William Pitt Sotheby's hosts artist reception as part of "Sundays at Sotheby's" series

Rowayton — William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty announced recently that the firm's Rowayton brokerage will be hosting an artist reception as part of the "Sundays at Sotheby's" series, a monthly program in which the office welcomes new local art to display in its office.

Local contemporary artists Linda Colletta and Julia Contacessi will introduce their work from 4 to 6 p.m. this Sunday. The reception is typically held on the first Sunday of each month.

Colletta spent the first 15 years of her career as a scenic painter in the music television industry, eventually turning her focus to create more accessible art that caters to the home. She defines her style as abstract expressionism, and uses

Sundays at Sotheby's

Artists Linda Colletta and Julia Contacessi will show their work at a reception from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. this Sunday at the William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty Rowayton brokerage at 147 Rowayton Ave.

several mediums including acrylics, oils and pastels. Colletta's artistry involves a series of drips, washes, scribbles and what she describes as "other happy accidents," to evoke feelings of freedom, beauty and joy. After studying at the Parsons School of Design in New York City, Colletta now works in her studio in Bridgeport. Her art can be seen all over the country and abroad.

Contacessi, another contemporary, abstract artist, describes her process as "a combination of conscious and subconscious exploration." She focuses mostly on color, texture and composition, striving to deliver an atmospheric, positive effect in each of her pieces. Contacessi studied fine art at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y., and now works from her home studio in Norwalk, creating art for clients both domestically and overseas.

During the May 1 artist reception, the Rowayton office will serve as a preview stage for patrons of the CCNS Art Show & Sale, allowing all to come see Colletta and Contacessi's work prior to opening night. All paintings will remain on display throughout the entire month. Both artists are set to be featured at this popular community event, which offers one of the largest and most diverse collections of original artwork in the state of Connecticut. The show will be held June 3 and 4 at the Rowayton Community Center.

"Supporting the arts has always been, and will continue to be, in the DNA of the William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty brand," said Darien agent Molly Crosland, who spearheads much of the brokerage's artist series. "We are thrilled to support the CCNS Art Show and their prolific featured artists."

For more information on the artwork of Linda Colletta and Julia Contacessi and the CCNS Art Show, visit censartshow.org.