



Artdromeda Baltimore
Eduardo Rodriguez, Gallery Curator

TO: Gary Edward Cuddington

FROM: Eduardo Rodriguez
Gallery Curator
Artdromeda Baltimore

RE: Letter of Reference
Gary Edward Cuddington

DATE: October 11, 2021

Dear Faculty Personnel Committee,

It is my pleasure to provide this letter for Gary Cuddington, whom I commercially represent as an artist, in support of his tenure application at Hood College.

While curating a group exhibition, "**2nd Elements Metal Art Show,**" at Gallery 788 in 2015, Gary submitted a self-portrait painting ("Guilded Beard", oil with goldleaf) for consideration. I did not know Gary at the time, but was struck by the painting's exquisite use of gold-leafing and suspended distortion of physical features and immediately accepted it into the show. In fact, after the exhibition, I purchased "Guilded Beard" to include in my permanent collection, and Gary and I have sustained a creative working relationship based on mutual artistic respect ever since.

In 2018 I started **Artdromeda Baltimore**, an exhibition venue on the ground floor of the historic Montgomery Park Building in Baltimore, Maryland. I shared the news with Gary and invited him to include his artwork in our regular rotation, as well as the opening show, "**Artdromeda Baltimore - A Constellation of Artists.**" Here, Gary exhibited work from his series "Psychometry" (figurative narrative paintings about memory and storytelling) and several large format digital prints (prototypes of an emerging series called "Idol Worship"). Here, a new collective of artists was formed, who continued to exhibit together over the next few years.

In 2019 I assisted **The Hancock Solar Gallery** in Baltimore, Maryland as a guest curator. During the 2019 Artscape Festival I organized a group exhibition, in which Gary was invited to showcase his work. He exhibited a series entitled "Thinning the Veil" of semi-transparent backlit prints, fixed inside an antique transit window, exploring transcendence and mythology embodied by archetypal female characters. The work was well received, and sold 'off the

wall' before the show closed to local art collector and Hancock Solar gallerist, Vandessa Day.

At the time of this exhibition the **Hancock Solar Gallery** asked me to schedule shows for the upcoming year, and during a meeting with Gary he laid out a proposal for a solo exhibition, "Idol Worship," depicting ritualistic artifacts from an imaginary civilization. His concept felt right for **Hancock Solar**, whose mission is to "promote the thought-provoking work of Baltimore artists" and due to his technical skill and drive to develop a solid and successful solo exhibition, "Idol Worship" was scheduled for October 2020.

Unfortunately, the date of Gary's solo exhibition was postponed in response to COVID-19, like all gallery and museum shows during the pandemic. The show will be rescheduled as soon as COVID protocols are put into place at the gallery, and I look forward to showcasing Gary's work in the near future.

Additionally, Gary has expressed interest in having a solo exhibition at **Artdromeda Baltimore** and we will be working together to develop a show that merges his ideas and aesthetics with the unique architecture of the Montgomery Park Building.

I value the relationships I build with the artists I represent, and in the years I have known Gary, he has continued innovating his practice, sharing his ideas with me, and developing new and exciting work. I know that artists often say they are "lucky" to be represented by a gallery, but I am sincerely grateful to be able to represent and support the work of such an inquisitive, talented and committed artist as Gary.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Eduardo Rodriguez
Gallery Owner/Curator
Artdromeda Baltimore

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