### **Imagine Art Artist Bio/Statements**

# **Angela Huston**

Angela Huston's art focuses on the emotional aspects of her life. As a result, she feels one with nature, the world, and God. An Austin native, she has many friends in Austin's vibrant music and art's scene. Angela considers herself to be a self-taught artist. Her influences include Van Gogh and the Spanish artist and surrealist, Remedios Varo. Like much of Angela's work, Varo portrays images of isolation and hope. Angela's mediums include clay, oil and chalk pastels, to acrylic paint.

#### **Ebony Young**

From landscapes, human figures, and animals to abstracts, foods, and practice studies—Ebony Young paints and draws it all. Most of her work features bold lines and dark accents. The intricate patterns and impeccable perspective of her landscapes add to the depth, texture and tension of her varied subject matters: prairie land, tundra, river and surf scenes. Ebony is gifted in realism and depicts whatever she sees with amazing accuracy. Born in Holland in 1985, Ebony was diagnosed with autism three years later. By age 4, she was drawing Looney Tunes cartoon characters. At Pflugerville High School she became known for her artwork, as well as her involvement with Special Olympics. Ebony became a part of the Imagine Art community in 2007.

#### **Erin Rosales**

Mostly self-taught, Erin Rosales is a native Austinite who identifies as a painter, ceramist, and diamond kit artist. She specializes in pet portraits done in acrylic, from parrots to pooches, using realistic color palettes. Recently, Erin developed a strong interest in ceramics, striving to learn shape, form, and coloring. She has also learned to be quite adept at diamond art kits, showing great patience and skill in completing complicated patterns and colors. She has been working on joining diamond art with ceramic jewelry making, as she continues to better herself as a community artist.

#### Gabby Duran

Gabby Duran enjoys focusing on still-life, landscapes, animals, and buildings. Gabby has a distinct abstract realistic style and is especially original in her development of animal characters. She began painting in acrylics at age 23. An admirer of Vincent Van Gogh, she spends much effort emulating his style. After subjects are drawn, she then uses acrylics and layers her paints with thick brush strokes and bright colors until the whole canvas or page is filled with dotted and dashed lines. Gabby is also a newly published author with her book, Autism Doesn't Stop Me.

### **Hannah Lemerise**

Hannah Lemerise's artwork emphasizes linear patterns, simple shapes, and negative space to create simplistic order. Hannah Lemerise is a mixed media collage artist; her influences include nature, outer space, weather, tidal waves, and the ocean. She also takes inspiration from her love of old-time movies and TV shows. Her sources of influence and inspiration, combined with paints, pastels, watercolor, and paper cutouts, allow Hannah to create collage art pieces that are minimal and otherworldly.

#### John Molina

"Do your own thing and do it well. Everything else is okay."

As an artist, John Molina follows his instincts to produce prolific amounts of his signature abstract art. Starting with basic designs, usually circles, John contrasts against other shapes and colors. Using circles, spirals, scratches and negative space to reveal the undercurrents of how his artistic mind works. He primarily works with acrylics and mixed-media on canvas or paper, usually 8x10. John has made a name for himself around the Imagine Art community both for his commitment to abstract art and by the sheer number of pieces he produces on a daily basis. He continually demonstrates his stylistic mastery.

### **Justin Maynard**

"Art is an inspiration of imagination and life."

Talented artist and storyteller Justin Maynard creates detailed fantasy-style drawings influenced by Western and Eastern comic books. He draws inspiration from his family, movies, games, and comic writers like Stan Lee. With detailed storylines and multifaceted characters, Justin's graphics express his strong imagination. A self-taught artist, he creates line drawings with pencil and then refines his work with pen. Vivid watercolor and colored pencil hues bring a dynamic feeling to Justin's images of dragons and superheroes. The preparation and time Justin puts into each piece reaffirms his care and love for the craft.

## Kelly Reider

"I fly when I paint."

Kelly paints people and landscapes. He is interested in cowboys & Indians and was once visited by a Medicine Woman. Kelly had an unfortunate motorcycle accident that badly injured him, leaving him in a coma and wheelchair for some time. When he could no longer work, he started making art. Where Kelly's doubts had grown after his accident, making art grew his confidence. Sometimes angels speak to him. He is pretty certain he is related to Paul Klee, who continues to be a source of inspiration for his work and efforts. Kelly also enjoys painting self-portraits, as well as portraits in the likes of musical legends such as Prince, Jimmie Hendrix, & Mick Jagger.

### Larry Yanez, Sr.

A deaf artist, originally from Sugarland, Texas, he uses his gifts to glorify God. Yanez paints with a variety of mediums, mainly oils and acrylics. His primary subjects are landscape and portraiture. He displays a richly unique style of composition that features indigenous plants and animals, as well as religious and mystical themes. Larry's work shows love for his deaf and Hispanic cultures. His goal is to make the viewer feel both humbled and inspired. Travel is the source of inspiration for many of his paintings, from the Red Rock Mountains of Sedona to the Colorado River in downtown Austin. Yanez shows in the Imagine Art online store and other places around town.

### **Linda Bingham**

"I used to take pictures in my head, now I put them on paper."

Linda Bingham's art has a strong emphasis on color and repeating geometric patterns. Utilizing colored pencils, Linda creates stylized drawings, often incorporating elements like skulls and Halloween objects. Her love for nature and intricate patterns influences her work. Linda spares no expense to rendering detail, carefully blending several colors and outlining the image in bold lines. Much of her work has lovely dramatic themes with a hint of darkness. Linda also enjoys incorporating text and bubble letters into her art pieces.

### **Mason Day**

Mason Day's artwork with detailed animals and fantasy creatures is inspired by the cartoons he watches. With ink pen and colored pencils, Mason depicts roaring lions, fiery dragons, and hungry gorillas with emotional facial expressions. Mason writes and illustrates action-packed fantasy stories where his characters become friends with each other. Especially remarkable is how quickly and consistently Mason can create his drawings, which resemble animated cartoons. A lifelong artist, Mason shares his work online on the Deviant Art website. He hopes to continue exhibiting and selling his art in galleries.

### **Molly Hale**

At Imagine Art's annual holiday shows, an extremely popular item has been Molly Hale's colorful crocheted scarves. But it doesn't stop there, Molly also weaves, knits, is into film photography, draws, and paints. She also makes ceramics and greeting cards, as well. She hand paints on glass stones to decorate magnets. Needless to say, Molly is very industrious. A multi-media textile artist, Molly is working hard in fiber arts and has created her own business line. She has a passion for culinary arts and American Sign Language, and teaches a Zoom class in ASL every Friday. Molly would like to grow even more in her art-making, maybe follow her mom's footsteps into ceramics.

### **Nancy Doyle**

A central theme of Nancy Doyle's work is scenery, including landscapes, architecture, and animals. Nancy is a painter of 30 years, specializing in acrylic. Her Geese in Flight and Lighthouse on the Sea are prime examples of her interests. She recently began experimenting with 3D and mixed media, where she combines her love of painting with collage. Nancy enjoys adding and layering many elements to her work including paint, glitter, and paper cutouts to build up the surface of her work. In particular, Nancy enjoys painting the atmosphere of New Orleans, where she often visits.

#### **Natalie Sherwood**

"Love is like the wind, you can't see it but you can feel it."

Natalie Sherwood enjoys representing nature, especially detailed and expressive animal eyes. Inspired by the multiple artists in her family, Natalie views art as a shared family interest. She depicts her love of nature in a realistic manner, experimenting with different compositions of landscapes and animals. More recently, Natalie has expanded her artistic horizons by learning how to use new media, such as a digital drawing tablet and chalk pastels. Soft gradients and blended textures bring Natalie's work to life.

#### Nuriia Ahketshina

The passion and versatility of Nuriia Ahketshina's artwork is unmistakably displayed in her various subjects. She has painted portraits of animals, to beautiful landscapes. Nuriia mainly paints with acrylics on canvas, after first sketching her subjects. Her first language is Russian Sign Language, but like Imagine Art has found time and again, art speaks articulately about all things in ways that everybody can understand.

#### Ramin Mandavi

Bold colors, forceful deliberate lines, and contemporary themes set Ramin Mandavi's work apart. By layering colors in rectangular strips and using both lighter and darker tones, Ramin expresses emotion in his pieces. Ramin was born in Iran then came to the United States with his family in 2008. His initial interest in art was drawing, and since coming to Imagine Art he has discovered a love for ceramics and acrylic painting. Under the guidance of his IA teachers, he experiments with new shapes and forms as a way to challenge his limits. He speaks only Farsi, but his art transcends language.

#### Richmond Freeman

Richmond Freeman creates beautiful and realistic work, often utilizing watercolor that flows through the piece. By simply observing a photograph, Richmond can render splendid detail and perspective. He captures the beauty in nature with a limited color palette. Richmond's passion for art is evident to everyone around him. He is a prolific artist, creating several pieces per day. He appreciates family support. Richmond's artwork speaks volumes, and he shares his voice with the world. Richmond will continue making countless works for everyone to enjoy.

# **Rodney Morgan**

Rodney Morgan has a natural gift for interpreting the world around him in a fun, lively, and charismatic way. A thoughtful painter, Rodney uses bold brushstrokes within an array of colors. He depicts patterns and shapes to ultimately create a fantastical version of local cityscapes and the life he experiences therein. Rodney continues to grow as a painter at Imagine Art. When not painting, Rodney enjoys singing, dancing, and making new friends.

#### **Sheena Walter**

"I just enjoy the creative experience, and it's therapeutic for me to create." Sheena Walter's beautiful pastel and charcoal drawings depict outdoor scenery, nature, and animals. With softly blended textures, her work evokes peaceful, calm feelings. Sheena enjoys spending time outdoors, and cites her life experiences, faith, and pets as inspirations. Sheena took art classes in high school and college and currently works as a social media influencer at Art Spark Texas, promoting their programs through her social media accounts. She draws great personal satisfaction from her art-making, as it helps her unwind. Interested in improving her skills, Sheena would like to share more of her work online as prints in the future.

#### Shon Parker

Shon Parker is best known around Imagine Art for his ominous skies, pastoral landscapes, plants and animals of the sea, and mythological settings. As a self-taught artist, Shon explores his art with a range of media that include colored pencil, pastel, watercolor, acrylic, and ceramics. He is a true student of art, and strives to read, learn, and practice to improve his considerable skills. His watercolors and acrylics burst with the subtleties found in nature, and there is a sense of adventure inherent in his castles and mythical creatures. Viewers recognize the playfulness and adventurous spirit in his storytelling. Shon's work is inventive and sincere.

#### Steven Fisher

Steven Fisher is well known for his passion for horses and intricate paintings and illustrations of them. Working mainly in watercolor on paper or acrylic on canvas, he has a knack for giving each horse a unique personality. Whether it's the excited bulging eyes of a racehorse or the yearning expressions of two horses in love. He has enriched and expanded the depth of his passion by learning and applying new painting techniques. Steven has shared his bright disposition with the Imagine Art community for over three years. His horses and other art can be found on their online store and other places around town.

### Tasha Johnson

"I never dreamt I would be drawing, printmaking, designing fabric-related products, and have my new business. 'Hello Tasha'."

Disabilities have turned out to be a wide-open door to a new life of creativity and exploration for Tasha Johnson. She does not shy away from learning new skills or tackling artistic challenges. Her inspiration comes from nature and the research she does about her animal subjects. Having been diagnosed with developmental disabilities when she was young, Tasha found art as an outlet for personal growth. She has been a bright spot in the Imagine Art community for 4 years. She explores clay figures, as well as embroidery and other fiber art's skills, which led to her newly released line of textile products and business start-up.

### **Yoab Cabrera**

Yoab Cabrera creates brightly-colored drawings of animals, especially bears, in natural environments. He enjoys looking at animals and sketching them. Vivid colored pencil and pastel hues give Yoab's art a happy and playful feeling. Inspired by his artistic family members and animated Disney cartoons, Yoab represents his animals with a distinctive style, utilizing outlines and smooth textures. Yoab also draws inspiration from the places he has lived. His bears are influenced by his birth state of Alaska. Yoab is fluent in Spanish and English, and enjoys traveling to different cities and meeting new people. Previously, Yoab has exhibited his work at the "Covered" EAST Austin Studio Tour.