Nicola Sinclair

January 3, 2026

Nicola Sinclair, aged 63, passed away peacefully on January 3rd, 2026, in Hartford, CT. Born in Paris to English parents, Nicola moved to the United States in the late 1960s with her parents, Valerie and Robert, and her siblings Stephen and Fiona, settling in Mendham, New Jersey. Nic had a creative childhood and was encouraged to explore every medium of expression. She spent countless hours in museums, at the theater and concerts, and on family trips. She was an avid lover of opera. In fact, Nicola had such a broad and eclectic range of musical tastes that were a constant in her life - companions as she painted, connections with friends, and music that underscored the rhythm of her days.

As a child, Nicola expressed her creativity through sculpture and painting. She attended Pratt Institute and later joined her sister to live in Boston, where she studied at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. Nicola continued to be an accomplished expressionist painter throughout her life. She had exhibitions of her work in New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. Nic's unique kindness and creativity shined through everything she did, touching many lives with her gentle, sweet nature.

Nicola's love for travel was profound. In her younger years, she embarked on an adventurous journey through Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, traveling overland by bus during the civil

wars of the 1980s. Accompanied by her first love, Oonagh Doherty, Nicola carried canvases on her back, capturing the vibrant experiences and landscapes she encountered along the way. In addition to her Central American adventures, Nicola traveled extensively throughout Europe, sometimes solo and at other times with family, always cherishing her English heritage and spending her free time studying it.

She later made her home in Connecticut with her long-term partner, Rebecca Pye. Together they shared their lives with many wonderful animals and countless trips to Provincetown, Massachusetts—a place Nic held especially dear. Nic is remembered not only for her artistic gifts but for her loving spirit and the inspiration she offered so generously to those around her. She is survived by her sister, Fiona, and sister-in-law, Randi Triant; her brother, Stephen, and sister-in-law, Susan Sinclair; her nephews, Riley and James; and her cousins, Cath Speed, Sarah Speed, and Ana Speed, along with extended family in Newcastle, England. She also leaves behind many dear friends, including Beth Villa, Deborah Johnston, and fellow artist JoJo Dupré.

Nicola’s family and friends are planning a memorial service over the summer in Provincetown, MA, and will announce the details in the coming months. In lieu of flowers, Nic would kindly ask you to put the kettle on and sit down to a nice cup of tea. Her beloved rescue cat, Freddie, would encourage you to make a donation to an animal shelter, any shelter, in Nicola’s name.

Tribute Wall

KR

I remember playing pool at the 1270 with Nic, and dice at Flan OBrians! We had lost touch over the last years but man the fun we used to have!

Karen Rikkers - January 30 at 08:37 PM

MB

I'm very sad to hear of your loss, Fiona.

Maureen Bitler - January 30 at 08:20 PM

LF

Nic and I worked together at Family Practice. She was always kind and caring. When health issues stopped her from working I know she would continue to paint when she was inspired. Over the last years we have played Words with Friends on line and had many close games. She must have been playing almost up to her final moments!

Linda Fijal - January 30 at 08:33 AM

LC

I wrote poetry for the Ekphrasis events and felt so honored to write a poem for each of her paintings. We always shared a heartfelt hug together. Blessings to her family. Truly will be missed.

Lorna Morris Cyr - January 29 at 08:27 PM

CO

So sorry to hear that Nic passed. She was a light and positive presence in our clinic for so long. I'm glad we got to know her and that she graced us with her presence.
Cliff

Cliff O'Callahan - January 29 at 08:04 PM

GA

So very sorry to hear of Nic's passing. She was a beloved Aunt Sadie's employee when we were in Boston. She was a bright light in the world and will be missed. Rest in peace!

Gary - January 29 at 04:58 PM