

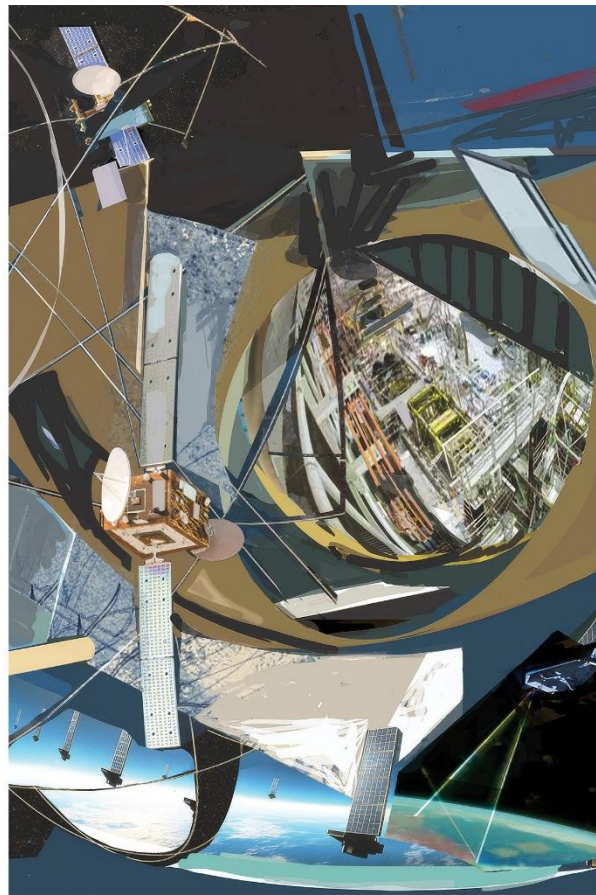
# UPSTATE DIARY

ART REVIEWS from [THE ART LIST](#)

by DAVID EBONY and other UD critics.

## SEPTEMBER '26 ART REVIEWS

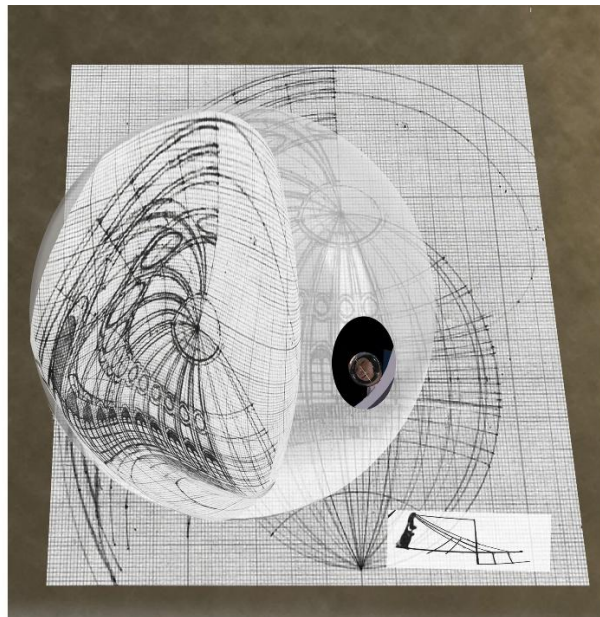
**ELLEN K. LEVY—*DISPLACED: TEARS IN THE FABRIC OF THE UNIVERSE*** at 68 Prince Street Gallery, Kingston, NY, through September 27, '26.



Ellen K. Levy, *Space Nets*, (2026), Photo courtesy 68 Prince Street Gallery.

In her artwork, writing and collaborative projects, Ellen K. Levy has long been engaged with microbiology, neuroscience and the interrelationship among the disciplines of mathematics, science, technology, astrophysics and art. She has a keen interest in, among other things, non-Euclidean geometry and the NASA space program, ever since her 1985 commission to observe the night launch of the Space Shuttle Atlantis. Her artistic enterprise might seem like a coolly cerebral endeavor. However, based on the approximately 25 works in this show spanning the past two decades, and curated by Alan Goolman, she has a wildly imaginative approach to a visual manifestation of the diverse, erudite subject matter.

The New York-based artist, who spends a significant amount of time in upstate New York, presents here large-scale compositions featuring digital photos with carefully layered collage elements and hand-painted highlights. Several of the images suggest twisted and churning architectural elements—imploding or exploding structures, as if Vladimir Tatlin's monumental *Tower* (1919–20) were jettisoned into the 21st century and constructed during an earthquake. Works such as *Simulator I* and *Messenger* (both 2019), with ambiguous, multiple perspectives, indicate such structural instability. Levy's primary exploration in the latest works, however, is outer space and the topological perspectives needed to visualize it. She focuses on the condition of living and thriving in a weightless environment and the complex structures required to sustain human life in outer space.



Ellen K. Levy, *Study: Astronaut Tears: In, On, and Through #1* (2026) Photo courtesy Prince Street Gallery.

Installed near the gallery entrance, *Reversing the Earth's Polarity* (2026) is an interactive work with a stationary bicycle like those used by astronauts to maintain muscle mass in outer space. Viewers are invited to pedal the bike, which triggers a five-minute animation projection designed by Levy and accompanied by the music of Steve Reich. Elsewhere, she has introduced a series of small, clear, blown-glass globes, *Astronaut Tears* (2026), some with bits of photocollage attached and mounted on pedestals, and others suspended in the air. These objects correspond to the fact that astronaut tears in zero gravity assume the form of spheres, stars and planets. Aside from adding welcome 3-D elements to the show, the “tears” also lend a poignant, rather personal touch that enhances the humanist directive of Levy’s enterprise. —**David Ebony**

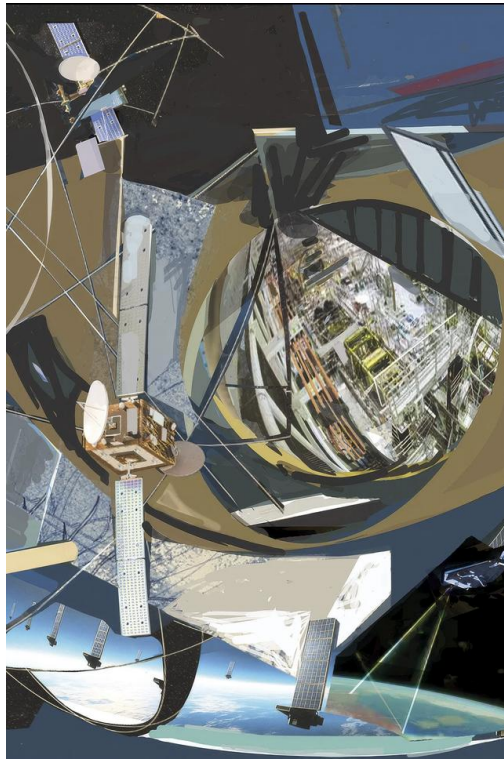
August 31, 2026

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# THE ART LIST

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KINGSTON, NY



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Aug. 29 - Sept. 27, '26.

‘DISPLACED: TEARS IN THE FABRIC OF THE UNIVERSE’ by Ellen K. Levy.

Spanning decades, this exhibition envisions life in zero gravity—terror and wonder intertwined—through spheres, tears, and nets, questioning whether art can prepare humanity for planetary habitation.