

HUDSON

Ride a wave of optimism with Elizabeth McParland's Infinite Summer

Published: Jan. 12, 2022, 1:15 p.m.



"Ocean Calling" by Elizabeth McParland.



By [David Mosca](#) | [The Jersey Journal](#)

Elizabeth McParland is riding a wave of optimism for the New Year and is ready to take everyone with her as Infinite Summer opens at Pilsner Haus, in partnership with Main Street Pops, and will be on view until Feb. 28. The new exhibit celebrates life's ebbs and flows while conveying the message to enjoy the ride.

For McParland, it's our choice to find happiness in life. With that belief, she is sharing her work with those who wish to see it. She used recycled materials from discarded surfboards to up-cycled canvases and gives them new purpose while also revealing the energy of their past. While the colors and textures are meant to represent our lives, and all their complexity, they also flow back and forth like waves in the ocean.

McParland studied fashion at F.I.T. but what she really wanted was to be in the illustration department. She would design swim and activewear for 10 years before returning to school at SUNY New Paltz where she found her voice with painting and art education. She now teaches art at Weehawken High School.

Her artwork has been shown in small shows such as Montclair's Yard School of Art, Hoboken's Monroe Center for the Arts, and The Kean University Gallery. She recently displayed a solo exhibition at the Envu Hotel in Weehawken and was included in a group exhibit at Hampton House Events in South Hampton, NY.

McParland received four surfboards about eight years ago when she was commissioned to create a wall display. She said she doesn't object to receiving such things so she can keep them out of landfills. With a "Go with the Flow" motto, water has been McParland's safe space from a very young age.

Since last year, Main Street Pops has partnered with Pilsener Haus & Biergarten to bring a series of Pop-up Arts Events to Hoboken. Pilsner Haus is located at 1422 Grand Street, Hoboken.