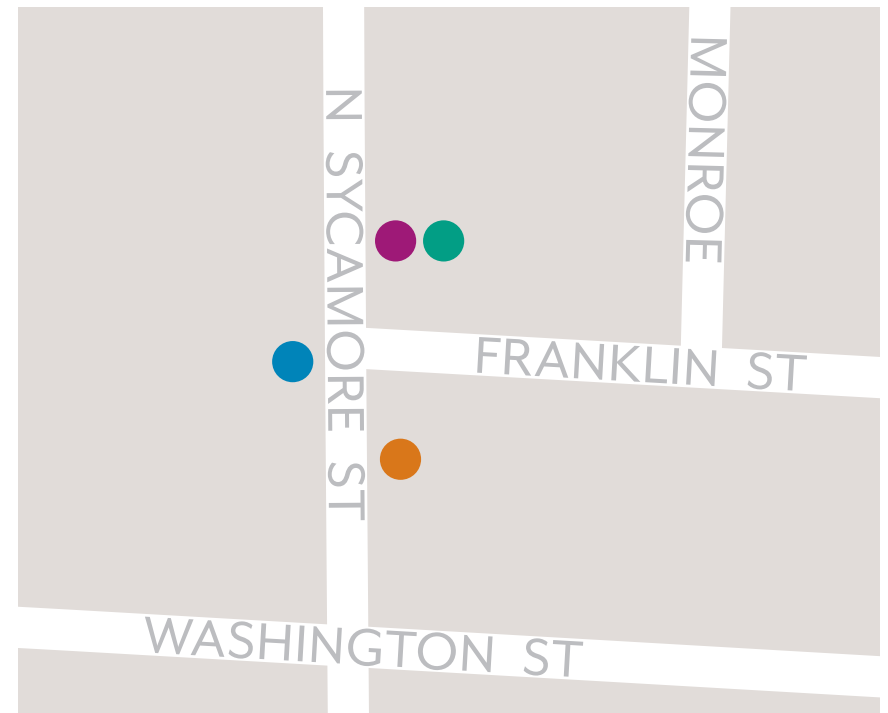


The Sycamore 4: *Abstract Painters in Petersburg*



● AIMEE JOYAUX ● DOLLY HOLMES ● MARK PEHANICH ● RON WALTON

THE STORY behind the Sycamore 4 is simple. Four artists were independently drawn to the intersection of Franklin and Sycamore Street in Petersburg's Courthouse Historic District by beautiful old warehouse buildings with a lot of space. Three buildings currently house the studios of the four artists featured in this show. These studios are less than 200 feet apart and are the envy of most artists.



HOW DID THEY GET THERE?

Aimee Joyaux arrived in Petersburg from Indiana. She was an assistant professor of art at Ball State University, where her husband Alain was the director of the Museum of Art. They purchased 22 North Sycamore Street in 2002, renovated it over several years and eventually moved into a beautiful live/work space with studios for Aimee's paintings, sculpture and prints, and a workshop for Alain's crafts.

Ron Walton had been coming down to Petersburg for years, and eventually purchased 17 North Sycamore Street. He traveled between Brooklyn and Petersburg while renovating the building. Ron, his wife Sibyl and their son Eric, are now permanent residents here. The building currently houses Ron's studio, Sibyl's jewelry workshop, a living space and Walton Gallery, which is directed by Eric.

Dolly Holmes and Mark Pehanich renovated their house on Grove Avenue and moved to Petersburg from Brooklyn in 1997. They later purchased 105 North Sycamore Street in 2002, set up temporary studio space, and later renovated what is now a retail space, a photographer's studio, a wood shop and spacious studios for Dolly and Mark.

All four artists arrived at the same intersection. All four produce solid abstract art that is genuine, unique and reflective of each artist's personality and vision. This show demonstrates the power of these four painters' work.

Everyone is encouraged to share their thoughts and ask the artists questions. We learn more about our work from you than you might think.

The four artists will participate in an Artist Talk on Friday, September 29, from 7-9 pm.