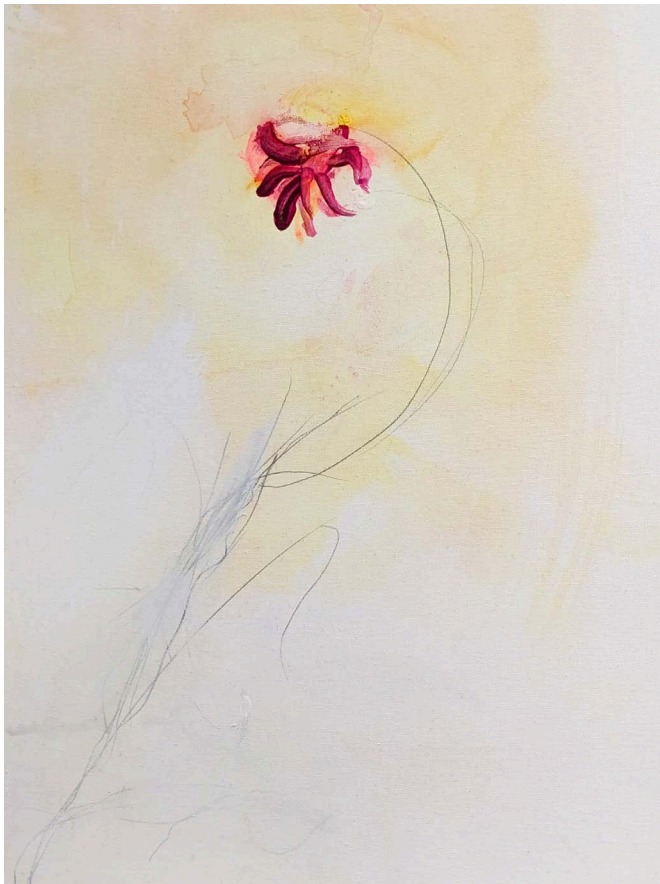


# I LISTEN TO THE WORN-OUT RAIN

## PAINTINGS BY LOREN CONNORS & JOHN FAHEY



Loren Connors  
**Wildweeds Chicago 1**  
2024, tempera, acrylic, pencil on canvas  
20 x 16 inches

AUGUST 30 – OCTOBER 4, 2024

Opening Reception:  
Friday, August 30th, 7-11 PM

Musical performance by  
**Loren Connors & Michael Vallera** (8pm)

Refreshments provided by  
**Illuminated Brew Works**  
**Land & Sea Dept.**

Visitor

"*I Listen to the Worn-Out Rain* is the first dual showing of visual works from avant-garde musicians Loren Connors and John Fahey. While largely recognized for their vast contributions to guitar-based music, Loren Connors and John Fahey also created paintings that share an interior sense of abstraction and mark making, exploring environments that reflect a cohesion of disparate physical and psychological spaces. Natural forms are erased and rebuilt in pools of color, and each recorded gesture is infused with the undeniable spirit of a unique musical language."

—Michael Vallera, 2024 (co-curator)

**Loren Connors** (b. 1949) works with paint, pencils, toner, and other techniques to create evocative images rooted in the exploration of light, atmosphere, and landscape.

Connors studied visual art for five years, primarily under American sculptor Michael Skop, who was a pupil of Yugoslavian artist Ivan Mestrovic (a student of Auguste Rodin). Though he's best known as a guitarist who, over fifty years, has developed a markedly unique musical voice, Loren Connors began as a painter and has turned back to visual art many times over the years. Selected paintings from his body of work, *A Coming to Shore*, were presented as a solo exhibit at *Blank Forms* in Brooklyn, New York, from January through March 2023. A monograph of his *Night of Rain* series of drawings, together with images from *A Coming to Shore*, was published by *Recital* in 2022, curated by Sean McCann with a forward written by Aki Onda. A book of his *Wildweeds* drawings was also published by *Recital* in 2021, with a forward written by Jay Sanders, and a *Wildweeds Vol. 2* is currently being planned. In 2009, a selection of his drawings toured Europe as part of the *Sonic Youth* exhibit, *Sensational Fix*. Connors's paintings were exhibited repeatedly during the 1990s at the *Willoughby Sharpe Gallery* in Manhattan.

**John Fahey** (b. 1939, d. 2001) is best known for his adventurous catalog of music. From 1959 until the time of his death in 2001, Fahey released upward of 40 albums exploring the territory of blues, classical, spirituals, folk, musique concrete, rock, and noise. In 1959, he self-released his first album and shortly thereafter formed his own independent label, *Takoma Records*. Lesser known is the fact that he was a prolific writer in addition to being a hyper-productive and explosive painter toward the latter portion of his life.