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Local artist's paintings in Manhattan gallery

By [Greenwich Post Staff](#) on June 9, 2013 in [Community](#) · 0 Comments

About author



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Greenwich artist Maria Soledad Fernandez Pagliuca is moving on up to the big city with a June exhibition to be featured at Chelsea's Agora Gallery in New York City.

The Argentinean-born artist, who goes simply by 'Pagliuca,' is known for creating "enticing abstract paintings using a broad range of media including wine and coffee," according to the gallery. Her use of these drinks as pigment, usually mixed with acrylic and collage elements, has been called "profoundly evocative."

The gallery said she finds "... incredible tonal variety in the ranges of burgundy, brown and yellow that the wine and coffee provide, crafting Abstract Expressionist compositions that alternately evoke Jackson Pollock's drips and Mark Rothko's Color Fields. But her works on paper remain strikingly original, especially as they continue to evolve as their materials change."

Ms. Pagliuca's works boast broad, gestural swaths of reds and browns in thick, circular or linear arrangements, frequently accompanied by letters and collage elements.

"The play of contrasting and layered textures makes her paintings seem both ages-old and brand new, with yellowed paper clippings juxtaposed with fresh, earth-toned splashes of coffee and scarlet daubs of wine," the gallery said. "This melding of materials, simultaneously familiar and fresh, fosters a visual experience not unlike the buzz given by coffee or wine."

The exhibition is scheduled to run through June 25. The opening reception will be held tonight, June 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the gallery, 530 West 25th Street, New York City.

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