

**Statement:**

My paintings romanticize the rediscovery of histories and artifacts from the past. Arranged Still-life objects are presented in curious ways to suggest new parallels between classical works of art and contemporary objects. These works propose how nostalgia can be found boxed away or buried beneath ancient memories. As time passes, histories are often compartmentalized, forgotten and long await their own rediscovery. Just as feelings of nostalgia cause us to look lovingly towards artifacts from the past, the intimate act of painting amplifies sentimental value. Recontextualizing great works of art is not only a way for me to pay homage to them, but it's also a way of noting how those themes resonate over time. I approach them with a childlike wonder, because even if they've aged, they still hold a great divinity. I carefully curate them together to illustrate a longing to return home -wherever that may be- and as well as to celebrate my own journey and orbit through time.

**Bio:**

Arielle Romano is a Milwaukee-based Painter and recent graduate from UW-Milwaukee's Peck School of the Arts MFA program in 2022. She earned her BFA from UW-Parkside in 2018. Romano creates paintings where pop-culture influences and art history references are shuffled together and reimagined to create feelings of nostalgia. Her works glorify the mundane and present a curious closeness between items of personal importance with objects of historic importance as well. Romano's award-winning paintings have been exhibited in galleries online and throughout the Mid-West.