

# Bruce Pope

## Artist's Statement

Everyday we wake up to find ourselves living in a strange and complex place reminiscent of a bad reality TV show. We seem to be inundated with hyperbole and exploitative journalism from every angle. This occurrence is a constant presence in our life and makes it hard to differentiate between truth and fiction. It's my intention not to take this too seriously and present the paintings with some degree of whimsy and peculiarity.

My figurative work generally depicts scenes occupied by people engaged in various activities. The situations suggest to the viewer a new normal based on changing behaviors as a result of environmental and political threats. The subject matter may deal with but is not limited to "Social (Physical) Distancing", Immigration policies or biblical references to the rapture with a tongue in cheek sense of sarcasm.

The materials used consist of oil on canvas with graphite, modeling paste, wax medium, oil stick and charcoal. The substrate may have fabric collage materials, tissue paper, metal leaf and the occasional bits of chicken wire to keep the poultry well represented.