

EDUCATION

2012– **Self-Taught Artist.** Continuous exploration in acrylic, oil pastels, and large raw canvas.

Previous Career Academic Background:

- MA, Public Administration – CSU, Long Beach (2003)
- BA, Political Science (Minors: Public Policy, Latin American Studies) – UCLA (2000)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2023– **Art Instructor at Arts for All Wisconsin**, Madison, WI

- *Good Company Art Studio*: Monthly dementia friendly art classes (May 2025 – present)
- *Arte y Buenas Intenciones*: Spanish-language three-day workshop (May 2023)

2024 **Visiting Artist at Little Picassos**, Madison, WI

- *Abstract Art Workshop*: Approximately 35 children participated (December)

2019 **Visiting Artist at Community Unity Arts**, Madison, WI

- *Mandala-Inspired Art Workshop*: Designed for Goodman Center's teen program (May)

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2025 **First Place** for painting *Magic Hour*, Summer Salon, Madison Art Guild, Madison, WI

Latina Artist of the Year, Latinos Organizing for Understanding and Development (LOUD), Madison, WI

2024 **Madison Arts Commission Grant** (\$1,000) for *Building Community through Art Project*
Micaela Salinas Artist Fellowship, LOUD, \$300 stipend and studio space at Common Wealth Gallery, Madison, WI

Dane Arts 2024 Calendar Award for painting *Seaside* (December), Dane County, WI

2023 **Forward Art Prize Finalist** (\$1,000), Women Artists Forward Fund, Madison, WI

Bridge Work: Madison Artist Program (2023-25), Arts + Literature Laboratory, Madison, WI

2022 **Dane Arts 2022 Calendar Award** for painting *Holding Space* (February), Dane County, WI

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026 **Madre Tierra (Mother Earth)**, Holy Wisdom Monastery, Middleton, WI

2025 **Her Colorful World (Su Mundo de Colores)**, Latino Arts, Inc., Milwaukee, WI

2024 **Ethereal Spaces**, Arts + Literature Laboratory, Madison, WI

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 **Hispanic Heritage Month Art Exhibit**, presented by WI Rep. Priscilla Prado, Wisconsin State Capitol, Madison, WI

The Artists in Bridge Work, The Guenzel Gallery, Peninsula School of Art, Fish Creek, WI

Arts + Literature Laboratory Bridge Work: Madison, Door County Contemporary, Peninsula School of Art, Fish Creek, WI

Emergence, Community Organizations Promoting the Arts, Fitchburg, WI

Bridge Work, UW Oshkosh, Allen Priebe Gallery, Oshkosh, WI

Wherever Home Is, James Watrous Gallery, Madison, WI, (guest curated by Amal Azzam and Nayfa Naji, Fanana Banana Studio, Milwaukee, WI)

Between Dreams, Clouds and Latin American Memories, Macondo Project, Wilson Center Ploch Art Gallery, Brookfield, WI

2024 **Nuestro Sueños (Our Dreams)**, Sauk Prairie River Arts Center Gallery, WI

Chaos & Creativity, 100STATE, Madison, WI

- Illuminating Our Voices***, UW Madison Latine Cultural Center, Madison, WI
Heal, Create, and Share, Arts + Literature Laboratory, Madison, WI
Realismo Mágico: Realidades Soñadas (Magical Realism: Dreamed Realities), Macondo Project, Playhouse Gallery at Overture Center, Madison, WI
Community of Artists 2024, Madison Art Guild, Ballweg Gallery Goodman Ctr., Madison, WI
2023 ***Women's Work***, Women Artists Forward Fund, Arts + Literature Laboratory, Madison, WI
LINEAR, online, Art Connective Gallery, De Pere, WI
Wisconsin Alliance of Artists & Craftspeople, UW Hospital Galleries, Madison, WI
2022 ***Día de los Muertos***, LOUD, Common Wealth Gallery, Madison, WI
Landscapes or Seascapes, online, Las Lagunas Art Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA
46 Artists for America's First Ladies, Ballweg Gallery Central Library, Madison, WI
Catch the 22, Milwaukee Artist Resource Network, Milwaukee, WI
2021 ***46 Artists for America's First Ladies***, online, Arts + Literature Laboratory and Forward Theater Company, Madison, WI
2019 ***Madison Museum of Contemporary Art Gallery Night***, duo exhibition with Mark Weller, The Gallery at Access Wisconsin, Waunakee, WI

COLLABORATIONS

- 2025 ***Artdose Magazine***, *Seeking Something Missing* selected for the 2025 Artdose limited-edition screen print series, in collaboration with screen print artist Julia Scheckel (Anchor Press, Print, & Paper), Milwaukee, WI.
2024 ***Raíces en Color (Roots in Color)***, collaborative artwork exhibition with Rodrigo Carapia, Giant Jones Brewing Co., Madison, WI
2023 ***Bajo el Mismo Cielo (Under the Same Sky)***, collaborative artwork exhibition with Rodrigo Carapia, Rotunda Gallery 1st Floor, Overture Center, Madison, WI
Gol Gana, Forward Madison FC game poster, collaborative artwork with Rodrigo Carapia
2022 ***Madison Museum of Contemporary Art Gallery Night***, collaborative artwork with Rodrigo Carapia, Alvarado Real Estate Group, Madison, WI
Art Pop-Up, collaborative artwork with Eric Escobar, Los Angeles, CA

PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

- 2024 ***LunART Festival***, commissioned *Rebirth* painting (24"x18") and 20 small paintings (7"x5")

COLLECTIONS

- 2025 City of Madison Pre-Approved Artwork List
- UW Health – Eastpark Medical Center, Madison, WI
- Little Picassos, MYARTS, Madison, WI
- Edie Daly Estate, Gulfport, FL

ART FAIRS & EVENTS (SELECTED)

- 2024 ***Dane Arts Buy Local Holiday Pop-up Market at Aubergine Gallery***, Madison, WI
2023 ***East Side Markers Market & Bar Hop***, Milwaukee, WI
9th Annual Latino Art Fair, Overture Center, Madison, WI
2022 ***Marquette-Atwood Art Walk***, Madison, WI
2021 ***Eastside Winter Market***, Madison, WI
The Art & Gift Fair: Weekends at Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI
Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Art Fair on the Square, Madison, WI
CultivARTE Latinx Art Festival, Madison, WI
2019 ***Dane Arts Buy Local Holiday Pop-Up at AC-Hotel***, Madison, WI
Art Walk Middleton, Middleton, WI

SERVICE

2025 **Jury Committee Member**, *Overture Center Gallery Seasons 2025–26 and 2026–27*, Madison, WI

LECTURES

- 2025 ***A Life Transformed by Art***, Speaker, WI Latino Arts and Culture Conference, Centro Hispano, Madison, WI (May 2)
Café con Arte: Artist Talk (Spanish & English), *Her Colorful World*, Latino Arts, Inc., Milwaukee, WI (May 9)
Panel: Belonging In-Between, Wherever Home Is, James Watrous Gallery, Madison, WI (April 13)
- 2024 ***Bridge Work Artist Talk (Spanish & English)***, *Ethereal Spaces*, Arts + Literature Laboratory (ALL), Madison, WI (November 22)
Panel: Art & Motherhood, LunART Festival, ALL, Madison, WI (May 29)
Panel: Realismo Mágico: Realidades Soñadas (Magical Realism: Dreamed Realities), Macondo Project, Playhouse Gallery at Overture Center, Madison, WI (March 22)
- 2023 ***Artist Talk, Bajo el Mismo Cielo (Under the Same Sky)***, collaborative artwork exhibition with Rodrigo Carapia, Rotunda Gallery 1st Floor, Overture Center, Madison, WI (February 18)

AFFILIATIONS

- 2023– **Madison Art Guild**
2022– **Milwaukee Artist Resource Network (MARN), CREATIVE member**

PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

- 2025 “*Art installations reflecting Madison’s diversity begin at Madison Public Market*,” **Madison365**, October 7, 2025. <https://madison365.com/art-installations-reflecting-madisons-diversity-begin-at-madison-public-market/>
“*Meet Issis Macias*,” **CANVASREBEL Stories & Insights**, August 25, 2025. <https://canvasrebel.com/meet-issis-macias/>
Omar Waheed, “*Issis Macias to host Cafe con Arte reception in Milwaukee’s Latino Arts on Friday*,” **Madison365**, May 8, 2025. <https://madison365.com/issis-macias-to-host-cafe-con-arte-reception-in-milwaukee-latin-arts-on-friday/>
Patricia Gomez, “*Issis Macias, a Los Angeles-born artist, channels her experiences into intuitive abstractions*,” **Milwaukee PBS – Adelante**, March 26, 2025.
Segment: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uSF7WyHhT3M>
Short: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/Am7QnD3cFdo>
Linda Syth, “*Exploring Intuitive Abstraction in Art with Issis Macias*,” **The Layered Onion—Peeling Back the Layers Podcast**, March 24, 2025. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/3RI0ovMb61FPammulzMJT9?si=qHyW0JcKT86EasuLq42grw>
Montse Ricossa, “*Nueva exposición en Latino Arts: Su Mundo De Colores*,” **Telemundo Wisconsin**, March 19, 2025. <https://www.telemundowi.com/news/nueva-exposicion-en-latino-arts-su-mundo-de-colores>
Logan Underwood, “*Annual Madison Arts Commission grants provide accessibility to Arts*,” **The Badger Herald**, February 16, 2025. <https://badgerherald.com/artsetc/2025/02/16/annual-madison-arts-commission-grants-provide-accessibility-to-arts/>
- 2024 Jonathan Gramling, “*Ethereal Spaces and Gifts from the Dark at Arts + Literature Laboratory: Inner Exploration*,” **The Capital City Hues**, Vol. 19 No. 25, December 9, 2024. <https://www.capitalcityhues.com/12092024latinaartists/>
Jynelle Gracia, “*A Deep Knowing: Interview with Issis Macias*,” **ALL Review**, November 2024. <https://artlittlab.org/all-review/a-deep-knowing-interview-with-issis-macias>
Christine Holm, “*Artist Profile: Issis Macias*,” **The Little Book Project WI**, November 30, 2024.

<https://www.littlebookwi.com/blog/1031-artist-profile-issis>

Omar Waheed, "Issis Macias, Jessica Gutiérrez to Host Joint Gallery at Arts + Literature Lab Exploring Themes of Resilience, Transformation, and Cultural Heritage," **Madison365**, November 19, 2024. <https://madison365.com/issis-macias-jessica-gutierrez-to-host-joint-gallery-at-arts-literature-lab-exploring-themes-of-resilience-transformation-and-cultural-heritage/>

Ava Wojnowski, "Intuitive Painter Issis Macias Sets the Tone for LunART Festival 2024: Rebirth," **LunART W.O.W. Blog**, March 10, 2024. <https://www.lunartfestival.org/post/intuitive-painter-issis-macias-sets-the-tone-for-lunart-festival-2024-rebirth>

2023 Rafael Viscarra, "Intuición, Inspiración, Emoción," **La Comunidad News Online**, March 31, 2023. <https://wisconsinlcnews.com/intuicion-inspiracion-emocion/>

Daniela Jaime, "From Mexico City and L.A. to Madison, Latino Artists Find New Opportunities at the Overture Center," **Wisconsin State Journal**, March 3, 2023.

https://madison.com/entertainment/arts-and-theatre/from-mexico-city-and-l-a-to-madison-latino-artists-find-new-opportunities-at-the/article_7bd43933-8bb6-5ca9-8005-08b5e8d5088a.html

2021 Jonathan Gramling, "The Art of Issis Macias: Connecting to the Spirit of Creativity," **The Capital City Hues**, Vol. 16 No. 22, November 1, 2021.

https://www.issismacias.com/files/ugd/82a5ff_8a03e8ad08074af28953c1a3d58a92a7.pdf