



WILLIAM KELLY THORNDIKE



Aperto Fine Art

December 15 - January 28, 2024

WILLIAM KELLY THORNDIKE  
DALE BRADLEY







## WILLIAM KELLY THORNDIKE

“An artist,” he explains, “should not throw the ball and catch it too.” His works affirm that all of our guardrails of familiarity and comfort are illusory. The natural world is marvelous, but its dangers are not mitigated by its beauty.

Alan Magee, *Where Thorns and Briars Grow: Kelly Thorndike's Search for Home, Features and Essays*, Spring 2023, *The Maine Arts Journal*, *The UMVA Quarterly*.

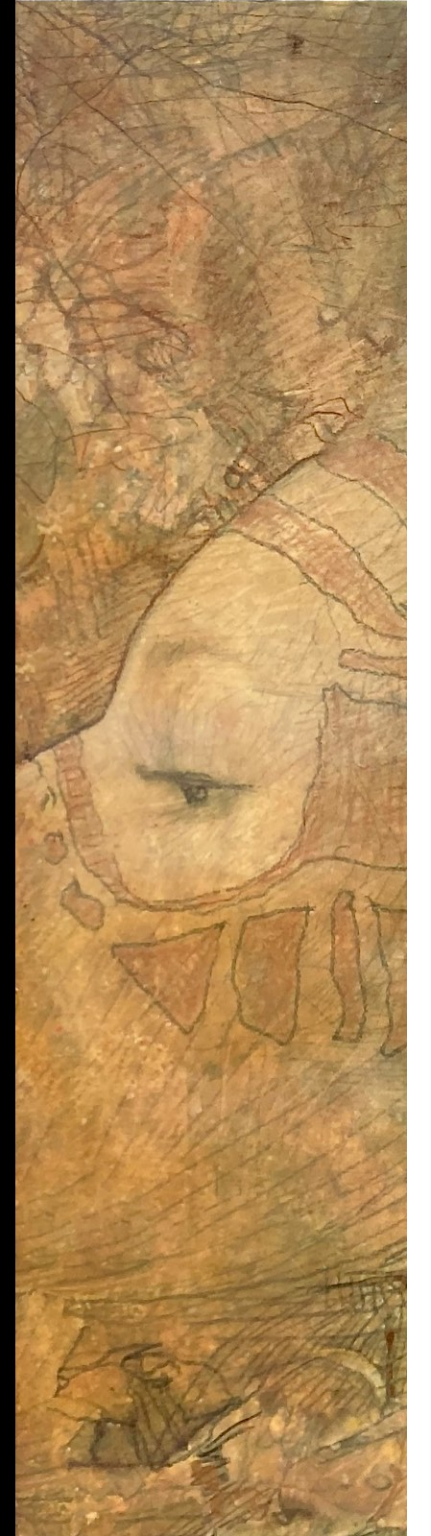
## DALE BRADLEY

Art is.

Nothing has changed since childhood. I was a maker of things as a child as I am today, creating things out of thin air.

As a child, my imagination gave me the freedom to make-up games and stories. They were entertaining, exciting and fun. My friends did the same. I loved the freedom of exploring my internal world since it had no boundaries. This freedom made me happy and gave me a safe place to breathe deeply and express myself without fear. I saw myself as an explorer of life and the new world around me, blazing trails through the physical world and that of my internal self. I was curious and all things interested me. I loved discovering the new.

A large part of me was simply creative. It came naturally. It was a part of my internal self that I didn't think about but simply did. Imagination, creativity and the strange landscape of my thoughts and feelings fused together to formulate the question: Why? My contemporaries asked the same question, and we found ourselves to be in the same world of wonder and exploration.





As a child, it was easy to find others of like mind, and this facilitated the ability to share one's imaginary world and to gather together to create a collaborative "play-time". This was a simple or complex game in which all were included with important roles to play. The children would play these pretend roles with passion and uniqueness. This creative energy came easily to us, and as all children have this talent to transform themselves and distance themselves from the rigidity of the real world, we enter into a fantasy world, a result of our collective imagination. Often we witnessed our imaginary world merge with reality. We all had our parts to play, and it was done with ease and conviction.

"But it's all pretend," our parents would say.

"No, it's real! I saw it in my mind's eye," we would exclaim.

So it was that as a child, reality and the imaginary worlds lived in the same realm, and so it was that the adults encouraged us to abandon as childish

things.

We did what we were told and became a crowd particle. We lost that ability to be an independent creative force.

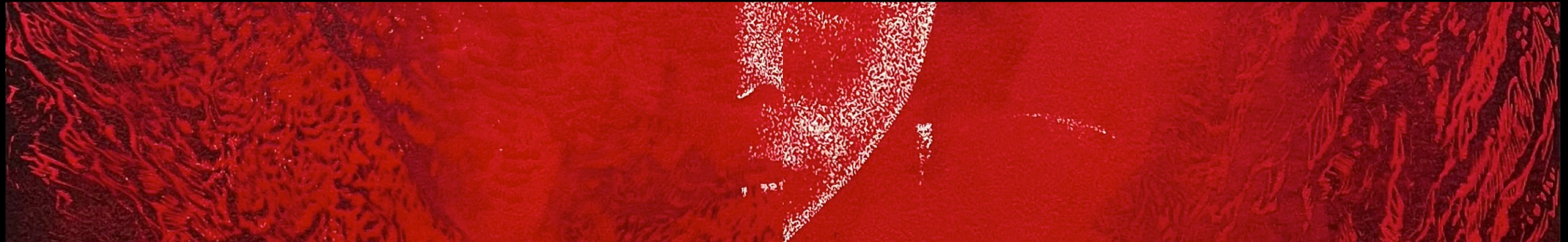
I had struggled to hang on to the creative way of life, and it has made all the difference. I am lacking the brilliance of my creative child, but I do recall what it was like. I miss it.

As a mature adult, I am an artist. I struggle to swim against the stream of convention and mourn for that lost child. I continue to be the explorer of life, creating and making things that interest me. I have a freedom that many will never find, making things to share with all who will see and hear.

Art is.

Nothing has changed.

DB





**SOULEMATES**  
2023, Oil on Linen, 24 x 20 inches  
William Kelly Thorndike





**CELESTIAL**  
2023, Oil on Canvas, 24 x 24 inches  
William Kelly Thorndike





**UNLOCKED**  
2023, Acrylic on Clayboard, 48 x 48 inches  
William Kelly Thorndike





**SUMMER RAIN**

2023, Mixed Media on Native Pine, 19-1/4 x 26-3/4 inches

William Kelly Thorndike





**TOMORROW**

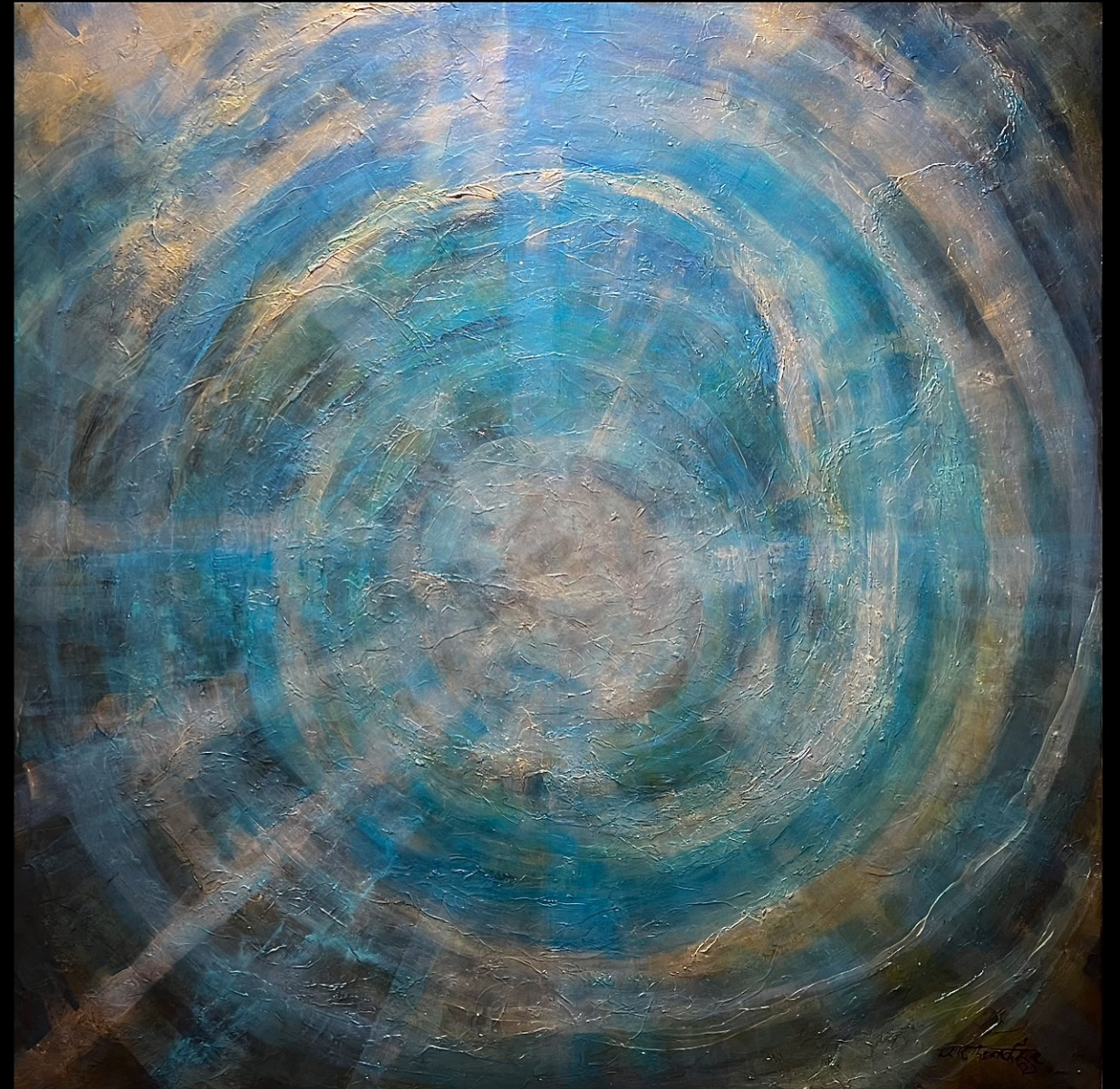
2022, Mixed Media on Birch Panel, 14 x 14 inches

William Kelly Thorndike





**MONHEGAN VORTEX**  
2023, Acrylic on MDO Board, 48 x 48 inches  
William Kelly Thorndike





**GET FREE**

2022, Acrylic on Birch Panel, 14 x 11 inches

William Kelly Thorndike



**LITTLE FISHES**

2021, Mixed Media on Paper, 9 x 9 inches

William Kelly Thorndike





**INTO THE MYSTIC**  
2022, Mixed Media on Handcrafted  
Paper Mounted on Linen, 14 x 41-1/2  
inches  
William Kelly Thorndike





**GREAT HORNED OWL**  
2009, Woodcut on Hand Made  
Paper Mounted on Canvas, Hand  
Colored, 36 x 72 inches  
Dale Bradley





**SNOWY OWL**

2009, Woodcut on Embossed Hand Made Paper  
Mounted on Canvas, Hand Colored, 36 x 48 inches  
Dale Bradley





COLONIAL BURDEN

2009, Woodcut, Two Plates Over Printed, 48 x 36 inches

Dale Bradley

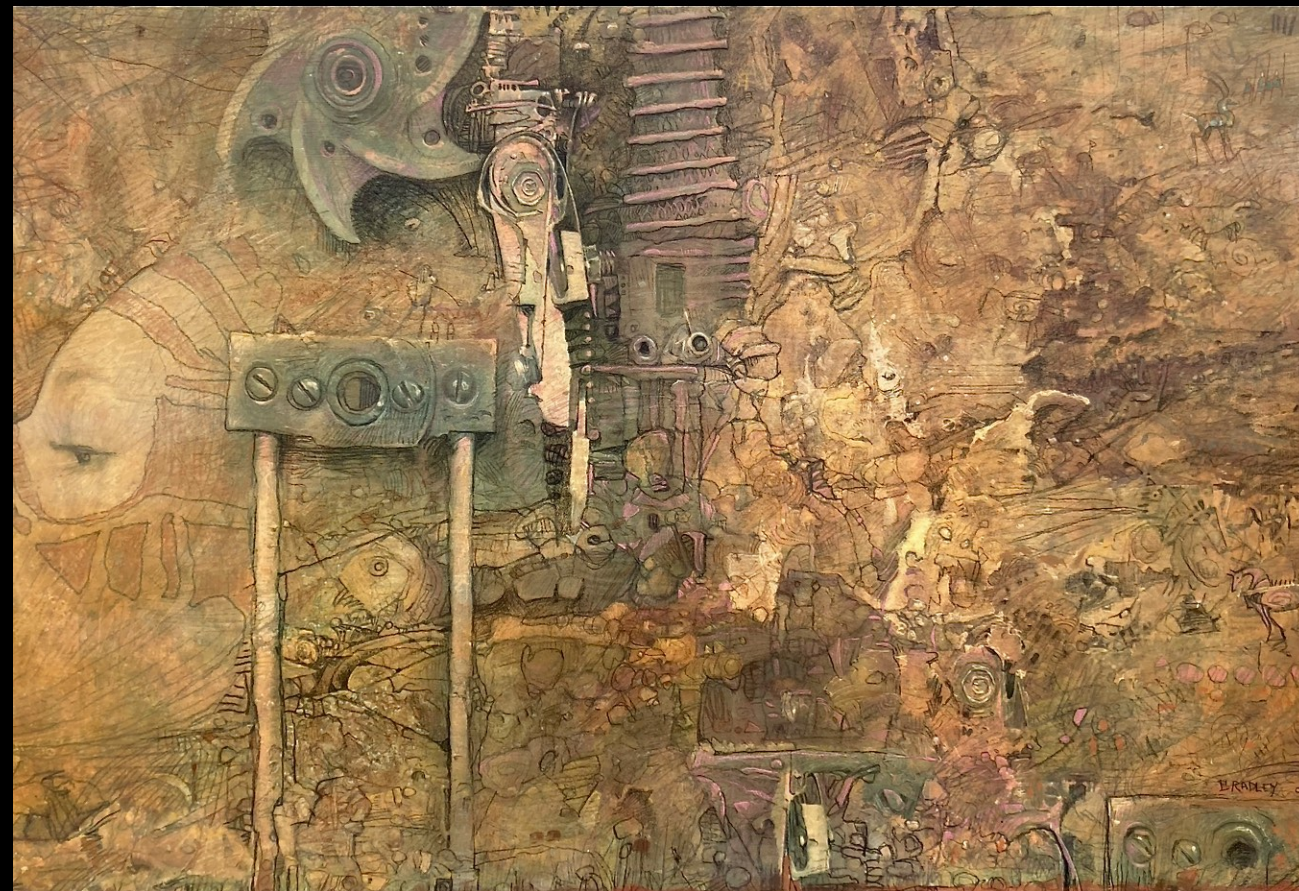




**STRATA - ELEMENT**

2009, Acrylic Paint, Powdered Pigment, Colored Pencil, Acrylic  
Mediums, on Paper Mounted on Board, 24 x 36 inches

Dale Bradley

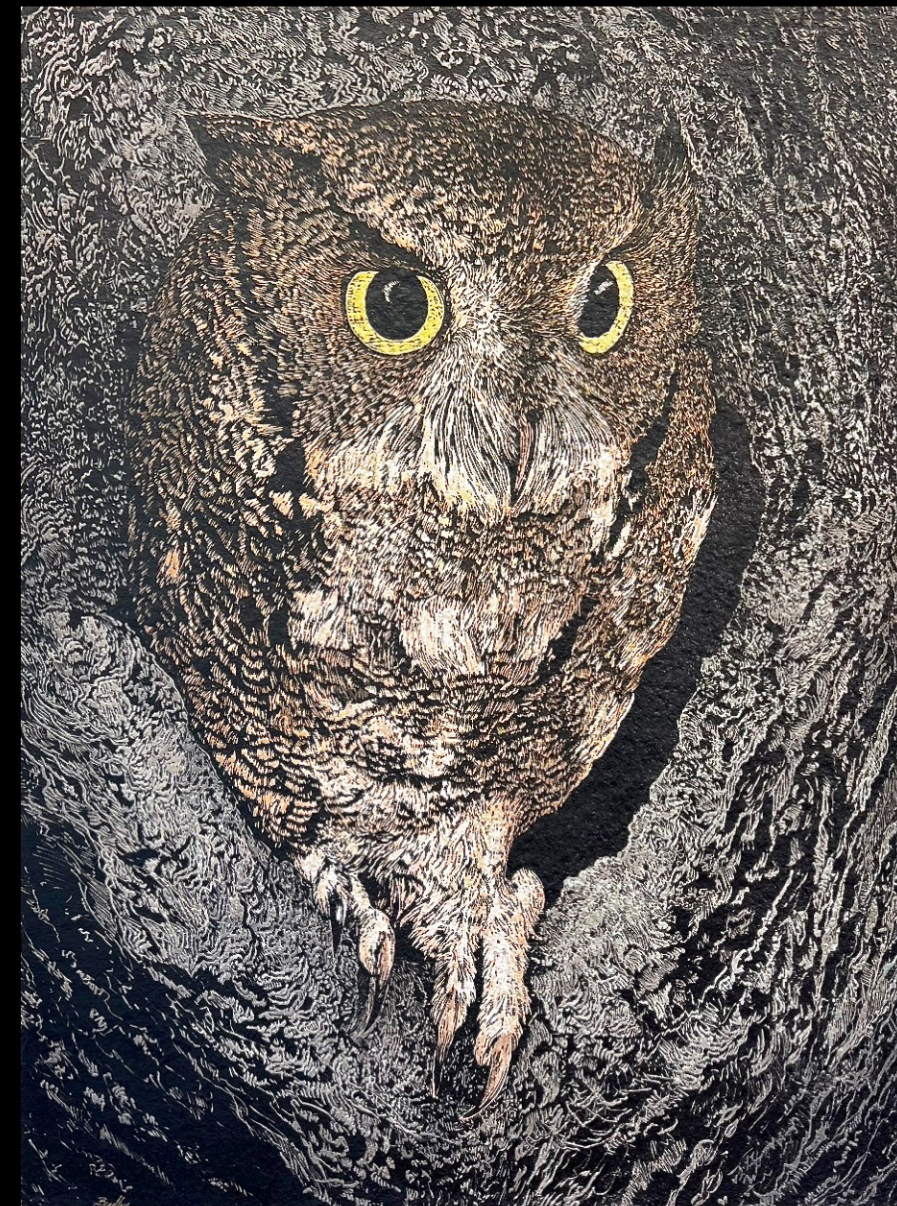




**SCREECH OWL 2**

2009, Woodcut on Hand Made Paper Mounted on Canvas  
and Hand Colored, 48 x 36 inches

Dale Bradley





**STRATA - ARTIFACT**

2009, Acrylic Paint, Powdered Pigment, Colored Pencil,  
Acrylic Mediums, on Paper Mounted on Board, 24 X 32 inches  
Dale Bradley





**Front Cover**

UNLOCKED, William Kelly Thorndike

**Back Cover**

GREAT HORNED OWL, Dale Bradley

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DALE BRADLEY