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**(New York, NY) Starting New York’s Fall season an extraordinary pair of artists will exhibit their work in The Sheen Center on the famous Bleeker Street in Greenwich Village**

The Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Center for Thought & Culture announces its latest art exhibit, ***There Will Always Be Light, There Will Always Be Hope*** - a joint project from artists Lynn Mara and Jan Dilenschneider. The artists bring an uplifting package of work that takes those attending to a new level of hope and possibility.

The exhibition opening October 6 at The Sheen Center for Thought & Culture showcases the work of Jan Dilenschneider and Lynn Mara, two Connecticut-based artists whose work invites you to walk into their canvases to think, to rest, and to connect. *There Will Always Be Light, There Will Always Be Hope*, comprised of more than 40 works, is about communing and communicating, with nature, with yourself, and with what you define as spiritual. Light and hope have been harder to find of late yet this particular show, in this particular venue, will remind you where they are. The Sheen Center was selected for this work because of the legacy of Bishop Fulton J Sheen who almost daily sounded the call to be positive and look to the future and find their experience in art.

***There Will Always Be Light, There Will Always Be Hope*** brings full circle Cardinal Timothy Dolan’s vision for the Center, to “highlight the true, the good and the beautiful...to deepen, explore and challenge ourselves” as the mission states. “Art and culture are critical for reflection, entertainment, and renewal. Artists’ interpretations are often what we need to make sense of things around us.

Cardinal Dolan recently commented: “I am so pleased that two of my favorite artists will have work on display at the Sheen Center. Jan Dilenschneider and Lynn Mara both show incredible skill and talent in their paintings. Their exhibit is what we all need now. And of course, those are precisely themes preached by the Light of the World, Jesus!”

**About the Sheen Center:** The Sheen Center for Thought & Culture ([www.sheencenter.org](http://www.sheencenter.org)) is a New York City arts center located in NoHo that presents a vibrant mix of theater, film, music, art and talk events. A project of the Archdiocese of New York, The Sheen Center serves all New Yorkers by presenting performances and artists that reflect the true, the good, and the beautiful. Named for the late Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, best remembered as an inspirational author, radio host and two-time Emmy Award-winning television personality, The Sheen Center reflects his modern-day approach to contemporary topics. The Sheen Center is a state-of-the-art theater complex that includes the 270-seat off-Broadway Loreto Theater, equipped with five-camera high-definition TV and live-stream capability and a multi-track recording studio; the 80-seat off-off-Broadway Black Box Theater; four rehearsal studios; and an art gallery.

**About the Artists:** Lynn Mara (<https://www.lynnmara.com>) Artist and Long Island native, Lynn Mara is a prolific painter that captures the American spirit through her iconic works. Her Impressionist style turned abstract expressionist was influenced by friend and fellow Southampton artist, the late Jack Reggio, as well as from her admiration of Andy Warhol, Fairfield Porter, Helen Cantrell and Richard Diebenkorn. Her multifaceted tableaus preserve American culture with modern flair. Whether it's abstract American flags (portrayed in vibrant colors well beyond red, white and blue), horses (from a perspective that pushes and expands beyond the limits of the canvas), surfers, beachgoers, farmers, people doing what they do – her paintings are “big,” executed in her signature bold color, layers of under painting and mixed media, particularly in her more recent mixed media collage work that she refers to as “conversation starters.” These are painstakingly arranged and packed with various media, historical context, and scriptural or lyrical “truths” that reflect on popular American issues and topics with a touch of humor or satire.

Most recently her work has appeared in Art New England Magazine, and she has appeared on Fox News, Fox Business, KFTK Radio, (St. Louis Mo.), "Bulldog & The Rude Awakening Show", on Ocean 98 Radio, as well as with New York Best Selling author, Adriana Trigiani, on her Facebook Live show, and at MetLife Stadium, all to talk about her FIRST CLASS FOREVER collection of soldier portraits. All sales from those portraits go directly to the Tunnel to Towers Foundation.

Her work has been featured on the Hampton Jitney, at MetLife Stadium in the Legacy Club, and she was the 2017 Hampton Classic poster design winner. Her flag paintings were a gift to each member of the LPGA Solheim Cup in 2019 in Scotland. Her mediums include acrylic paint, oil pastels, hand cut stencils, spray paint, and photographic images for her most recent collage work, among others. There's tremendous light and hope and optimism in her work, and sometimes, just a little irony.

She is currently working on a 10th anniversary piece since Super Bowl XLVI for the New York Giants which will be given away at Giants Stadium this season. Mara is a member of the Silvermine Art Guild, New Canaan, Connecticut, and Guild Hall, East Hampton.

**Jan Dilenschneider** (<https://www.jmhdilenschneider.com>) has developed a unique style of expressionistic painting. Her work has been shown in Paris, Monaco, several parts of France and in a number of venues in the United States. Her first five solo exhibitions in Paris were aimed at highlighting a healthy ecology. She has redirected her passion to encourage people to look to the light and the positive side of life.

Many art critics have compared her work to the impressionists, she says that while she loves the color palette at heart, she is an expressionist. The relationship of one color to another and energy filled gesture lines are the two key ingredients in her work. Her inspiration comes from the ever-changing landscape around her Connecticut home Living by the sea she is inspired by the shore grasses bending in the breeze, blue sky's reflecting in the cool water and extraordinary trees silhouetted against green lawns.

For more on Jan's work please call two noted Parisian art experts, Pierre Alain Challier who says, "behind paintings that are impressionist in their colors but expressionist in their vivid style. Her dynamic and dense gestures alternates between the imperious necessity of her figurative heritage and the newfound freedom of lyrical abstraction. Or Louis Benech who says "Jan Dilenschneider portrays the contradiction between nature's true fragility and an unswerving tendency to believe it is eternal"

The Exhibit: *There Will Always Be Light, There Will Always be Hope* will be presented in the Art Gallery from Oct 6<sup>th</sup> through November 9. Gallery hours: Tuesday through Saturday 11 am to 7 pm. Sundays 1pm to 5 pm. 18 Bleecker Street NY NY 10012 [mlpagano@sheencenter.org](mailto:mlpagano@sheencenter.org)