

Julie DeVries Bio

Julie DeVries is a visual artist whose work includes paintings, installations, digital drawings, and animations of images from her memories and daily interactions with nature. She was born and raised in Houston, TX to an Argentine father and American mother and still currently lives and works there with her husband, photographer Sebastien Boncy, and her daughter Louise. She received her BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago focusing on painting and Latin American art history and spent a semester studying abroad with family in Argentina. She then received her MFA in painting and drawing from the University of Houston. Her work has been collected both locally and nationally and has been exhibited in both commercial and non-profit spaces including the Houston Endowment's permanent collection. She currently serves as a Visual Arts faculty member at Lone Star College North Harris and is represented in Houston by Jonathan Hopson Gallery.

STATEMENT

My work records poignant visual experiences and memories from my daily, mostly suburban, surroundings into landscape imagery that extracts the sublime from the mundane and seeks to discover the curative connections between joy and grief often found in the natural world.

Subjects such as scraggly shrubs, uncut grass, and solitary trees are rendered in oil paintings and traditional and digital drawings; which are stylistically influenced by Latin American geometric abstraction; the animated backgrounds of Hayao Miyazaki films; the dreamlike paintings of Matthew Wong and Ann Craven; and the landscapes of New England painters Alex Katz and Lois Dodd. One series, entitled Memory Drawings, consists of digital landscapes drawn almost daily from memory which move away from the purely observational and into an oneiric space of distilled scenes capturing the light of Katz and Dodd and the surreal qualities of Wong and Craven.

More recently, new projects have pushed my work to evolve into other forms such as animations; commissioned vinyl and painted murals; and large-scale installations; all of which create an even more immersive experience for connecting with and finding comfort in that which is usually overlooked.

CV

EDUCATION

2004-07	University of Houston-Houston, TX: Master of Fine Arts
2002-03	Butler University Institute for Study Abroad (IFSA) COPA Program, Argentina
1999-03	School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) Chicago, IL: Bachelor of Fine Arts

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021	The Waiting Place, Jonathan Hopson Gallery- Houston, TX
2017	Letting Go of Another Dirty Day, Jonathan Hopson Gallery- Houston, TX
2013	Julie De Vries, New Work, Lone Star College North Harris- Houston, TX
2008	Part of the Process, Joan Wich &Co. Gallery- Houston, TX

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Texas Art Exchange- Border Run*, curated by Mark Nelson, Brownsville Museum of Art- Brownsville, TX
- 2022 *Threshold*, curated by Becky Finley and Emily Peacock, Sam Houston State University Gallery- Huntsville, TX
Within the Shadows, curated by Kinzelman Art Consulting, TC Energy Building- Houston, TX
Survival Moments, curated by Ceci Norman, Aurora Picture Show- Houston, TX
Onsen Confidential, Kayokoyuki Gallery-Tokyo Japan
NADA Miami, curated by Jonathan Hopson- Miami, FL
- 2020 *CAPIROTADA: Of a Personal Nature* curated by Los Outsiders, Gray Duck Gallery-Austin TX
- 2019 *Who Do We Love?*, Jonathan Hopson Gallery- Houston, TX
- 2108 *Replicator*, Sculpture Month Houston, Houston City Hall-Houston, TX
Floating Fields, Sculpture Month Houston, 1940's Air Terminal Museum- Houston, TX
MaMa: Women in the Arts, The Union- Houston, TX
- 2017 *Coyote*, Jonathan Hopson Gallery-Houston, TX
- 2016 *Hunting Prize Finalist Exhibition*- Houston, TX
Faculty Exhibition, Lone Star College North Harris- Houston, TX
- 2015 *Faculty Exhibition*, Lone Star College North Harris- Houston, TX
- 2014 *Draped up and Dripped Out*, Oak Cliff Cultural Center, Mountain View College -Dallas, TX
- 2013 *Austere Measures*, Oak Cliff Cultural Center-Dallas, TX
- 2009 *Hunting Prize finalist's exhibition*, Houston, TX
- 2007 *The Big Show*, Lawndale Art Center, Houston, TX
MFA Thesis Exhibition, Blaffer Gallery, Houston, TX
Unbleached, 2 Woman Show Joan Which Gallery-Houston, TX
Operaskia: Ceyix and Alcyone, Lawndale Art Center-Houston, TX

COMMISSIONS AND COLLECTIONS

- 2023 *Memory- Drawing, Red Ball in Tall Grass at Sunset*, City Center Houston- Houston, TX
- 2022 *Memory Drawing- Grasses in Shadow*, Houston Endowment For the Arts permanent collection- Houston, TX
Morning Fields, PLATFORM at Art League Houston- Houston, TX

MEDIA AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 *Glasstire*, Houston Endowment's New Headquarters Features Works by Renowned Local Artists, November 2022, Jessica Fuentes
- 2020 *Sightlines*, Review: From Los Outsiders, a group show brings natural relief from crisis fatigue, October 2020, Lauren Moya Ford
- 2018 *Free Press*, You'll Want to Check Out This Female-Centric Art Exhibition This Weekend, May 2018, Paul Middendorf

