

NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM

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UNDERGROUND: JOAN IACONETTI WATERCOLORS

Opening May 10, 2015 at the New York Transit Museum in Downtown Brooklyn

The New York Transit Museum's newest exhibition, *Underground: Joan Iaconetti Watercolors*, features twenty-two large-format paintings that imagine the New York City subway system as an ominous underworld full of shadowed corners, dizzying angles, and ghost-like commuters.

Opening May 10 in Downtown Brooklyn, this series of evocative, geometric-impressionist watercolors by artist Joan Iaconetti simplifies the complex interaction of humans and subway station architecture into ragged shapes of light and dark. The paintings, created in layers of thick transparent watercolor and gouache on heavy, textured cotton paper, are illuminated by the fractured light of speeding trains as they pass by.

Iaconetti uses techniques such as spattering, dripping, puddling, and scrambling to transform the familiar mundane images of our daily commutes into fantastically sinister scenes. "Few would call the subway pretty," says Iaconetti, "but its miles of grimy pipes and rail, its sheer geometric functionality, began to reveal a kind of sullen beauty"

Underground: Joan Iaconetti Watercolors opens to the public on Tuesday, May 10 in the R42 screening room at the New York Transit Museum in Downtown Brooklyn. The Transit Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4p.m; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and is closed Mondays, major holidays and for special events. General admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children 2-17 years old, \$5 and free on Wednesdays for senior citizens 62 years and up, and free for museum members. For more information on hours, admission and directions, please visit: <http://web.mta.info/mta/museum/#general>.

ABOUT JOAN IACONETTI:

Joan Iaconetti, originally from Racine, Wisconsin, lives and works in New York City, where she has exhibited at several galleries. She received the 2016 Winsor & Newton Award for “Wet Floor,” exhibited in the American Watercolor Society’s 149th Exhibition, and was featured in the October 2015 issue of *Watercolor Artist Magazine*. In 2004, Iaconetti developed and began teaching Watercolor for Absolute Beginners at The New School’s IRP organization in New York. Learn more at www.joaniaconetti.com.

ABOUT NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM:

The [New York Transit Museum](http://www.nytransitmuseum.org), one of the city’s leading cultural institutions, is the largest museum in the United States devoted to urban public transportation history and one of the premier institutions of its kind in the world. The Museum explores the development of the greater New York metropolitan region through the presentation of exhibitions, tours, educational programs and workshops dealing with the cultural, social and technological history of public transportation. Since its inception more than a quarter century ago, the Museum – which is housed in a historic 1936 IND subway station in Downtown Brooklyn – has grown in scope and popularity. As custodian and interpreter of the region’s extensive public transportation networks, the Museum strives to share through its public programs their rich and vibrant history with local, regional, and international audiences.

What: Underground: Joan Iaconetti Watercolors

When: May 10, 2016 – September 2016

Where: New York Transit Museum
Corner of Boerum Place and Schermerhorn Street
Downtown Brooklyn

More Information: www.nytransitmuseum.org

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