

Amy Runyen Artist Statement

Biography:

Amy's fine artwork has been shown in galleries domestically and internationally. She has written and illustrated ten art educational books for Walter Foster Publishing. In the Pomona Arts Colony, she collaborated on the *Envisioning the Future* mural in association with Judy Chicago. She earned her BFA in illustration from Savannah College of Art and Design and her MFA in drawing and painting from California State University, Long Beach. She is an Assistant Professor at Golden West College in the Fine Arts Department. She lives and works in South Pasadena, CA.

Statement:

The content of my work is driven by a desire to analyze and depict my emotions in a rational manner. Blending human, animal, and botanical parts is a way for me to compare behaviors between our species and others, much like artists have been doing for millennia. Shifting naturalistic colors to my subjective preferences personalizes and recontextualizes my relationship to the subjects. Exploring hybrid constructions of humans and the natural world allows me to investigate underlying, universal themes like love, fear, desire, and anger.

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