

# City of Charleston Waterfront Gallery

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Managing mental illness and autism in her family led Roman to question what leads to a life out of balance. The artist's work suggests that the American modern lifestyle fosters isolation instead of community, thereby exacerbating feelings of dissociation. Roman depicts the isolation and detachment that mental illness or brain differences can create from each other and the natural world. The works in *Disconnected* suggest a longing to reconnect and refocus while remaining stuck in the trappings of the American Dream.



Work by Christine Bush Roman

way, especially for children who are autistic or experience issues like anxiety or depression. Our world, which feels ever more unstable, heightens the insecurity and urgency to find our place on this planet. Specific experiences are explored in each piece."

Roman was born in Georgia and now lives and works in Johns Island, SC. She received her MFA from the University of Georgia in 2013. She is most passionate about mixed media, drawing and painting, but also works in sculpture and installation. Her large and small-scale works draw connections between modern life and her experiences with mental illness, autism, and the growing disconnect between one another and the environment.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Gallery at 843/958-6484 or visit ([www.charleston-sc.gov/citygallery](http://www.charleston-sc.gov/citygallery)).



Work by Christine Bush Roman

Roman says "My paintings are filled with symbols that serve to create a narrative about emotion, behavior, and our wavering relationships with reality. I try to depict the sensations of mental illness and I try to depict the chaotic mind of someone with autism or a sensory disorder. There is an immense amount of pressure for everyone to fit into modern society in a very specific

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