



Karen Josephson

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## Artist Statement

I created this shadow series called Intersections out of curiosity and awareness of the shapes of shadows in everyday urban sidewalk settings. In the oil painting I make the shadow the main subject by purposely composing the implied narrative off frame or make it largely unrecognizable by its extreme foreshortening. The simple rendition of a shadow informs us of the item that creates its cast. Of course a shadow isn't a solid 3-D form in reality but a ghostly whisper of something - a temporary spectral occurrence and therefore mysterious. In my compositions the perspective reveals more about the subject because of its shadow rather than the subject itself. It is an interesting play of what is lasting and what is temporary.

I work in oil paints on primed wood panels. My painting process in this series is to start with an undertone in an opposite color temperature of what is to be painted on top that will be the dominate color. This allows the undertone to peek through creating an interesting and dynamic color harmony. In the same way shadows depict another viewpoint of a subject, the complementary colors create a subtle, unexpected and mysterious halo to the shadow world.