

**Depicting the Invisible; A portrait series of veterans suffering from PTSD.  
Opening at the HG Contemporary Gallery Nov 9 2018**

Susan J. Barron's beautiful and powerful 6x6ft mixed media depictions on canvas are achieved through photographic imagery, paint and text. Unflinchingly the veterans make direct eye contact with us. Incorporated into these photographic portraits are the veteran's own stories in their own words. In these works, they give voice to their experience, their reality, their world.

The elegance of the images confronts the brutality of the stories.

Barron's ultimate mission is not one of simplistic deification, but one of truthful illumination. This body of work is intended not only give voice to these warriors' harrowing, shocking, and often hopeful stories, but to create a dialogue and community around the difficult issue of PTSD. The mission is to depict the invisible scars of war. The mission is to show these brave individuals they are not alone. The mission is to end their isolation and depict them as the heroes they are.

There will be a private gallery reception for veterans who graciously participated in the portrait series on Veterans Day, 2018.

A coffee table book of the portrait series is being published and the proceeds from the sales will be donated to support veterans' causes. It is Ms. Barron's great hope that the veterans who generously participated in this project will find the telling of their stories cathartic, and feel they are making a difference by giving back.

"My intention is to bring awareness to the issues of PTSD and to depict our veterans as the incredible heroes they are. Twenty-two veterans commit suicide every day in our country. The invisible wounds of war are just as devastating as the visible ones. My mission is to bring awareness to the PTSD epidemic and provide a platform for veterans to share their stories, and to help create a vehicle for support and change."

-Susan J. Barron

**About Susan J. Barron**

Susan J. Barron is an exceptionally diverse, multi-award-winning artist whose work has been collected and commissioned across the country. Whether working with oil on canvas, photography, or incorporating sculpture and collage elements, Barron's work bravely and beautifully challenges viewers preconceptions.