Northern Illinois University
School of Art and Design

Angela Bachman

Permanence

My body of work focuses on the simple aspects of inspiration and what naturally and organically has come into my life as positive motivation. This is directly associated with nature, as this has always served as a beautiful form of solitude in which to reflect upon myself and my surroundings. Recently, there have been a lot of significant transitions in my life, and finding consistency has been one of the largest challenges amongst all this change. And the main thought about all these transitions has been about how I can grow from this, not just change; but change in a way that I can learn from what has evolved in my life. This all gets broken down to what is left when you remove all the mistreatment from others, the weight of responsibilities, and the negativity that clouds my actual intent. This body of work is meant to stem back to these natural roots, and what remains when nothing else seems to be permanent.

When we focus on things in life that have helped without projecting a painful lesson, those people and moments hold a special place within our memory for us to look back on when the world seems to be crumbling. We are forced to find consistency in order to survive. This work falls back on those specific entities that stick in a way that leaves warmth in your chest and organic connection to all that has come in contact with the self thus far. There is something to be said about the power nature really can have on the human mind, and how stripping everything else away, aside from what inspires you, helps to re-center your purpose, as well as reveal parts of yourself you may have thought were lost or did not exist without taking the time to step back.

The portraits are of people I have found inspiration through and have also not projected negativity in my life. The relations with said people have been nothing but energizing. I wanted to tie these individuals in with nature because I feel that they organically came into my life or motivated me just at a point where I needed something to shed some light. The other linear pieces with gouache detailing are some of the first sketches, revised into final pieces, which emerged when I first had to find a new source to pull from, as some big influences in my life had come to an end. These all have been presented with gold framing to emphasize that, though those influences are no longer present, without that chapter ending these golden bits of treasure would not have come into my life and perspective.
Image List

1. Installation View, Anette and Jerry Johns Gallery, DeKalb, IL

2. *Fly Agaric*
   20.5 x 18.5 inches
   Gouache on illustration board

3. *Tara*
   8x8 inches
   Oil painting on wood panel

4. *Morgin*
   8x8 inches
   Oil painting on wood panel

5. *Euphoria*
   27x27 inches
   Oil painting on wood panel

6. *Jossie*
   8x8 inches
   Oil painting on wood panel

7. *Michelle*
   8x8 inches
   Oil painting on wood panel

8. *Devil’s Claw*
   21x18.5 inches
   Gouache on Illustration board
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