

# Hana Bleue Chaussette

*Selected Work*

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*Lisa, album cover (front), work in progress*

Gouache and colored pencil on claybord  
12" × 12"



# Unsung Heroes of Uptown: Art of People ON the Street IN the Street

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*Unsung Heroes of Uptown: Art of People ON the Street IN the Street*  
Co-sponsored by JCDecaux and Chicago's Department of Cultural  
Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), Summer 2024

2024  
Chicago



# Studs Terkel, Pulitzer Prize-winning oral historian, author, actor, television and radio host

2024

Acrylic and pencil, handwritten text on Stonehenge  
48" x 67" (122 x 170 cm)



# K. Senior Clerk, Chicago Public Library

2023

Acrylic and pencil, handwritten text on Stonehenge  
48" x 67" (122 x 170 cm)



99,458 likes

(Paraphrased)

(32.41) He knew all the gangs. My son knew all the gangs. On the right side and on the left side (of her home)...and it's sad because they all grew up together...I have pictures of this boy sitting at our table for (her son's) birthday...he was told to kill my son. It was his gang initiation. My son was coming home from a party. They saw him in the alley.

(15.071) "He was happy go-lucky. Always smiling. Always trying to stay positive. I remember one day the year before he died (it is) he said, 'Mommy, I can lift you up.' And I said, 'No you can't. I'm kinda heavy, you can't pick Mommy up.' He literally picked me up and twirled me around. He was very strong. All the girls loved him. When he walked into a room he lit up the room."

(37.37) "People have no idea. You'll see me smiling and laughing but you have no idea what I've been through. If I can make it through though, what I've been through, anybody can make it through whatever it is. You can make it. You gotta fight. You gotta fight to live another day. Just keep going. I really believe if you put forth the effort, God will try to help you through the rest. That's how I made it. All these years."

Senior Clerk, Chicago Public Library



UNsung HEROES OF UPTOWN:  
"Art of People IN the Streets ON the Streets"  
HANA BLEUE CHAUSSETTE

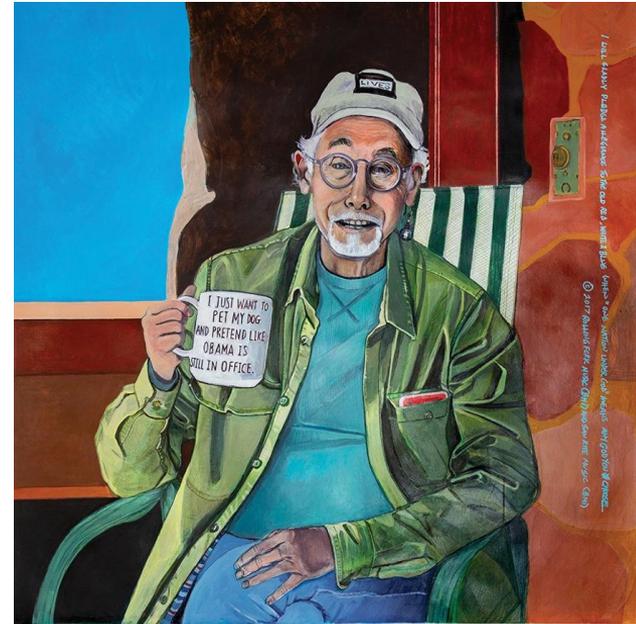
JCDecaux



# Terry, Grammy Award-winning songwriter and Chicago Blues Expert

2023

Acrylic and pencil, handwritten text on Stonehenge  
48" x 67" (122 x 170 cm)



SP #97 likes

(128) I really got into music when I was probably 14 but I didn't know it was the Blues...there was something different about it...it had swagger...that music I heard waking down the streets (on the west side), in Austin, I would hear some guy driving by and it would be Chuck Berry singing. "The coaterator was packed with TV dinners and ginger ale..."

(56-54) After the show Muddy (Waters) and I would go to this bar down the street where he'd play and we'd sit at the table in the back on the dark, so people wouldn't bug him and it's one o'clock in the morning...and he'd say, "Go get the napkins, boy and I'd get a stack of napkins from the bartender...and I had a pen and we'd scribble down song ideas and we'd bounce them back and forth and that was one of the songs...he'd say, "Write that down"...it must have been '75 and I'm in New York with Muddy and Johnny Winter came in. He told me that he was making a record with Muddy for Columbia Records. Then Muddy said, "Get those napkins!" And I brought over the song "Bus Driver" and that was it. (It won a Grammy)

(022) We are sitting on his porch...We looked at each other for a beat then I said...

H: I really like your cap, I think it says a lot.

T: Well, I'm a firm believer that every time you leave the house that you should wear something you love...and do I love this hat? I hate to leave the house without reminding someone that something's got to be fixed.



UNSGUNG HEROES OF UPTOWN:  
"Art of People IN the Streets ON the Streets"  
HANA BLEUE CHAUSSETTE

JCDecaux



# Yman Huang Vien, Chinese refugee, former bank president and co-founder of the Chinese Mutual Aid Association

2023

Acrylic and pencil, handwritten text on Stonehenge  
48" x 67" (122 x 170 cm)



♡ Q ↻

112,246 likes

📌

(15:35) ...when the ..... came, you're so scared of the doorbell. If the doorbell rings, live person can be disappeared... we have to be very careful in school, you don't know if the classmate next to us might report you... All of a sudden, you hear your good friend, they escape or they disappear... People think freedom is number one, you have to get out.

(12:24)... (immigrants are not all the same) my group as refugees, you have no choice... you have to escape. I think once you come out here, you see the whole world. You have a choice. But for me, I always see a glass ceiling... even among Chinese, they still see me as a woman from Vietnam... until I talk, until I conduct business. They will look at me differently. But still some people are still afraid that a woman, as a refugee from Southeast Asia, can be more successful than long time residents... Being Asian, being a woman, they get intimidated... So I have to learn to be reserved and not be too outspoken.

(11:18) You would be surprised to learn that in high school we were talking about our dreams... I was gonna be a housewife, stay home, get married, have children.

(5:09) I told my sons, you know life is like waves, when you know a wave is coming, you have to jump up high...

Yman Huang Vien, co-founder of CMAA with her father. Entrepreneur, former Bank President and CEO. Escaped on a boat at 18. Chinese born in Vietnam.



UNSG HEROES OF UPTOWN:  
"Art of People IN the Streets ON the Streets"  
HANA BLEUE CHAUSSETTE

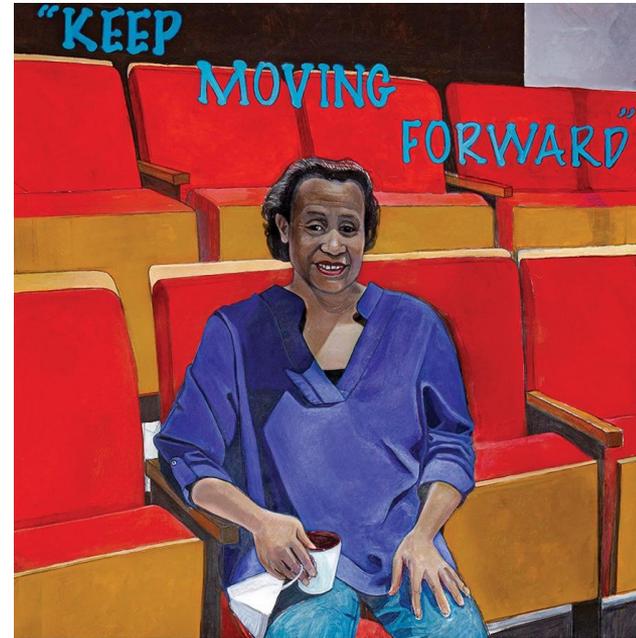
JCDecaux



# Jackie Taylor, CEO and founder of the Black Ensemble Theater

2023

Acrylic and pencil, handwritten text on Stonehenge  
48" x 67" (122 x 170 cm)



95,780 likes

(18:49) Hold on to yourself. Every human being is born for greatness or we wouldn't be here. Hold on to the greatness that's inside of you, no matter what...keep believing. (17:50) No matter what happened, no matter how nasty "not" you get, no matter how much money you win or lose, keep believing, keep moving ahead and know that you're going to take one step forward and two steps back because that's how this life operates, but you gotta keep moving (forward), that's the most important thing.

Where did her movie come from?

(Paraphrased) "...Probably from my mother... (2:31) when she wanted something done she would go to every end of the earth to make it happen. When my brother was in the army, in Germany, they put him in jail. I sat and watched my mother get on the phone... first to the President of the United States, and she kept on going... in two weeks my brother came home. She always started at the top. This taught me that when you are pursuing your dreams, don't let anything get in your way. Figure out a way to make that "no" into a yes. And if you can't figure it out...keep going but just in a different direction."

Jackie Taylor, actress, playwright, director, CEO and founder of BLACK ENSEMBLE THEATER, Uptown



UNsung HEROES OF UPTOWN:  
"Art of People IN the Streets ON the Streets"  
HANA BLEUE CHAUSSETTE

JCDecaux



# Half-Japanese Woman with Daikon Leg

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*Half-Japanese  
Woman with  
Daikon Leg*

1988  
Oil on linen  
15" × 18" (38 × 46 cm)



# Shinjinrui, or New Breed

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1987

Archival Japanese pilgrim's bamboo ohenro hat, gesso,  
oil and pencil

Approx. 18" x 18" (46 x 20 cm)



# Hasamu: Pinch or Pinched, Mother and Son

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1989  
Oil on archival abacus, sanbo tray





# Zeitgeist I

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*Zeitgeist I — Self-portrait*

2014

Gouache, pencil, washi, wood on claybord — ceramic  
bed, fairy lights, flash drive with audio and text  
36" x 36" x 48" (91 x 122 cm)



# Two Remarkable Women in the Museum

*(Initial Drawing)*

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Work in Progress  
Acrylic and pencil on Stonehenge  
244 × 152 cm



# Two Remarkable Women in the Museum

*(Laying in the basic colors)*

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Work in Progress  
Acrylic and pencil on Stonehenge  
244 × 152 cm



# Two Remarkable Women in the Museum

*(Current work, studio shot)*

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Work in Progress  
Acrylic and pencil on Stonehenge  
244 × 152 cm



**HANA BLEUE CHAUSSETTE**  
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*"Conceptual artist creating multi-disciplinary and cross-cultural work  
to shift perception in ourselves and our world especially in the digital age."*

**Work in Progress:**

Collaboration with Grammy Award-winning experimental music ensemble, EIGHTH BLACKBIRD to create a full-length, multi-media "portrait" of what it means to be a musician and composer in an ensemble, slated to debut late 2027

"Two Remarkable Women at the Museum," a painting diptych featuring two women at the top and bottom of the museum hierarchy, a continuation of the ongoing series, "Unsung Heroes" begun in 2017. With motion triggered audio.

**Solo Exhibitions:**

- 2024 "Unsung Heroes of Uptown," co-sponsored by JCDecaux and the Department of Cultural Affairs, Chicago, a public art exhibition in Chicago, Summer
- 2019 "Reduction," solo show, Atelier 54 Chicago
- 1989 "Art Crossing," Galerie Blanche Gallery, Ikeda City, Japan
- 1988 Ikedaya, Shijonawate City, Japan ( solo show)
- 1987 "Sights and Sounds of Japan," performance piece, Osaka University of Arts, Osaka, Japan

**Selected Exhibitions:**

- 2018 "In Transition," performance of music and text with Isabelle Olivier, performance, Atelier 54 Chicago
- 2017 Group Show, Atelier 54 Chicago
- 2016 Group Show, Atelier 54 Chicago
- 2016 "Contretemps on a Frette from MARSHALLS," performance in collaboration with composer, Isabelle Olivier, Atelier 54 Chicago
- 2015 "Juxtaposition," Atelier 54, Chicago
- 2014 "Ellipsis," Atelier 54, Chicago
- 2014 "Second Act," Atelier 54, Chicago
- 2013 "Debut," Atelier 54, Chicago
- 2012 Artist in Residence Show, "Configured Spaces," Lillstreet Art Center, Chicago
- 2012 Handmade Prints II, Noyes Cultural Center, Evanston
- 2012 Sketchbook Art Project, Brooklyn
- 1989 Ashiya Town Hall, Ashiya, Japan

**Selected Collections:**

- 2026 Commissioned Album Cover to debut May 2026 for Eighth Blackbird co-founder and co-artistic director Lisa Kaplin
- 2023 "You Can't Take it With You aka My Favorite Things," gouache and pencil on wood panels, 84" x 24," 2016-2017 Permanent loan to the Chicago Public Library, Uptown
- 2020 Four part painting series, The Langham New York
- 2021 "A Chorus Line," painting for CUUP, New York
- 2014 Illustrated book, "Magic Peptides Empire," Writers Publisher, Beijing

**Selected Awards:**

- 2024 Georgia O'Keefe "My New Yorks," Windows Project, Art Institute of Chicago
- 2023-24 Individual Artist Project, city of Chicago grant from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE)

**Selected Press:**

- "Out of the Galleries and Onto the Streets: Inspired by Studs Terkel, a Chicago Artists celebrates Uptown Heroes on Bus Shelters," Rick Kogan, Chicago Tribune, May 15, 2024
- "Be on the Lookout for Unsung Heroes of Uptown, Around Town," WGN Radio 720, radio interview with Rick Kogan, May 12, 2024, Chicago
- "An Unsung Hero of Uptown' has a portrait in a bus shelter near you," interview with Erin Allen, WBEZ Chicago, June 17, 2024
- "Chicago artist honoring "Unsung Heroes of Uptown" with art exhibit on CTA bus shelters by Marie Saavedra, Zak Spector, CBS Chicago, May 31, 2024
- "Unsung Heroes of Uptown: Art of People On the Street," Spotlight Chicago, television interview with Sarah Jindra, Andrea Darlas, WGN9 TV, June 21, 2024
- "Unsung Heroes of Uptown Promotes Connection in the name of Community, Studs Terkel, article by Keegan Morris, WFMT Magazine, June 21, 2024

**Education**

- BA Political Science, Duke University
- BFA, Scholarship to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- Post graduate work, Osaka University of Arts, Osaka, Japan
- Meisner training under Monica Payne
- Playwriting at Chicago Playwrights