

Kelley Sutphin Artist Statement

Kelley Sutphin displayed a unique artistic talent at an early age and held many awards by the end of her high school education for her realistic yet illustrative style. The fantasy art books of her father fueled her imagination and gave great inspiration to her works throughout the years. She began her formal education in the fine arts by attending the American Academy of Art in Chicago with a major in oil painting and a retained focus on illustrative techniques. After college, her career led her to more design-based work and eventually little to no art at all. In response to this, Kelley started her own creative business in 2017 which eventually led her full circle into her true passion... painting. As a mom of 3 and an entrepreneur, Kelley finds the time to create her art before the sun comes up each day. To her, painting is a state of meditation which brings great peace to her day. She draws her inspiration from myths, dreams, the natural world and all those magical elements in life that make it beautiful and fascinating to experience.

A black cockatoo emerges from swirling clouds in a starlit sky with a glowing crescent moon upon its head as if it were a crown. Animals have always been a favorite subject of mine to paint and recently I had a strong focus on threatened and endangered species. The Australian black cockatoo suffers habitat loss and a declining wild population. The beauty of these majestic birds is striking. Their midnight black feathers with golden spots remind me of a starry night.