

Don Hall, St. John and Salome, Artist statement

This acrylic on canvas painting is part of a continuing series that I have been working on of self-portraits with art history or literary references. Some time ago I came to the realization that my work would most likely never be shown in museums, so I had the Idea I would simply paint myself looking at famous artworks in Museums. I complete one such painting in The Museum of Fine Art Houston, where I was viewing a Picasso and a Matisse painting. It then occurred to me that I could paint myself right into the work of famous artists. I completed a good number of these. As I worked with this idea my paintings evolved into taking bits and pieces of images from famous paintings and images from my collections of photos I have taken in my travels and images I create from my imagination. St. John and Salome has references to the artists Albrecht Durer, Guido Reni, J Moynet and a castle from a trip I made to India. I get a great deal of enjoyment making these images and I hope you enjoy viewing them as much as I did painting it.