

Press release: For Immediate Release

A "Good Catholic Woman" artist takes on the patriarchal Roman Catholic Church

San Diego artist, Carol Spong's triptych entitled "The God Damned Catholic Church" will be shown Dec. 3-7, 2024 in the EXPOSURE show at Ceres Gallery 547 W. 27th St., Suite 201, New York, NY. Opening Reception Dec. 5, 6-8 PM.

The 86-year-old, a life-long practicing Catholic, painted three canvases to express her pain and rage at a misogynistic church rife with unrealistic and punitive rules. The works are subtitled "Disillusionment," "Shame...Fear...Guilt...", and "Awakening." Catholic women across the globe have been advocating for change for decades. Not much progress has been made.

Spong's experience in a church community staffed by inclusive women priests created safety and gave her courage to express her decades of pain and to paint this work. Mary Magdalene Apostle Catholic Community's Council said, "It is helpful to acknowledge that the loss of possibility and hope that many experienced after Vatican II is an ONGOING source of disappointment and spiritual loss. (Some might call it spiritual trauma.)"

Spong took this as the impetus to heal wounds caused by the ignorance and repression within the Roman Catholic church.

The artist will be at the gallery Dec. 3 ,12-6 pm and the Opening Reception Dec.5, 6-8 pm. and looks forward to meeting other Catholic, or formerly Catholic, women who have had similar experiences.

For questions- Contact Stefany Benson, Director. art@ceresgallery.org