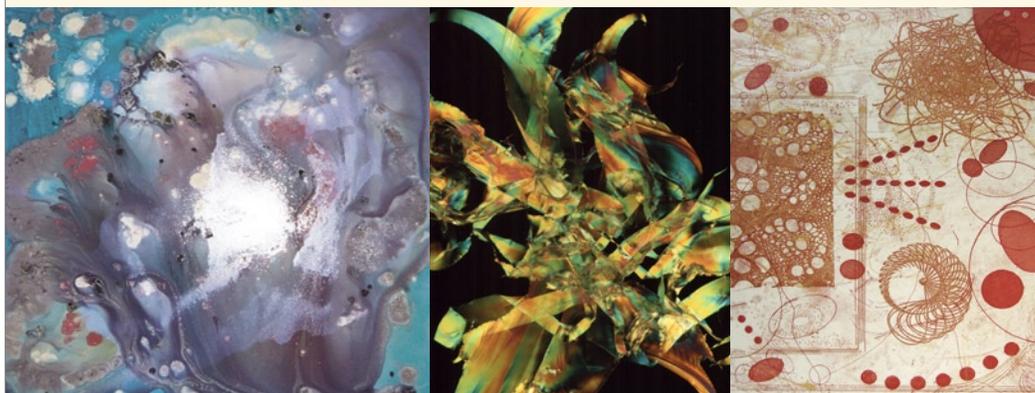


## Views from the Microscope Art and Science meet at LIMR Gallery



**T**he life of an artist shares many similarities with the life of a scientist. Both investigate nature and test their ideas using different tools and techniques; for a scientist, microscopes, test tubes, and pipettes; for an artist, paint, canvases, and brushes. Both share the spirit of exploration constantly experimenting with new theories, whether in the laboratory or in the studio. It is these commonalities, the hand and the mind coming together, that inspired the creation of the LIMR Art Gallery in 2005.

When George Prendergast, Ph.D., President & CEO of the Lankenau Institute for Medical Research (LIMR) took over leadership, he envisioned sharing LIMR's scientific images with the general public as a way of communicating about their research. The result was the formation of an art committee consisting of three LIMR researchers, Susan Gilmour, Ph.D., Lisa Laury-Kleintop, Ph.D., and Maggie Wallon, Ph.D. "Although we are examining serious illnesses, like cancer and cardiovascular disease, we often come across images that are beautiful and pleasing to look at in our everyday work", stated Dr. Gilmour, Head of the Art Committee. "We took this opportunity as a way to share our cutting edge research with others in a format that was interesting and enjoyable."

The idea further blossomed when it was suggested that the work of abstract artists be displayed along with scientific images produced by LIMR scientists. "Area artists

have really embraced the concept of our gallery which marries science and art. They not only take pleasure in sharing their art with us but also enjoy comparing their work and techniques with the images we produce in the lab," commented Gilmour. She also shared that the LIMR Gallery is one of a handful of venues in the region devoted solely to displaying abstract art.

The LIMR Gallery is a great example of a collaborative partnership within our community to bring artists, scientists, and the general public together to look at art, learn about science, and share their thoughts and ideas with one another. To date the gallery has featured the work of ten abstract artists. It is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment by calling (610) 645-3429. New shows are on display each spring and fall. All artwork is for sale with 20% of the proceeds supporting the ongoing research programs at LIMR.

