

**The Art League**

105 North Union Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-683-1780 | [www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org)

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**PRESS RELEASE****"Beyond the Edge"****Acrylic Paintings by Leslie Nolan****October 9 – November 3, 2014**

Combining confident, bold, expressive brushwork with vibrant color, artist Leslie Nolan has created a series of portraits bursting with raw emotion. Her assertive yet loose brushstrokes simultaneously create and obscure the figure, as she strives to portray "what is felt, rather than what is seen." "Beyond the Edge," Nolan's solo exhibit of contemporary portrait paintings, will be featured at The Art League Gallery October 9–November 3, 2014.

"Beyond the Edge" reveals the personal anxieties and ambiguities that make us human. The person portrayed in each piece exposes his or her inner thoughts and feelings, without a context or setting to distract the viewer. Heightened intensity is achieved using intense color and strong gesture – resulting in an in-your-face proximity to each subject and their emotional psyche.

"While we rarely let others into our inner realities, I hope these paintings confront viewers, and remind them that the elemental stuff of human life can threaten and even pull apart our otherwise well-ordered lives. Sometimes we're on the brink. Sometimes we go over the edge."

Washington, DC-based artist Leslie Nolan has studied art with well-respected international, national, and local artists. Her figurative and landscape paintings have been exhibited throughout the US and abroad, and they are held in collections around the world. Educated at the University of Madrid, Portland State University, George Washington University, and National Defense University, Nolan began her career as a Special Agent investigating white-collar crime and national security issues – a job that involved both learning to read people and managing to keep secrets. Now, in her painting, Nolan puts emotions on display and strips away all concealment.

**Exhibition Dates:** October 9–November 3, 2014**Opening Reception & Meet the Artist:** October 9, 2014, 6:30–8:00pm**Location:**

105 North Union Street  
Studio 21  
(located in the Torpedo Factory Art Center)  
Alexandria, VA 22314

**Information:**

[www.theartleague.org](http://www.theartleague.org)  
703-683-1780

**Gallery Hours:**

Monday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Open Thursdays until 9:00 pm  
Sunday, 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm

Exhibitions and events are free and open to the public.

*Founded in 1954, The Art League, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization, is among the nation's largest and oldest multi-service organizations for visual artists. As a major component of the cultural fabric of Alexandria, The Art League offers extensive exhibit opportunities for artists through its gallery, outstanding fine art education through the school, and valuable outreach programs to the local community. The Art League is headquartered in the landmark Torpedo Factory Art Center.*

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