

# Space 4 Art

325 15th St.

San Diego, CA 92101

[www.sdspace4art.org](http://www.sdspace4art.org)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jennifer de Poyen opens *[re]generation and [re]newal* at Space 4 Art  
Solo show explores themes of life, death, and regeneration



San Diego — San Diego-based artist Jennifer de Poyen returns to Space 4 Art with *[re]generation and [re]newal*, a solo exhibition of recent paintings and prints. The show officially opens with an artist reception from 6-9 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 29, 2016. The public is invited to attend.

Image: Jennifer de Poyen, *Untitled #2*, ink on paper, 2016. Private Collection.

De Poyen started work on this series in December, 2014, just after her father was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Continuing her practice of using chance in the creative process, de Poyen began experimenting with ink on paper, an ephemeral, unforgiving medium. This seemed an apt means to explore the fragility of life, a theme that preoccupied her during the months that followed. Collectively, these brooding yet buoyant paintings offer a poignant meditation on the cycle of life, death, and regeneration. The exhibition is dedicated to the artist's father, John St. Sauveur Poyen. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the American Lung Association.

*[re]generation and [re]newal* is on view at Space 4 Art, 325 15th St., San Diego, CA 92101 from Oct. 23 to Nov. 19, 2016. Gallery hours are 11-4 Wednesdays-Saturdays. For more information about the exhibition, contact the artist at 619-886-5366 or [jennifer@depoyen.com](mailto:jennifer@depoyen.com). For more information about Space 4 Art, visit [www.sdspace4art.org](http://www.sdspace4art.org).

## About the artist

Born and raised in the Canadian West to a Anglo-Canadian mother and Franco-American father, Jennifer de Poyen is an artist, writer, and teacher. An award-winning journalist, she was a mid-career fellow at New York's Columbia University, where she studied painting and drawing with Archie Rand. She is now a resident artist at Space4Art in San Diego.

## Artist Statement

For me, art-making is a process for creating artifacts of memory of desire. My artworks record and re-present things that once existed in the now irretrievable past. I like to think of my art as a kind of residue. Emotional residue. Mnemonic residue. Charcoal or acrylic residue. It's what's left over when the moment is gone.

I am interested in the moment when visual perception kindles thoughts, feelings, and recollections. And because I am equally engaged by the exacting contours of the known world and the boundless flights of imagination, my studio practice is informed by both figurative and non-objective art-making traditions. Chance also plays a significant role in the work. My strategies include choosing colors and subjects at random, and using materials and techniques that resist my impulse to control the creative process, thus allowing for the element of surprise. What emerge are visual documents of landscapes both real and imagined.

These landscapes are often informed by the geography of my formative years— the huge snows and endless horizontal lines of the Great Plains and the abrupt, ever-shifting boundaries between earth and sea on the shores of the Pacific Ocean. These places serve as loci for ideas, emotions, and experiences of the West: aspiration, expansion, possibility, opportunity and freedom— but also emptiness, isolation, loneliness, disorientation, and anomie.

In my art, I seek to create little wrinkles in time in which the viewer may linger, fully immersed in a moment where notions of past, present, and future fall away. It is my hope that these moments offer a corrective, however fleeting, to our all-too-human consciousness of time and mortality.