# Lexi Kay White

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Artist Statement

My name is Lexi Kay White. I’m a fine artist from the Southeast. I mainly paint (though I also enjoy linocut printing from time to time.) I call my style ethereal: a blend of Impressionism, Figurative, and Intuitive Abstraction. The first thing people usually comment on are the colors in my work. Which I enhance through listening to music.

Painting, for me, is a part of my spiritual process. I paint to record my visions. The purpose of my art is to “know thyself” and to inspire others.

## Artist Bio

Lexi Kay White is a fine artist hailing from the Southeast. Celebrated for her use of color, she creates a sensory experience that transcends the visual realm. Her distinctive style, which she aptly dubs "ethereal," casts a spell on viewers, leaving them mesmerized by the interplay of light, form, and emotion within her pieces.

Beyond the surface, Lexi's art serves a deeper purpose, one that resonates with her spiritual journey. Her paintings serve as a conduit to capture the visions that manifest within her. Each stroke of her brush is a meditation, a quest to explore the depths of her own being. Lexi believes that the purpose of her art is twofold: to "know thyself" and to ignite that same journey of self-discovery in others. Her work stands as an inspirational testament to the power of art to awaken the soul and foster introspection.

# Christina Rice

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## Artist Statement

For years, I created hyperrealist portraits in traditional charcoal & graphite. But a craving for color & texture led me to mixed media portraiture. My faces are done in pastel & color pencil with a graphite underpainting, & usually include hair made from alpaca fiber or human hair, clothes from fabric & art papers, & ornament in beads & repurposed materials, concentrating on one brilliant color per piece. My work is based on mythological motifs that transcend any one culture, expressing universal stories & emotions that make us human, give us hope & beautify ordinary reality.

My influences include Klimt, Hiroshige, Henri Rousseau, Erte, pre-Raphaelites, 19th century illustrators like Edmund Dulac, Elenore Abbott & John Bauer. I’m attracted to their use of brilliant color, mythic themes, and ability to turn ordinary reality into a romantic myth. Among artists who do hyperrealist charcoal portraits, I admire J.D. Hillberry, Emanuele Dascanio, & Armin Mersmann.

## Artist Bio

Christina Rice’s work has been shown in galleries, juried shows and festivals in the United States. For 30 years, she created hyperrealist portraits that were often mistaken for photos but were really done in charcoal, graphite and pastel. Then she started craving color & texture, and began working in mixed media using paint, fabric, hand-made papers, beads, hair, things that contribute texture & brilliant color, concentrating on one color per piece. The result is a highly-textured collection of visually elaborate, detailed work.

Her themes are based on mythology and historical characters & she seeks to beautify ordinary reality and express it as an enduring myth. Her artistic influences include Klimt, Hiroshige, Henri Rousseau, Erte, Rauschenberg, the pre-Raphaelites, and late 19th/early 20th century fairy tale illustrators. Her father, also an artist, started teaching her art as a child. She has been fascinated with faces as long as she can remember, and considers portraiture a vicarious experience, an opportunity to connect with her subjects via the subtle shapes and folds of their faces. She delights and obsesses in details.

For more info, see <https://www.christinaart.com/>.

# Felina Martin

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Social Media Handles

LinkedIn: [Pamojana](https://www.linkedin.com/company/pamoja-na)

Facebook: [Pamoja na](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?viewas=100000686899395&id=100089001703825)

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/pamojana_usa/>

## Artist Statement

My art is inspired by the diversity or lack thereof within a community. The colors represent the vibrancy of cultures, genders, beliefs, abilities that make our communities beautiful in their space in this world. When the colors are blended, they create a new perspective. Together, we can enjoy the magic of life with a kaleidoscopic lens.

My artwork inspired an artwear clothing line, pamoja na. In Swahili, the word pamoja na means together, inclusion. The fashion collection, Diversity Chattanooga, represents a fraction in time of my observation and engagement in the community - diverse but not inclusive and equitable, diverse but segregated, and diverse but sprinkled with microaggression and racism masked as “progression”. The art will show breaks in the blended colors, reflecting our lack of or break in communication and the clusters of colors reflect the separation of neighborhoods within a community.

ArtWear and Art featured:

“Runaway Rewind” Columbia Art Museum (Columbia, SC) – January 2024

Design Winner, Chattanooga Fashion Expo (Chattanooga, TN) - November 2023

“Tell Them You Are An Artist” Westobou Gallery (Augusta, GA) – November 2023

Orlando Fashion Week (Orlando, FL) - November 2023

5th Annual Fashion Expose (Augusta, GA) - March 2023

Urban Pro Weekly (Augusta, GA) - March 2023

## Artist Bio

Felina Martin has reinvented herself to pursue her childhood dream of becoming a fashion designer. Her work has been shown in galleries, publications and worn on the fashion runway. Inspired by her love of color, community and culture, she designs clothing that originates from her artist impression of diversity, equity and inclusion reflected in her paintings. The combination of art, fashion and a cause has given birth to the wearable art brand, Pamoja Na.

Using her original art as the basis, she transposes the work onto fabric that leads to another dimension of art, fashion design. With the use of the latest technology, the artwork is transferred to fabric which Felina then uses to design and sew original garments. The wearable art is also imprinted on pre-designed clothing through a partnering manufacturer.

# Grace Halverson

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## Artist Statement

* I grew up in Augusta attending a school with a very limited Fine Arts budget. Some of my fondest works were painted on newsprint glued to cardboard. Much to my parents chagrin, I gained a reputation with the janitorial staff for salvaging the discarded pencils and pens after school. Scrappiness and a propensity for engaging the scientific method led me to embrace experimentation that is unlimited to both subject matter and materials.

My collegiate years were spent amongst a group of creative engineers who often

encouraged the blending of both traditional art and scientific concepts. While I enjoy pushing myself to improve technique, I am equally drawn to introducing textures and craft into my narratives. Artists that have inspired me to create would include Salvador Dali, Artemisia Gentileschi, Margaret D.H. Keane, and my grandmother. I would say my art is a mixture of existential crisis, a need for color, and the desire to bring joy to others as I continue to grow up and join in on this weird journey we call life.

## Artist Bio

* Grace Halverson is a self-taught portrait and illustration artist who enjoys crafting visual narratives using a wide-range of mixed mediums. As the daughter of an environmental engineer and a nuclear physicist, Grace is drawn towards experimentation, iteration, and exploration into understanding how things work.

Despite having a decent education, she would prefer to explain a concept or share a dream she had with visuals rather than taking the time to craft a well-worded paragraph. She lives and breathes for the moments of joy that come when a concept comes to life in front of her and the moment a completely different concept comes to mind. She is constantly lost in a series of rabbit holes of her own making.

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# Jordyn Genoe

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## Artist Statement

In my art I like to experiment with perspective and colors. I’m heavily influenced by skater and punk culture. I also love the look of urban art and graffiti. I like to use different types of mediums to create unique and bold pieces that incorporate my love of the city and vibrant colors. I try to create pieces that I would personally like to have in my home and art that I would like to see more of.

Artists like Hiatus Kaiyote,Lisa Hanawalt, glass animals, and Leigh Ellexson have influenced the vibe of my art.

## Artist Bio

Currently based in Augusta,Georgia, Jojo, is an emerging multidisciplinary artist with a current focus in digital work. Her pieces often reflect her love of urban culture and pop art with use of bold and contrasting colors and modern design.

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# Julie Depasquale

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## Artist Statement

My interest in photography began while living out west during a period of challenging spiritual growth. I started taking pictures of the world around me and the beauty I witnessed was overwhelming. My work is a combination of investigating the hidden beauty of macro,to noticing unique lighting the sun casts upon a cloud, to peculiar shadows of a flower or tree on the ground.When I venture out in search of the art nature provides us is when time no longer exists and magical things begin to appear.

## Artist Bio

Originally from Ohio, Julie is a humble landscape photographer just starting to learn her way around the art community in the CSRA. Her photography showcases her fascination with nature as she loves to bring out the little details that often go unnoticed if we are not looking for them.

# Kelley Igo

Email | Website | Social Media Handle

## Artist Statement

* First person
* 1-2 paragraphs about purpose/motivation for creating art

## Artist Bio

* Third person
* 1-2 paragraphs about background/process

# Michelle Orr

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## Artist Statement

I paint to keep a connection to my past; honoring those creatives in my life who encouraged me along this journey. The inspiration for my artwork is from photographs I have taken throughout the years of the Lowcountry of South Carolina-from Pawleys Island to Edisto Island. I love to incorporate figures into these seascapes. My children are often represented in my paintings.

I am primarily an oil painter with a tendency towards tranquil colors in my paintings. The use of a palette knife allows me to put expressive strokes onto the canvas. Most of my paintings are large because I feel much more free as I create. My hope, when I paint, is that the viewer will be pulled into the narrative of the painting and it will bring to mind a special memory from their past.

## Artist Bio

## Michelle’s love of art can be traced back to the influence of her paternal grandmother, Lucille Ouzts. When Michelle was a little girl, her grandmother would enroll them in acrylic painting classes taught by a local artist in Edgefield, South Carolina. Her grandmother’s constant encouragement and watching her paint well into her eighties, has inspired Michelle’s lifelong art journey. She is mainly self- taught, with her art journey taking a pause after college to get married and raise her three children. In 2017, when Michelle’s youngest began school full time, she became a student of Julie Adams. In early 2023, she began renting her own studio space at Studio 143 in downtown Aiken.

Her current landscape series is inspired by the Lowcountry of South Carolina and is in the style of what she describes as loose realism. To Michelle, it calls to mind feelings of peace and serenity found in the marshes and creeks surrounding Edisto Island. When not painting landscapes, she enjoys painting portraits of her three children.