

artist's statement



*So much of life is about figuring out when to take control and when to let go—to allow the universe to shape the next moment. Ultimately, control yields accuracy and predictability, while letting go invites the unexpected, the fresh stroke, the surprise of blended colors.*

*I gravitate to watercolors because each painting is a reflection of this exercise: the dance of intention and accident, the choice and the discovery. And while I dip the brush into one color, the paint pools and blends, the paper's texture redefines the intensities, the shifting air and surface angle the paint in unpredictable directions. The resulting aesthetic is testimony to the unity of my vision with the elements that surround me—making painting an act of faith.*



*Adding a poem to my paintings captures my poetry to share it on a visual level. In doing so, the work narrows the possibilities for interpretation. Without reading a word, a mood is thrust on the viewer—which heightens the “accuracy” of how my words are interpreted, but possibly narrows the viewer's internal dialog regarding the piece. So is communication increased or diminished? How many other possible interpretations might the poem have provoked? How many other messages would the art convey? And while the way a poem is read aloud often directs literary interpretation, this series demonstrates that a poem, returned to the page, can work with image to polish its “voice.”*



# emily thornton calvo

## visual art exhibitions

June 2016	<i>LEXICON</i> Zhou B Art Center, 2nd Floor Chicago, IL
May 2016	<i>Flora &amp; Fauna</i> August House Gallery Chicago, IL
April 2016	Art Exhibition and Performance <i>Not Your Grandma's Poetry</i> Harold Washington Library Chicago, IL
March 2016	<i>Poetry with Vision</i> Loyola University, Chicago, IL
May 2015	Art Exhibition and Performance Women and Children First Books, Chicago, IL
October 2014	Shambhala Sun Fundraiser Online Gallery/Auction
October 2010, 2013, 2014	Waterworks Ed Hinkley Studio Chicago, IL
December 2013	Dr. Holiday's Artful Cures August House Gallery Chicago, IL
January 2013	Shambhala Sun Fundraiser Online Gallery/Auction
May 2011	Women Made Gallery Words & Pictures Chicago, IL
December 2009	John J. Shedd Aquarium Chicago, IL
April 2004	Gallery 9 Elmhurst, IL
July 2001, 2002	L'art de Fontenay Le Comte Fontenay Le Comte, France

## instruction

2009 - Present	Ed Hinkley Studio, Chicago, IL
2013	Palette & Chisel Chicago, IL
2000 - 2001	Oak Park Art Center, Oak Park, IL

## affiliations

Woman Made Gallery
Chicago Artist Coalition
Chicago Artist's Resource

