

# RxART

## Artists Ann Craven and Jonas Wood Complete RxART Commissions at Nation's Leading Pediatric Hospitals in San Diego and Washington, D.C.

*Ann Craven's Sleepy Pandas murals bring peaceful imagery to the Chadwick Center, a child trauma treatment center at Rady Children's Hospital San Diego*

*Vibrant and playful curtains designed by Jonas Wood inspire imagination as they create private spaces in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Children's National Hospital in D.C.*



*L: Ann Craven, "Sleepy Pandas," 2019, Pablo Mason Photography. R: Jonas Wood, "Doodle Privacy Curtains" ©2019*

San Diego, CA & Washington, D.C.– January 30, 2020 – RxART announced today the completion of two major site-specific commissions by artists Ann Craven and Jonas Wood at two of the nation's leading pediatric hospitals. At the Chadwick Center for Children & Families at Rady Children's Hospital San Diego, Craven has created wallcoverings that fill the entrance to the center with friendly, sleepy pandas. For the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Children's National Hospital in Washington, D.C., Wood designed privacy curtains featuring his signature bright graphics, creating a playful respite from the bustling activity of the PICU. Both projects demonstrate the range, sensitivity, and impact of the initiatives spearheaded by the nonprofit as it enters its twentieth year of activity.

"It's an exciting start to the new year for RxART as we kick off 2020 with the completion of projects on both sides of the country. It's been an honor to work with Ann Craven and Jonas Wood, who have dedicated their unique visions and talent to bring joy and imagination to children in treatment and recovery across the nation," said Diane Brown, Founder of RxART. "These distinct projects illustrate the many ways in which the arts can help support a holistic model of healthcare, and bring contemporary art beyond the walls of the gallery and into lives of children in need at hospitals and medical facilities across the nation."

### **Ann Craven – Chadwick Center for Children & Families at Rady Children’s Hospital San Diego**

The first RxART project completed in San Diego, RxART’s collaboration with artist Ann Craven transforms the entrance and treatment areas of the Chadwick Center at Rady Children’s Hospital with a series of colorful wallcoverings titled *Sleepy Pandas*. Rady Children’s is San Diego county’s only pediatric hospital and the Chadwick Center, which is devoted to the treatment and advocacy of children who have suffered abuse and trauma, serves over 2,200 children and adolescents a year across all of its programs. The artist’s imagery will provide an outlet of beauty, humor, and comfort for these fragile patients and their families.

Craven’s wallcoverings of peaceful pandas lounging in bamboo trees are installed in the lobby and the corridors and rooms where patients and their families wait. Showcasing the artist’s signature subjects of lushly-colored wildlife and nature, the *Sleepy Pandas* will provide children with a sense of playfulness and creativity in times of healing.

“It is such a pleasure and honor to help create a safe, healing space for Rady Children’s Hospital,” said Ann Craven. “I truly believe in the transformative power of art, and can think of no one who would benefit or cherish it more than children.”

Born in 1967, Ann Craven lives and works in New York City. The artist is well-known for her lushly colored, serial portraits of the moon and birds, various other animals, flowers, trees, and other iconic images from everyday life. No less significant are Craven’s series of abstract canvases employing diagonal stripes of color as well as her *Untitled (Palettes)* series which serve to both document her process and reflect on the notion of time just past.

In addition to numerous group exhibitions, Ann Craven’s major solo gallery exhibitions include: *Promise (Birds for Chicago)*, Shane Campbell, Chicago (2019); *Sunset Moon*, KARMA, New York (2018); *Animals 1999-2017*, Southard Reid, London (2017); *Hello, Hello, Hello* at MacCarone, New York (2016); *I like Blue* at Nina Johnson, Miami (2015); and *Ann Craven*, Hannah Hoffman Gallery, Los Angeles (2014), among others.

Craven is represented by Karma NY; Southard Reid, London; and Nina Johnson Gallery, Miami, and has exhibited with Hannah Hoffmann Gallery, Los Angeles and Shane Campbell Gallery, Chicago. She received her MFA from Columbia University in 1993.

RxART is grateful to The Rose Foundation for generously underwriting Ann Craven’s project at the Chadwick Center.

### **Jonas Wood – Pediatric Intensive Care Unit Children’s National Hospital in Washington, D.C.**

Encompassing a total of 960 feet and surrounding 66 beds, Wood’s privacy curtains for the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Children’s National Hospital in Washington, D.C. feature an array of vibrant imagery from the artist’s Facetime Doodle paintings, which are inspired by his children’s drawings. Marking the first time the nonprofit has collaborated with an artist to produce a work in textile, the brightly colored curtains are designed to appeal to the imagination of the young patients undergoing acute treatment in what is typically a sterile and stressful environment. The curtains provide a welcome respite from the bustling activity of the intensive care unit, which provides critical care for 3,800 children per year.

“It has been such a meaningful experience to work with RxART on this commission,” said Jonas Wood. “I am very happy to be able to provide some vibrancy, energy, and positivity to the hospital and its patients through this work.”

Born in Boston and based in Los Angeles, CA, Jonas Wood (b. 1977) creates bold, patterned, graphic paintings, drawings, and prints that depict objects, interiors, plants, and people. Translating three-dimensional objects into flat colors and lines, Wood distorts scale and perspective in compositions that merge historical references with his everyday life.

Major recent solo exhibitions and projects include a solo exhibition at the Dallas Museum of Art (2019); *Jonas Wood* at Gagosian, New York (2019); *Still Life with Two Owls (MOCA)*, a monumental mural covering the façade of the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (2016-2018); and *Hammer Projects: Jonas Wood*, Hammer Museum, Los Angeles (2010). Wood’s work is included in public collections such as Museum of Modern Art, New York; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Broad Foundation, Los Angeles; and Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, among others. In addition to the privacy curtains commissioned by RxART, the artist contributed a work to RxART’s coloring book, *Between the Lines, Vol. 5* in 2015 and created the first RxART PARTY limited edition print in 2013.

Wood received his BA in psychology from Hobart and William Smith Colleges and his MFA in painting and drawing from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Jonas Wood’s Privacy Curtains project for the PICU at Children’s National Hospital was generously made possible by the Eliza Moore Fund for RxART. Additional thanks to the Julius and May Schwartz Charitable Fund.

### **About RxART**

RxART employs the transformative power of art to promote healing and comfort in children. Working in close partnership with pediatric hospitals and medical professionals, RxART commissions leading contemporary artists to create site-specific installations and uplifting interventions, infusing beauty, humor, and comfort into once sterile, intimidating environments. From murals, wall covering designs, and CT Scan wraps, to privacy curtains and hospital-grade pajamas, RxART has now completed 52 projects in almost 40 hospitals across 21 cities in the U.S. since it first launched in 2000. Developed at no cost to the partner hospitals, RxART has largely commissioned artists to create works of public art with a purpose, staged in often unconventional and unexpected spaces that help transform the lives of children as they heal.

For more information, please visit [www.rxart.net](http://www.rxart.net)

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