Huntington Arts Council





HUNTINGTON ARTS COUNCIL

Heart and Soul
Solo Exibition by Melanie Berardicelli
September 8th – October 18th, 2026







Artist Statement and Biography

With additional support from:

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Artist Statement

How do you move on from the loss of a loved one? Devastated after the untimely passing of my older brother in 2020, I searched for answers to my questioning faith and comfort for my never-ending grief, and by fate stumbled upon Paul Koudounaris's Heavenly Bodies: Cult Treasures and Spectacular Saints from the Catacombs. I was enthralled by the glittering Roman Martyr Catacomb Saints of the German-speaking countries; there lay the promise of heaven and an answer to honoring the dead, and I admired the nuns who clothed and bejeweled the skeletal remains of martyrs from 100 AD. Combining my love of anatomy and sculpture with the ornate, I hand-tailor, embroider, and bead costumes to adorn resin-cast skeletal écorchés, recreating twenty-four-inch saints. Through painting and embroidery, I reimagine these saints in life, restoring identity and re-christening them after heroic people I have known.

Artist Biography

Melanie Berardicelli (born March 14, 1995) is a Master of Fine Arts, Certificate of Fine Arts, and Continuing Education Professor at the New York Academy of Art, where she teaches drawing and painting, portrait and figurative sculpture, and structural anatomy. An educator since 2014, she has also taught drawing, painting, sculpture, and art history at the Ivy League School in Smithtown and the USDAN Center for the Creative and Performing Arts. Melanie received her MFA in Painting from the New York Academy of Art in 2021 and her BFA in Painting and Drawing from SUNY New Paltz in 2017, and upon graduating assisted the late Audrey Flack in producing works for her Post-Pop Baroque Series, which debuted at Hollis Taggart Gallery in March 2024. Her work has been exhibited in solo and group shows throughout New York State, including The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, The Woodstock Artists Association Museum, Sotheby's, Equity Gallery, Era Contemporary Gallery, Upstream Gallery, and The Huntington Arts Council, and published in national and international magazines such as Women United Art Magazine, Arts to Hearts Magazine, Visionary Arts Collective, Bold Journey Magazine, and CanvasRebel Magazine; she is also a recipient of the Long Island Grants for the Arts Artist Fellowship and the Spring 2026 Artist in Residence at West Nottingham Academy. An experienced forensic artist under the tutelage of Joe Mullins, Melanie has reconstructed the faces of four missing persons from cold cases in Brooklyn and Arizona, with features in The Daily News, NBC 4, and FOX 5, and is also a children's book illustrator, including Augie Goes to the Library (2016).



Heartbreaker
2026
Oil and Acrylic on Wood, 8" x 9.25"
$300



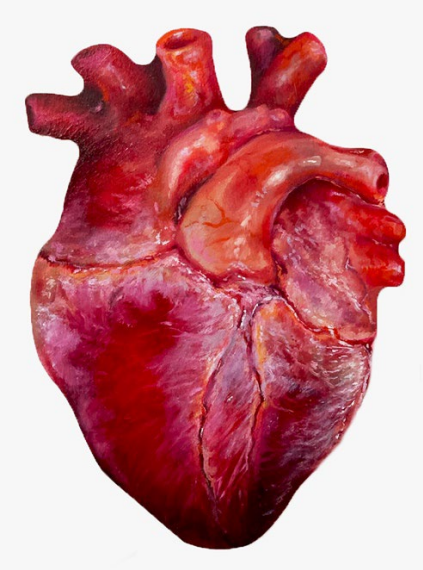
Torn Heart
2024
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas 10" x 10"
$400



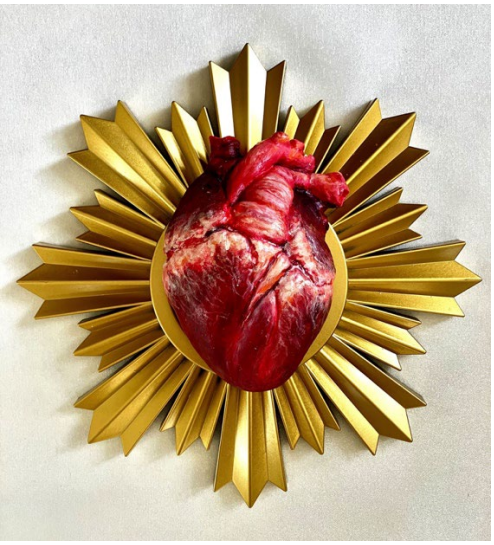
Bleeding, Burning Heart
2024
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas, 16" x 16"
$800



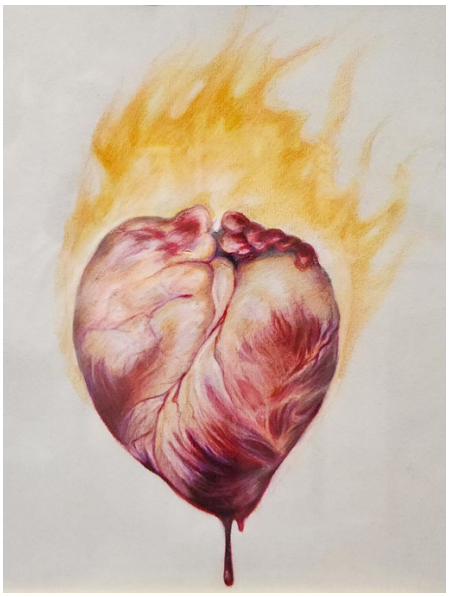
Hearts of Hearts
2024
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas, 10" x 10"
$400



Citrine Heart
2025
Oil and Acrylic on Wood Panel, 6" x 8"
$300



What Lies Within
2026
Paper Clay, Mirror, Acrylic, Magnets, and Collaged Diary Entries, 10" x 10" x 4.5"
$250



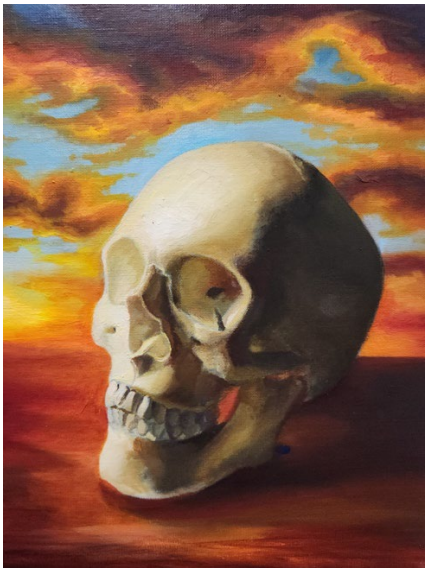
Flames of Desire
2026
Colored Pencil on Paper, 9" x 7"
$200



Jewel of the Sky
2026
Colored Pencil on Paper, 11" x 9"
$200



We Look to the Sky until Our Eyes Catch Fire
2026
Oil, Acrylic, and Gem Brooch on Canvas, 20" x 24"
$4,000



Heat of the Burning Sky
2026
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas, 14" x 11"
$400



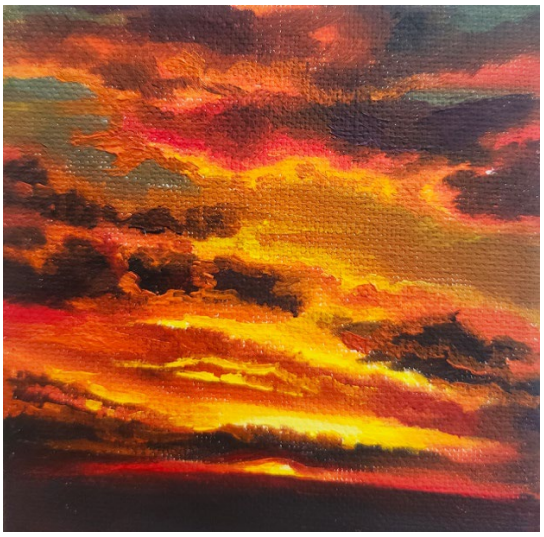
Last Light of the Day No.1
2026
Oil on Canvas, 4" x 4" $50



Last Light of the Day No.2
2026
Oil on Canvas, 4" x 4" $50



Last Light of the Day No.3
2026
Oil on Canvas, 4” x 4”
$50



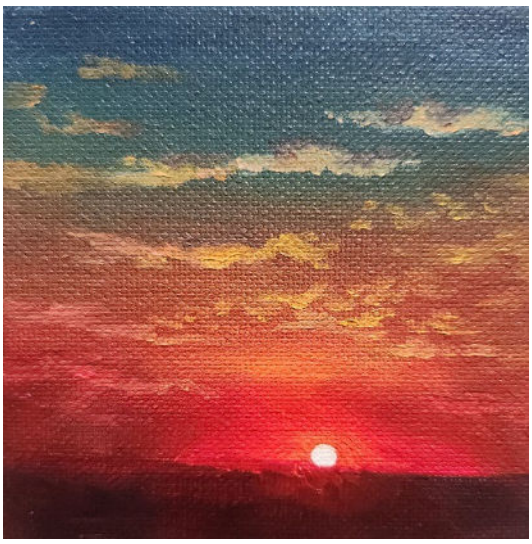
Last Light of the Day No.4
2026
Oil on Canvas, 4" x 4"
$50



Last Light of the Day No.5
2026
Oil on Canvas, 4" x 4" $50



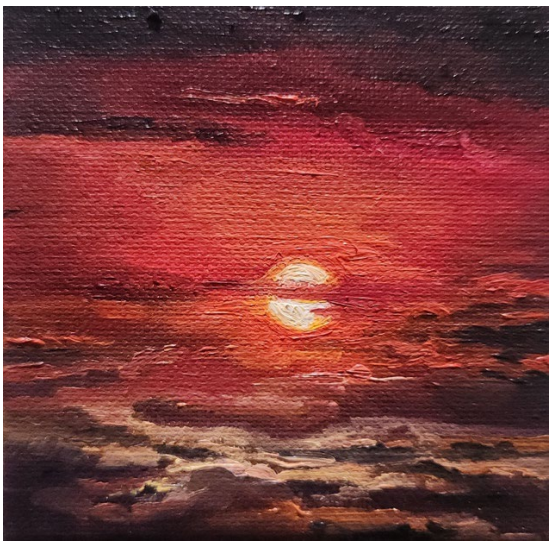
Last Light of the Day No.6
2026
Oil on Canvas, 4" x 4"
$50



Last Light of the Day No.7
2026
Oil on Canvas, 4" x 4"
$50



Last Light of the Day No.8
2026
Oil on Canvas, 4" x 4"
$50



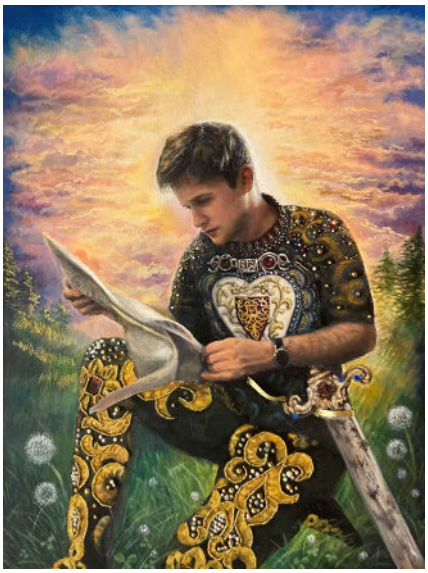
Last Light of the Day No.9
2026
Oil on Canvas, 4" x 4"
$50



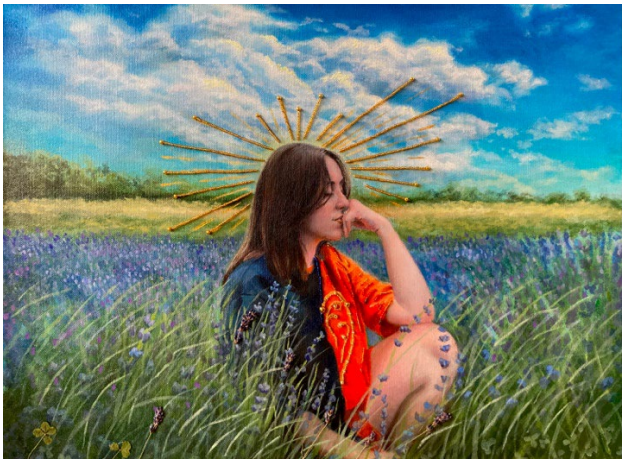
Pegasus
2024
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas, 24" x 48"
$3,000



From the Heavens Looking Down
2024
Oil, Acrylic, Glass Beads, and Rhinestones on Canvas, 42" x 36"
$5,000



The Time Traveler
2023
Oil, Acrylic, Glass Beads, And Ribbon on Canvas, 24" x 18"
$3,000



Lavender Legend
2023
Oil, Acrylic, Glass Beads, Droved Lavender Flowers and 4-Leaf Clovers on Canvas, 18" x 24"
$2,000



Final Judgement (Study)
2022
Oil and Acrylic on Gessoed Paper, 10" x 8"
$200



Of My Body, Of My Soul
2024
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas, 10" x 10"
$500



Ecstasy of Saint Bartholomew
2024
Oil and Acrylic on Wood Panel, 10" x 10"
$500



Saint Valerius

2024
Oil, Acrylic, Glass Beads, and Gems on Canvas, 10" x 10"
$500



Saint Albertus

2024
Oil, Acrylic, Glass Beads, and Gems on Canvas, 10" x 10"
$500



Saint Konstantius

2023

Acrylic and Glass Beads on Canvas, 8" x 8"

$200



Saint Felix

2023

Acrylic, Glass Beads, and Gems on Canvas, 10" x 10"

$400



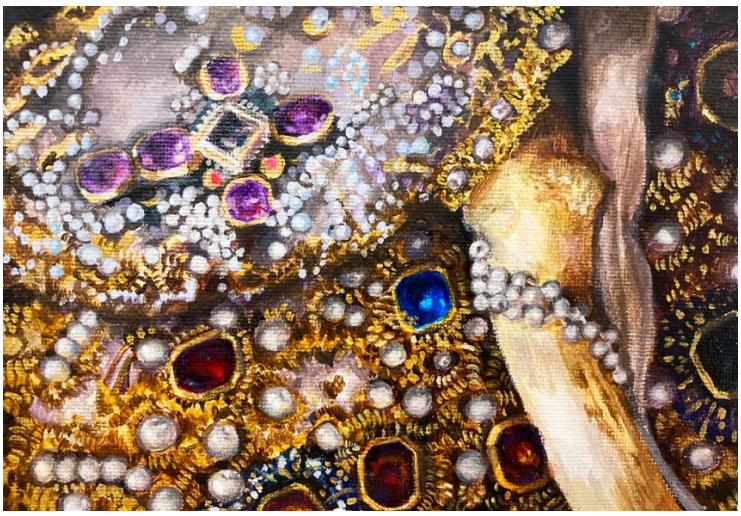
Beacon of Gold

2026
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas Board, 12" x 16"
$2,000



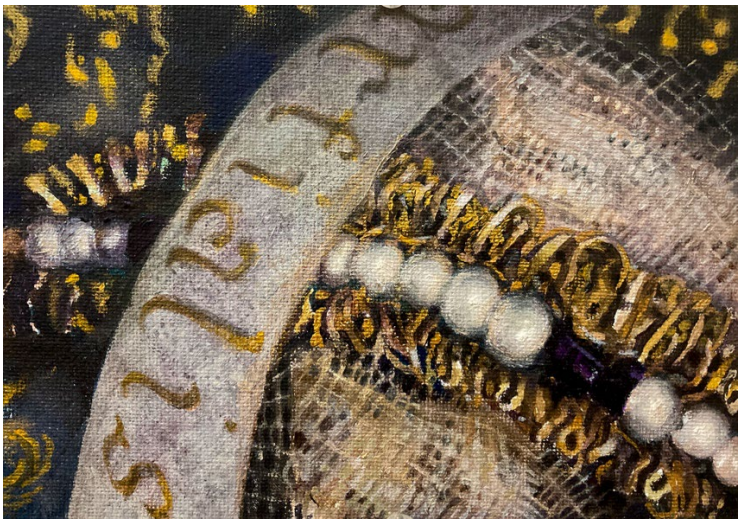
Breathless Gold

2022
Acrylic on Canvas Board, 6" x 8"
$250



Clavicle Treasures

2022
Acrylic on Canvas Board, 6" x 8
$250



Pearls of Anonymity

2022
Acrylic on Canvas, 6" x 8"
$250



Eye to the Soul
2026
Oil and Acrylic on Canvas, 8" x 8"
$100



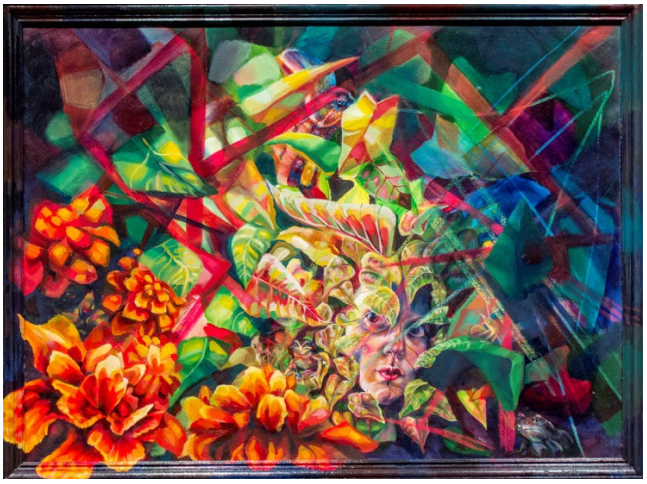
Katakombenheiligen (Saint Severin)
2022
Resin, Plexiglass, Sculpey, Acrylic, Fabric, Glass Beads, and Earring Gems, 29.5" x 10" x 10"
$12,000



Memento Mori Melanie
2025
Dragonskin, Hydrocal, Pine, Acrylic, Silicone Paint, Fabric, Glass Beads, Lipstick, Rouge, Eyeliner, Flocking, False Eyelashes, Zip Ties, and Brunette Wig, 40" x 44" x 19"
$5,000

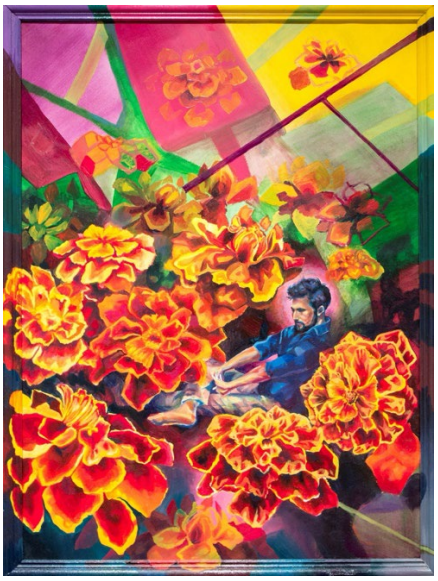


Christopher
2025
Bronze, 14.5" x 9.5" x 9.5"
NFS



Niche

2017
Oil on Arches Oil Paper, 24" x 36"
$2,500

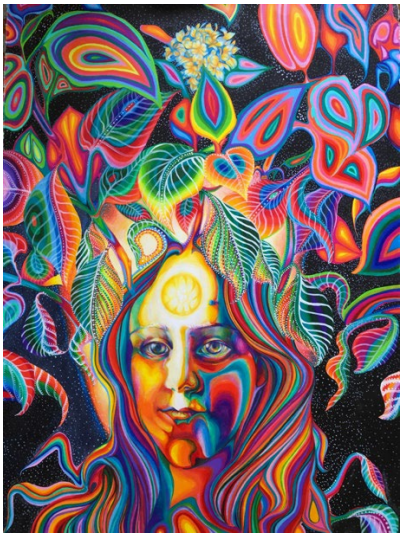


Scrutiny

2017
Oil on Arches Oil Paper, 36" x 24"
$2,000



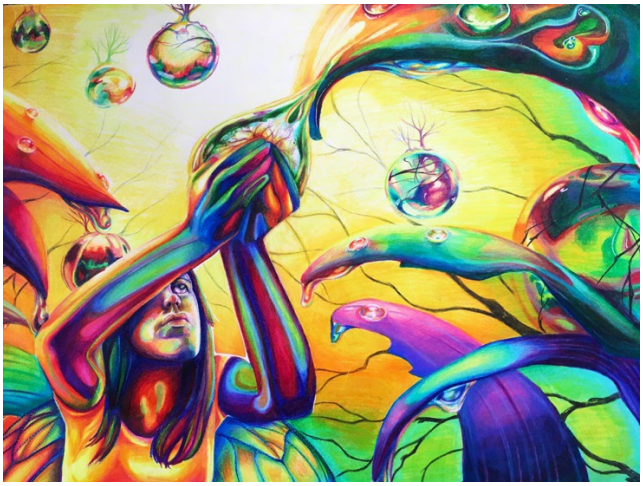
Reticence
2017
Oil on Arches Oil Paper, 36" x 24"
$2,500



Awakening
2015
Colored Pencil and Acrylic on Paper, 36" x 24"
$800



In Need of a Trim
2013
Colored Pencil on Paper, 11" x 14"
$500



Catching a Dewdrop
2012
Colored Pencil on Paper, 18" x 24"
$500