

Artist Statement:

The beauty of literature is that every story lets the reader create a world that exists in their own imagination. There is an energy that erupts around that moment. My favorite book I've ever explored is *The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern. I remember feeling anticipation when it was recommended to me, the belief in magic the first time I finished it and the utter joy of recommending it to someone else. I capture these emotions on canvas using distinctive textures and materials.

I graduated in landscape architecture and with that comes an admiration of John Muir and Frederick Olmsted. Muir's paintings that were done while establishing the National Parks and Olmsted's design of Central Park respectively, give me insight into the use of texture and storytelling in design. My art is a testament of my unique introduction into being an artist – using my love of texture and stories to illustrate moments.

Each canvas is a moment and each moment becomes a memory. Using the book's pages that so delicately describe such wonderful worlds and universes, this series brings to life the environments the stories created. The materials chosen come from those first time feelings. That feeling of anticipation debuts in the use of plaster or clay that can be sculpted into different shapes. The belief in magic shows up in the layers of paper and resin to create hidden spaces. When I bring these materials together on a canvas, they become a story all on their own.