



Amy Abshier

Kansas City, MO

(American, b. 1974)

As a painter there are times when I'm working, perfectly at peace and almost outside myself, and then everything seems to fall into place effortlessly, like the painting is just creating itself. It's magic happening, it must be.

There's a sisterhood to this body of work; the subjects come from a place of contemplation and the awareness of what it means to be a woman, to be a strong and magical presence in this world.

Even though the figures are not kinetic, there is an energy they share that's just below the surface, understated but there. It glimmers softly, waiting for the right person to walk up and see it there.

It's an ordinary magic; something in you recognizes it but maybe you can't articulate exactly what it is. It just speaks to you.

Amy Abshier was raised on the Texas Gulf Coast, in a small farming and ranching community. She moved to Kansas City, Missouri to attend classes at the Kansas City Art Institute, where she received her bachelor's degree in fine art in 1997. Since then, Amy has exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions, and her work can be found in private and corporate collections nationwide.

Amy Abshier currently lives and works in Kansas City, MO.

Blue Gallery

118 Southwest Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64108

816.527.0823 BlueGalleryOnline.com website

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BIO

Amy Abshier was raised on the Texas Gulf Coast, in a small farming and ranching community. She moved to Kansas City, Missouri to attend classes at the Kansas City Art Institute, where she received her bachelor's degree in fine art in 1997. She relocated to Ventura, California in 2001 and moved back to Kansas City in the spring of 2005.

"Most of my works are painted as a mimicry of traditional portraiture, but are (as I see them) vehicles to another concept entirely. Almost all of them have a very tongue-in-cheek wryness about them as I explore themes ranging from self-image issues to historical oddities to the dissection of fairy tales and popular culture. They differ in emotion; some are just silly, while others are plainly macabre, but they are all simple illustrations to the subtle narratives underneath."

PROFILE

I am an illustrator and fine artist interested in pop culture, folk and fairy tales, costuming, and relationships. I've worked on a large variety of projects ranging from editorial illustrations and children's book illustrations to commissioned paintings and gallery exhibitions. My work is stylized, narrative, and compelling.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts 1997
Kansas City Art Institute
Kansas City, Missouri
Studied illustration and painting

PUBLISHED ILLUSTRATION WORK

The Four Ugly Cats in Apartment 3D, Aladdin Paperbacks (Simon and Schuster), 2003
The Baffler, issues #14 and #15 2002
The Adventures of Erasmus Twiddle, Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2001

ARTICLES AND REVIEWS

Ventura Life and Style "Painting on the Double: Uncanny Oils by Amy Abshier" Spring 2004
Ventura County Star Art Scene "Incredible Incidentals" January 23, 2003

ONGOING REPRESENTATION

October 2005--Present
Blue Gallery, Kansas City

