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**The Contemporary Dayton
Presents *Lori Daugherty: Bold Whispers*
Our Latest Member's Spotlight Exhibition
December 3 - 27, 2025**

DAYTON (December 3, 2025) – The Contemporary Dayton is pleased to present ***Lori Daugherty: Bold Whispers***, our latest **Member's Spotlight Exhibition** that celebrates the vibrant creativity of our local and regional artist community. The exhibition will be on view December 3-27, 2025 in The T. Chase Hale & Jonathan A. Hale Gallery, located in The Contemporary Dayton.

Lori Daugherty: Bold Whispers features a series of intimate encaustic paintings by Dayton-based artist **Lori Daugherty**. The exhibition opens with a public reception on **Wednesday, December 3, from 6–8 pm**.

Bold Whispers brings together a series of small-scale works in which color, wax, and heat converge to create quietly potent moments of energy. Working with encaustic wax, inks, and the unpredictable dynamics of torch and flame, Daugherty builds layered surfaces that balance translucency, texture, and movement. Each painting offers an “organic burst”—alive, expanding, and subtly insistent—inviting viewers to slow down and discover the power held in delicacy and nuance.

“What first appears restrained reveals surprising force,” says Heather Jones, Curator and Director of Programs and Engagement. “Lori’s work sits beautifully between control and spontaneity. These pieces reward close looking and open into larger narratives the longer one stays with them.”

In her artist statement, Daugherty writes: “*In Bold Whispers, color and wax collide to create small moments that pulse with quiet energy. Sometimes the whispers are far more intriguing than the actual story.*” This approach is evident across the exhibition, where each composition reflects her interest in transformation, tension, and the expressive potential of abstraction.

Daugherty, who lives and works in Dayton, creates encaustic paintings that explore texture, color, and movement. Her work embraces abstraction while evoking emotional resonance and curiosity, encouraging viewers to engage with the interplay of gesture, shape, and luminous color.

All artworks in the exhibition are available for purchase, with proceeds supporting both the artist and The Contemporary Dayton’s mission to connect artists and audiences through accessible, engaging contemporary art experiences.

Open to all current artist members, the Member's Spotlight Exhibitions are an ongoing series that offers participants the unique opportunity to present a focused body of work in a solo exhibition curated by Jones. Each exhibition is installed in The T. Chase Hale & Jonathan A. Hale Gallery and remains on view for one month, opening with a public reception on the first Wednesday and continuing through the last Saturday of the month. These exhibitions not only highlight the diverse practices and perspectives of our members but also provide a professional platform for artists to gain visibility and engage directly with audiences. All artworks are available for purchase, with proceeds supporting both the artist and The Contemporary Dayton's mission to advance equity, diversity, and access through contemporary art. Participation in the Member's Spotlight series is one of the many valuable benefits of being an artist member of The Contemporary Dayton.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS & EVENTS / ALL PROGRAMS TAKE PLACE AT THE CONTEMPORARY DAYTON / FREE & OPEN TO ALL

Opening Reception

Wednesday, December 3, 2025 6–8 pm

Free and open to all

Closing Reception

Saturday, December 27, 2025, 4-6 pm

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2025-2026 OPERATING SUPPORT DONORS

The Wiletha McGuire Family, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Culture Works, The Dayton Foundation, The Montgomery County Arts & Cultural District, The National Endowment for the Arts, The Ohio Arts Council, The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation, and our Members.

GALLERY & CoSHOP HOURS

Wednesday–Saturday 11 am–6 pm

Closed Sunday–Tuesday

ALWAYS FREE & OPEN TO ALL

ABOUT THE CONTEMPORARY DAYTON

Advancing art for the community and a community for artists since 1991.

The Contemporary Dayton is the region's contemporary art center. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit, The Contemporary Dayton produces and presents ART EXHIBITIONS, ARTIST TALKS, and PUBLIC ART by local, national, and global creatives and makers, and is ALWAYS FREE & OPEN TO ALL. As a non-collecting art center, The Contemporary Dayton is one of 45 non-collecting art centers and museums across North America that specialize in presenting modern and contemporary art.

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