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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – AiR Studio Gallery, Westerly, RI
Rivers & Tides: Michael Fanelli and Annie Wildey
March 1st– 30th, 2024
Opening Reception Friday March 1st, 5-8pm

AiR is please to present its 11th exhibition which opens on Friday March 1st during Westerly’s First Friday Arts Crawl. This month’s exhibition “Rivers & Tides” takes a different approach and embraces the “studio” aspect of AiR Studio & Gallery. Owners and artists Michael Fanelli and Annie Wildey offer the viewer a fluid exhibition of photographs and paintings that will evolve over the course of the month, as each artist makes new work expanding on the theme.

While Michael works primarily in the field, Annie will be painting on-site at AiR transforming one of the rooms into a painting studio. Her timeless seascape paintings are meditations of the rising and receding tides. Annie’s work can be both intimate and expansive as she experiments with scale. She works with a fairly restricted palette, and a gestural stroke, that celebrates the accidental mark. We can feel the power and grace of her subject in a poetic and meaningful way.

Michael’s focus is on small streams and rivers. One could easily mistake some of Michael’s photographs for painting, but they are carefully composed observations. Anchoring his camera on a tripod a few inches to several feet from his subject, Michael skillfully employs exposure settings to record the delicate play of light on the water’s surface. They provide a vivid visualization of the water’s graceful topography and dynamic energy. The results are often unexpected and poetic abstractions of his subject.

Visitors are encouraged to stop by throughout the month to see how the exhibition evolves.

AiR Studio Gallery Winter hours are Thursday – Sunday 1-5pm or by appointment.

About Air Studio Gallery - Creating & Curating Contemporary Art for the Community

Opened in Dec 2023, AiR brings something fresh to the arts community in Westerly, blurring the line between gallery, studio, and something altogether new. AiR, an abbreviation of artists-in-residence, gives a peek into what owners Annie Wildey and Michael Fanelli are aiming to do with the venue. With three rooms and an abundance of space, visitors will find exhibitions that brings together artwork in surprising and inventive ways.