

The works of “Art” and “Armistice” flow beautifully together, as if to be created to be next to each other – a linguistic tango -so to speak. In reality, these two words, or the longer context of their marriage; art and the aftermath of war, is at once sobering and drawn out melancholy. Consider the artist and consider the subject. The artist must take in this pain, process it and find a visual response to communicate this sadness. The subject, both individual and concept are birthed from harsh and tragic experience, a pain which is nearly impossible to endure and maybe harder to heal.

The 25 artworks in this show personify many roads of provocation... some deeply personal, others commentary on the world we lived and continue to live in, but every piece submitted and chosen contained an element of something broken in need of mending. Throughout these depictions of heroism, loss, bravery and vulnerability lies a plea for resolution.

There will always be an argument for and against the act of war and there is no denial that the human condition struggles with its passionate relationship with love and hate. This statement refuses to choose a side that the history of mankind has failed to remedy. This exhibition ultimately is about the journey from pain to healing. All tragedy comes from a common thread. All suffering, though varied in degree and experience, comes from a common thread. There is no argument that the history of war, under any reason, has caused insurmountable pain and suffering – from sticks to bombs. Where do we go when the pain of war has struck? What could possibly be the next steps of this aftermath? The path to healing is arduous, personal, varied and sometimes never found, but in the end we ultimately find hope. The work chosen for this journey embody this journey and creates a visual conversation to explore a deeper, more visceral discussion with the viewer.

—Spencer Dormitzer
Art of Armistice Juror