



Fall is here and events are in full swing.

At another art show an important message will be shared. Thirteen military veterans who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) have shared their stories with New York-based artist **Susan J. Barron**. Barron created large-scale mixed-media portraits of the veterans that she will present in her new solo show, *Depicting the Invisible*, at HG Contemporary between November 9 – November 26, 2018.

A private gallery reception for the participating veterans will take place on Veterans Day (November 12, 2018.) Barron will be selling a book of the portrait series—the proceeds from which will benefit organizations that support veterans' causes. The exhibition will also toast Services for the Underserved, an organization that supports veterans in their struggles with PTSD and mental health and has graciously voiced their enthusiasm for this exhibition.

Barron's work shines a spotlight on thirteen American veterans who have survived the trauma of war or terrorism. The artist's oversized black-and-white photographic portraits are painted with the subjects' stories in their own words.

The elegance of the images contrasts with the brutality of the narratives depicted. As they stare unflinchingly at the camera, the subjects are both vulnerable and headstrong. One work depicts Corporal Burke with his dog as he recounts the horrors of war: “When I got back from Iraq, I’d have this one recurring nightmare—I had to watch my buddy die.” He notes that he was united with his service dog after his second suicide attempt. In another work, Sergeant Carter sits in a wheelchair and reflects: “I’m paralyzed from the neck down for the rest of my life. I spent 16 months in a VA hospital, and I saw that it could be so much worse.”