

the Imperfecta Gallery Presents

Creative Alchemy:

Between Dreams and Reality

Steve Eichenberger & Jacqueline Hurlbert

September 3-26, 2026

For inquiries or purchases, please contact Daria Loi at imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

For three decades, Oregon artist couple Steve Eichenberger and Jacqueline Hurlbert have lived by the work of their hands, as full-time artists transforming raw, stubborn materials into forms that feel startlingly alive. *Creative Alchemy* is their declaration that art is not decoration but transformation: the ancient act of turning inanimate materials into beings that meet the viewer with presence, attitude...even sentience. This exhibition brings two fiercely individual practices into one charged space, where matter becomes meaning and the boundary between dreams and reality thins.

Steve works with materials that don't yield easily. Steel must be struck, shaped, and tempered by pressure and heat; clay must be coaxed into forms that feel unearthed rather than designed. The resulting sculptures and wearable pieces feel less like objects and more like entities: forged companions, guardians, confidants — they stand *with* someone rather than simply stand before them.

Jacqueline's sculptures ignite a different kind of alchemy — one driven by narrative, wit, and psychological voltage. Her dynamic figures confront, question, delight and reveal. They wield symbolic objects, and celebrate the shadow side — often with elaborate headdresses fashioned from clay, found materials, or natural fragments. Her work is bold, mischievous, and emotionally incisive, distilling human contradictions into forms that feel both dreamlike and fiercely real. Humor and shadow coexist; innocence and grit collide; clarity and wildness embrace.

Creative Alchemy invites viewers to stand among sculptures that feel awake. To encounter forms imbued with intention, and to experience how inert materials can become companions in one's inner universe. These pieces do not offer escape. They offer presence, solidarity, strength, and the reminder that imagination is a force powerful enough to turn the intangible into artifacts that stand eye-to-eye with reality.

Jacqueline Hurlbert

Rescuing the Bluebird of Happiness

Mixed Media; 50" X "30 X 8.5"

\$ 2,900



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.com

Jacqueline Hurlbert

The Alchemist

Mixed Media; 49" X 30" X 21"

\$ 2,900



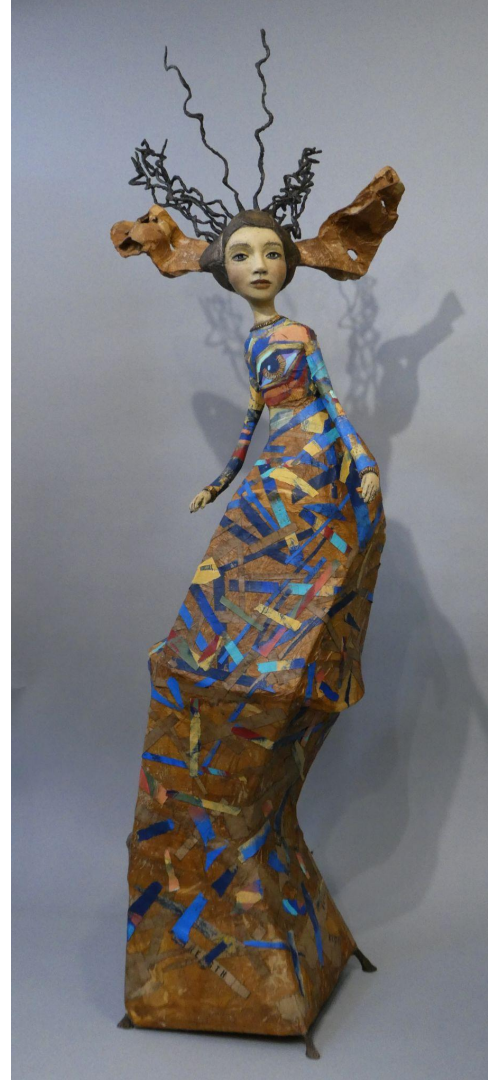
Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert

Eye Witness

Mixed Media; 55"x19"x17"
freestanding

\$ 2,900



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert

The rescue

Mixed Media; 36" X 25" X 13"

\$ 2,600



Jacqueline Hurlbert
Wild chaotic beauty

Mixed Media; 35" X 14" X 14"

\$ 2,600



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@artcolor.xyz



Jacqueline Hurlbert

Holding the tail of the tornado

Mixed Media; 25" X 18" X 14"

\$ 2,500



Inquiries: Daria



Jacqueline Hurlbert

Dandelion Girl Spreads the Seeds of Change

Mixed Media; 29" X 16" X 14"

\$ 2,500



Inquiries: Daria Lo



Jacqueline Hurlbert
Speak Your Mind, Ride A Fast Horse

Mixed Media; 25x24 inches

\$ 2,100



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert

The untamed shadow

Mixed Media; 37" X 22" X 11"

\$ 2,100



Steve Eichenberger
“Nostalgia Galactica” (68011)

hammered aluminum, rivets, scorched patina
31.5x13x13 inches

\$ 1954

As a curious kid several decades deep into the last century, I had nothing but excitement and yearning for "the future"—including all things space. Now we're experiencing that future in all its chaos. A few years ago I time-machined back to relive memories of that naive young wide eyed mini-me, to see if I could pull just a bit of that optimism into my now. In the process of way-back, I made a simple sketch on an envelope, of the quintessential spaceship design from my childhood's imagination. It was very clear...a sleek main rocket with three streamlined boosters. Then I realized now-me could actually *make* that design! It was an extremely challenging but fun/rewarding project—exceeding my own expectations, which is rare. I made it for the delight of that mini-me which is still in here somewhere, and to remind cynical-me that "the future" I'm in now does indeed contain many marvels and wonders—if I can just look up from doom-scrolling long enough to let my wide eyes *see* like that mini-me kid looking far ahead to now.



Inquiries: Dar

Steve Eichenberger
"The Comeuppance Beetle" —
"Guardians of the Inner Universe" series (76011)

mixed media, hammered/riveted wings
47x22x18

\$ 1850

'Comeuppance' means the **deserved consequences** of someone's own actions — usually after they've been behaving badly for a while. When people say, "*They're gonna get their comeuppance!*" they mean that person will finally get what they deserve (aka 'just deserts', or karma).

Humans have caused an insect apocalypse. And at the rate we're going, we're next.

Talk to this creature: rant, rejoice in the good, apologize, promise, confide, commiserate.



Jacqueline Hurlbert

Existing Between Two States of Being

Mixed Media; 34" X 8" X 4"

\$ 1,800



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert
Untied and airborne

Mixed Media; 27" X 19" X 9"

\$ 1,700



Jacqueline Hurlbert

**Running Out of Faith in Her Leaders, Vera
Seeks Answers from Her Magic '8' Ball**

Mixed Media; 30" X 13" X 5"

\$ 1,600



Inquiries: Daria I

Jacqueline Hurlbert

Night Howler Steals the Moon While She Sleeps

Mixed Media; 28" X "15 X 6"

\$ 1,500



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert
Death dons her tutu

Mixed Media; 20" X 14" X 6"

\$ 1,400



Steve Eichenberger

(75121)

Guardians of the Inner Universe series

Mixed Media; 41x13x28 inches

\$ 1,195



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert
Painting boundary lines

Mixed Media; 22" X 13" X 12"

\$ 985



Jacqueline Hurlbert

Balancing act

Mixed Media; 17" X 16" X 8"

\$ 885



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert
Forget me knots

Mixed Media; 24" X 11" X 5"

\$ 800



Jacqueline Hurlbert
Mythic Voyager

Mixed Media; 15" X 17" X 9"

\$ 800



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert
Natures quiet offering

Mixed Media; 22" X 8" X 6"

\$ 875



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studiolo

Steve Eichenberger
"Guardians of the Inner Universe" series
(76021)

mixed media, hammered/riveted wings
23x23x20

\$ 750

I'm old enough to be dismayed/alarmed about insects. They used to "plaster" our 1956 Buick's windshield on Sunday drives as a kid. Virtually none now, though. And noticeably less insects just flying around in spring & summer...far fewer grasshoppers, butterflies and moths. Studies suggest decimation of approximately 75% (!!) of insect biomass globally, just in my lifetime. And 9% annual loss of the remaining terrestrial insects going forward. So this piece is round-about all that...and a general reminder to value all living things and act accordingly. It's also because insects are just amazing creatures, and fun to sculpt. Illuminate it for cool shadows.

Talk to this creature: rant, rejoice in the good, apologize, promise, confide, commiserate.



Jacqueline Hurlbert

Celebrating past relationships

Mixed Media; 16" X 10" X 9"

\$ 750



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert

The World Is Making My Pigtails Hurt

Mixed Media; 12" X 9" X 6"

\$ 600 [SOLD]



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert

**Henrietta Decides to Live Life on the Cutting Edge"
(a.k.a. Snip Snip)**

Mixed Media; 21" X 11" X 5"

\$ 700 [SOLD]



Steve Eichenberger

“UBU!” (71051)

mixed media

21x14x19

\$ 595

This is Portland, and you're standing here in Imperfecta Gallery...so I doubt I need to elaborate any further on this title!

Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz



Steve Eichenberger
“Undulator” (69041)

mixed media
14.5x7x12

\$ 450

Space is infinite in all directions; time has always been and always will be. Are all those eons of existence just lost to infinite obscurity? No! Because *Undulators* see all, remember all, and they're everywhere...unseen, undetectable, non-judgmental...just undulating throughout spacetime, appendages gently propelling them along...observing the magnificence of the cosmos, noting, remembering. They also witness the entire spectrum of behaviors—of individuals and civilizations—which come and go in the blink of an eye.

Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz



Collab—♡

Steve Eichenberger
& Jacqueline Hurlbert

“Guardians of the Inner Universe” series

(76043)

mixed media
19x9x5

\$ 435

I’ve struggled (against my inner critic’s side-eye) to sculpt, draw, or paint hundreds of heads/faces over a handful of decades—and I keep on trying because of the creative alchemy that brings faces uncannily to life.

Post November 2024, artmaking became exponentially/urgently more vital to me as catharsis—expression/release/therapy. I recently “invented” an invisible means of support for this series of heads, so they float on a wall as if by their own volition—little entities of benevolent presence waiting to share my notice...sensing/reflecting what’s going on with me...guardians of my inner universe...touchstones of strength and sanity amidst a world gone awry. (That’s my intent as their maker anyway, the rest is up to you.)

Inquiries: Daria.Loi-imperfecta@studioloi.xyz



Jacqueline Hurlbert
Fragmented Focus

Mixed Media; 13" X 6" X 4"

\$ 400 [SOLD]



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studiolo.com



Jacqueline Hurlbert

Making friends with the enemy

Painting on paper mounted on a panel.

\$ 400



Jacqueline Hurlbert

Night Howler With His Play Things

Painting on paper mounted on a panel.

\$ 400



Steve Eichenberger

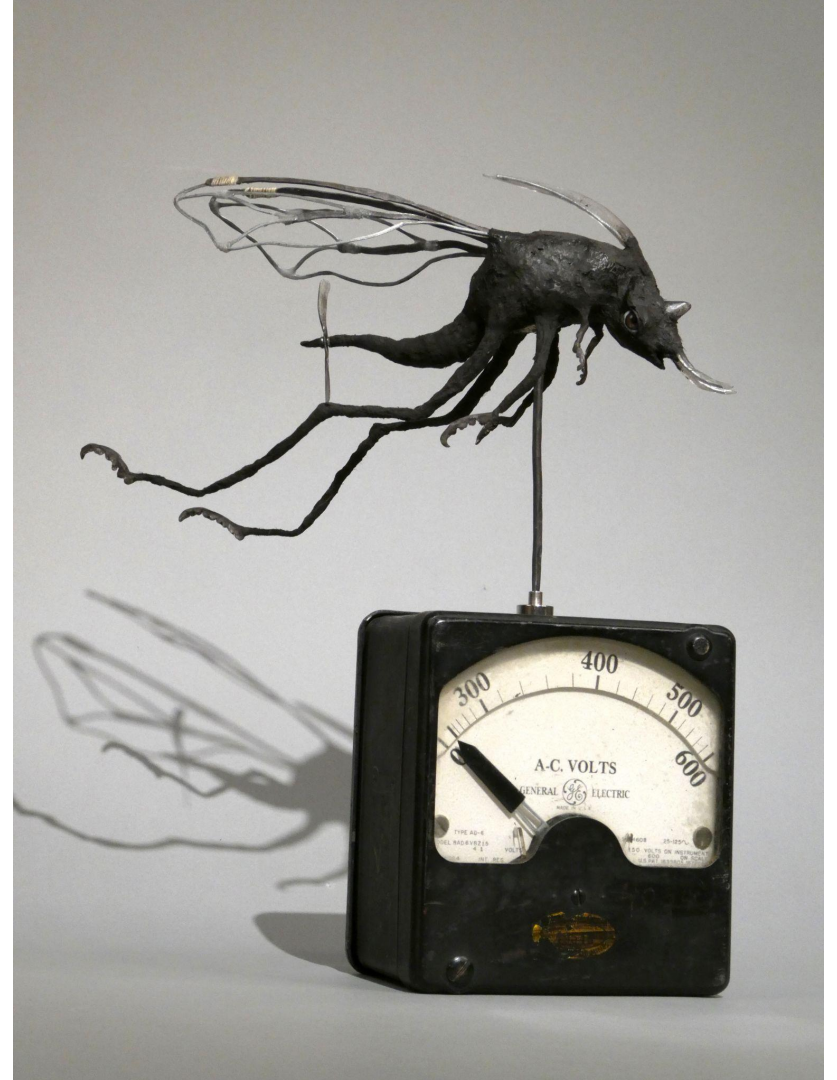
"Guardians of the Inner Universe" series (76031)

mixed media, hammered steel wings and propeller
14x11x4

\$ 395 [SOLD]

I'm old enough to be dismayed/alarmed about insects. They used to "plaster" our 1956 Buick's windshield on Sunday drives as a kid. Virtually none now, though. And noticeably less insects just flying around in spring & summer...far fewer grasshoppers, butterflies and moths. Studies suggest decimation of approximately 75% (!!) of insect biomass globally, just in my lifetime. And 9% annual loss of the remaining terrestrial insects going forward. So this piece is round-about all that...and a general reminder to value all living things and act accordingly. It's also because insects are just amazing creatures, and fun to sculpt. Illuminate it for cool shadows.

Talk to this creature: rant, rejoice in the good, apologize, promise, confide, commiserate.



Steve Eichenberger

"Guardians of the Inner Universe" series (76041)

mixed media

13x6x5

\$ 385

I've struggled (against my inner critic's side-eye) to sculpt, draw, or paint hundreds of heads/faces over a handful of decades—and I keep on trying because of the creative alchemy that brings faces uncannily to life.

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Steve Eichenberger

"Guardians of the Inner Universe" series (76042)

mixed media

12x7x4

\$ 385

I've struggled (against my inner critic's side-eye) to sculpt, draw, or paint hundreds of heads/faces over a handful of decades—and I keep on trying because of the creative alchemy that brings faces uncannily to life.

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Steve Eichenberger
"Guardians of the Inner Universe" series

(76044)

mixed media
3x4x4.5

\$ 250

I've struggled (against my inner critic's side-eye) to sculpt, draw, or paint hundreds of heads/faces over a handful of decades—and I keep on trying because of the creative alchemy that brings faces uncannily to life.

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Steve Eichenberger

"Guardians of the Inner Universe" series (76045)

mixed media
4x6x9

\$ 250

I've struggled (against my inner critic's side-eye) to sculpt, draw, or paint hundreds of heads/faces over a handful of decades—and I keep on trying because of the creative alchemy that brings faces uncannily to life.

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Jacqueline Hurlbert
Secure attachment

Painting on paper mounted on a panel.

\$ 175



Jacqueline Hurlbert

Splitting hares

Painting on paper mounted on a panel.

\$ 175



Inquiries: Daria Loi - imperfecta@studioloi.xyz

Jacqueline Hurlbert
Anxious attachment

Painting on paper mounted on a panel.

\$ 175

