

Artist Statement

I am a seeker of my own internal equinox. A seeker of the light and dark balance within my psyche through an intuitive image making process grounded in traditional oil painting, western tattoo iconography, found objects, and embellished garments. I seek to create images from my embodied experience of the feminine and to reach an authentic vulnerability and purity of expression. I study, dissect and reformulate images of the stereotypical “good mother” which I find hostile to my sense of self and seek balance in the narrative of my own identity. Somewhere between the sweeping scope of a fairy tale and the intimacy of a diary, my work attempts to recenter myself as the hero of my own story. My work is a love letter to my own resilience and serves as a map to how far I have come both personally and as an artist. My work is inspired by the work of Frida Kahlo, Alice Neel and Louise Bourgeois. I see my imagery as a continuation of their vulnerable, personal expression.

Selected Exhibitions/Projects

Stay At Home Gallery “Everything Is Different Now” group exhibition, Paris TN 2020
1100 Florence Gallery “Midwestern! Punk! Mom!” solo exhibition, Evanston IL 2019
Goathaus Gallery “Welcome Home” solo installation, Chicago IL 2018
Pen and Brush Gallery “Adornment” group exhibition, New York NY 2018
Diesel brand fashion collaboration, Italy 2018
Paradigm Gallery “Deemed a Canvas” group exhibition, Philadelphia PA 2018
Northern Illinois University “M.O.M” solo exhibition, DeKalb IL 2017
Aron Packer Projects “Spiritual Garb” group exhibition, Evanston IL 2016
Lindenwood University “Murder Ballads” solo exhibition, St. Louis MO 2015
Packer Schopf Gallery “Murder Ballads” solo exhibition, Chicago IL 2014
Maison Folie Wazemmems “Epidurmiques #2” group exhibition, Lille France 2013
Packer Schopf Gallery “Invisible Mother’s Milk” solo exhibition, Chicago IL 2012
Owen’s Art Gallery, Mount Allison University: “Tattoo” New Brunswick, Canada 2012
Blue Gallery “Nude” group exhibition, Kansas City MO 2012
Firecat Gallery “Ballad of the Tattooed Lady” solo exhibition, Chicago IL 2011
Northern Illinois University “Inked: Tattoo Imagery in Contemporary Art” group exhibition, DeKalb IL 2011
Parlor Gallery “Birds of a Feather” group exhibition, Asbury Park NJ 2011

Selected Bibliography

The Glossary: digital artist profile by Mandy Lancia 2018
Esthetic Lens digital, Feature artist profile: “Intuitive Narrative” by David Roth 2018
Raw Visions magazine #77: Feature article: “Invisible Mother’s Milk” by Alicia Eler 2015
Bust Magazine: feature article: “Glove Story” by Alison Baitz 2012
Skin Deep Magazine: featured artist: “The Gloves are Off!” by Trent Aiken Smith 2011
Chicago Sun Times: feature article: “Ballad of Ellen Greene” by Sarah Terez- Rosenblum 2011

Lectures/Curatorial

1100 Florence: Artist talk "Midwestern! Punk! Mom!" 2019
Lawrence Art Center: Artist talk "No Place Like Home" 2019
Northern Illinois University: Guest curator for Blick Invitational student exhibition 2017
Lindenwood University: Artist lecture "Murder Ballad" exhibition 2015
Northern Illinois University: panel discussion presentation. Tattoo in America. 2011

Education

BFA Kansas City Art Institute Painting, 1998
School of Visual Arts, painting seminar: New York, NY- summer 1991
Marie Walsh Sharpe painting and drawing seminar, Colorado Springs, CO 1991

Employment

Executive Assistant, The Organic Gardner, Northbrook IL 2019-present
Artist Studio, Ellen Greene, Evanston IL 2011-present
Digital Manager, Modern Water and Dry Goods, Winnetka 2016-2018
Store Manager/Display Coordinator, Anthropologie, Highland Park IL 2002- 2015

Volunteer

YWCA Shop For Good Wilmette 2020
Volunteer Coordinator AA Home Group 2017-2019
Parent volunteer and program coordinator, Picture Person, PTA school district 69 2007-2010
Homeschool collective parent program teacher, Evanston area homeschoolers 2005-2007