationally, and internationally.

**The Delaware Contemporary** is a non-collecting art museum that infuses contemporary art and creativity into our community through compelling exhibitions, dynamic educational experiences, and access to the artistic process. Founded in 1979, The Delaware Contemporary presents exhibitions of regionally, nationally, and internationally recognized artists that explore topical issues in contemporary art and society.

Amie Potsic exhibits her site-specific, large-scale installation "Midnight Mass" from January 24 through April 25, 2020. Art & Couture: A Contemporary Centennial is on April 25 and tickets are available. Museum hours are Tuesday and Sunday 12:00 – 5:00 PM, Wednesdays 12:00 – 7:00 PM, and Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Closed Mondays.

A full press kit can be found online at [amiepotsicartadvisory.com](http://amiepotsicartadvisory.com):  
<https://www.amiepotsicartadvisory.com/blog/2019/12/2/amie-potsic-presents-midnight-mass-at-the-delaware-contemporary>

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*Photographs are attached to this email and are available upon request.*

High Resolution Images attached:



1.  
Amie Potsic  
"Midnight Mass (installation detail #2)"  
Archival pigment print on 250 linear feet of silk  
2020  
© Amie Potsic 2020



2.  
Amie Potsic  
"Midnight Mass (installation detail #6)"  
Archival pigment print on silk  
2020  
© Amie Potsic 2020



Amie Potsic *Midnight Mass* (Installation view) 2020, © Amie Potsic 2020



Amie Potsic *Midnight Mass* (Installation view) 2020, © Amie Potsic 2020



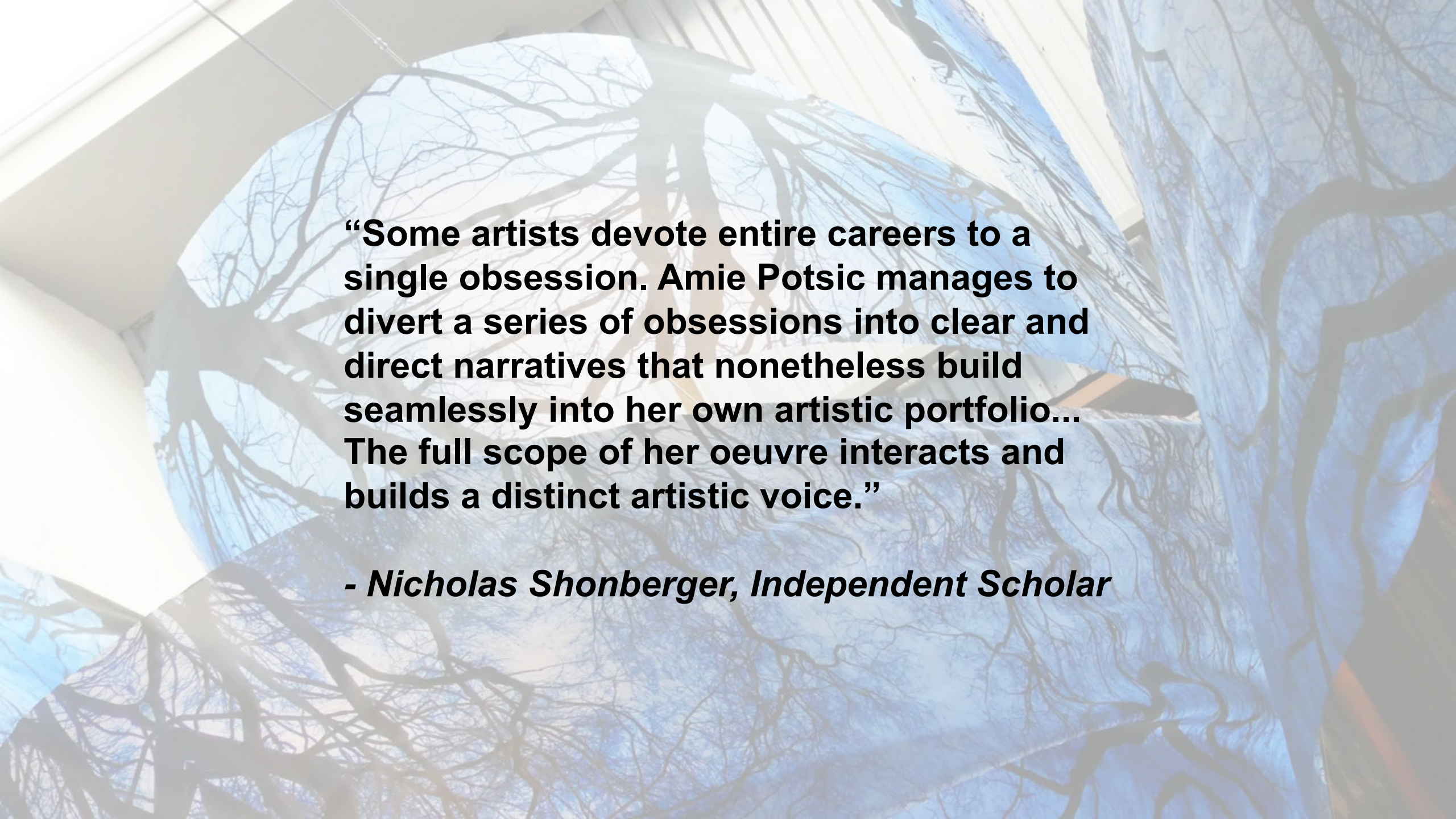
Amie Potsic *Midnight Mass* (Installation view) 2020, © Amie Potsic 2020

## **Artist Statement – *Midnight Mass***

My work references the sensory experience of being within the forest while encouraging us all to appreciate and preserve its future. Incarnate environmental explorations, my photographs and installations invite you to connect with your own perception of nature in a manner that is both intimate and enchanting. I focus on the beauty and mystery of the forest to share my sense of wonder, develop our connection to trees, and encourage environmental protections. Personal experience underscoring the urgency of climate change, I draw attention to deforestation by creating visceral and cerebral connections to trees and the natural world.

*Midnight Mass* is a site-specific installation created from over 250 feet of silk. The semi-translucent silk with photographic imagery from the forest weaves its way through the air to arch, bend, and arabesque in the sky. The panels extend from the entrance reaching up toward the looming windows behind to be backlit like stained glass. The installation fills the space in graceful, abstract lines and draping, drawing the eye up toward the apex of the room. Looking up at the illuminated silk, a conjured sense of our own scale, akin to what we feel in a cathedral or looking up at the forest canopy, enhances the experience of the artwork and museum's architecture.



A low-angle photograph of a building's facade, showing a series of windows and architectural details. The image is heavily stylized with a blue color cast and a complex, overlapping pattern of bare tree branches, creating a textured, almost abstract background. The text is overlaid in the center-left area.

**“Some artists devote entire careers to a single obsession. Amie Potsic manages to divert a series of obsessions into clear and direct narratives that nonetheless build seamlessly into her own artistic portfolio... The full scope of her oeuvre interacts and builds a distinct artistic voice.”**

***- Nicholas Shonberger, Independent Scholar***



Alternatives

Alca



## Biography

Amie Potsic, MFA is an accomplished photographer and installation artist living in the Philadelphia area whose work addresses cultural, personal, and natural phenomena. Potsic has exhibited her work internationally at the Art Park in Rhodes, Greece; Museo de Arte Moderno de Bogotá, Colombia; Medfoundart di Cagliari, Italy; the Royal College of London, England as well as in museums and galleries throughout the United States. Potsic received her MFA in Photography from the San Francisco Art Institute and BA's in Photojournalism and English Literature from Indiana University, graduating with Distinguished Honors and a member of Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. She has held faculty appointments at the University of California at Berkeley, Ohlone College, and the San Francisco Art Institute, published her work in The San Francisco Chronicle and The Philadelphia Inquirer, and has been a guest lecturer at The International Center of Photography. Potsic is currently the CEO & Principal of Amie Potsic Art Advisory, LLC and Chair of the Art in City Hall Artistic Advisory Board to the Office of Arts and Culture of the City of Philadelphia.



# **C O N T A C T**

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**[Click here to view the Midnight Mass Virtual Exhibition.](#)**

***High res images available upon request.***