



Heather Deogracia

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Biography

“You are not from around here are you?
You are like a breathe of fresh air or sunshine.”
Heather Deogracia states about first impressions
from residents in Midland, Michigan.

Born in 1976 in Modesto, California, Heather Dawn Deogracia is a very tall (6'0) Irish and Spanish Award-winning artist based from the San Francisco Bay Area. Graduating from college in 1999, she earned a Bachelor's degree in Medical Illustration with a double major in Pre-Medical Science and Fine Art from California State University in San Bernardino.

Her professional career background includes over 10 years in corporate environment with advertisement and marketing with International clients working as an Award-winning Graphic Layout and Designer and two years in radio broadcasting as a Continuity Director for an 80's radio station in the city of San Francisco.

Recovering from a severe diagnoses of Bipolar I disease that includes mania, psychosis and suicidal depression, Heather decided to move to Midland, Michigan 18 years ago to live with her sister. She finds that art therapy really helps her cope with her mood swing condition and fell in love with a medium known as blind contour drawing.

This art technique starts when she closes her eyes and uses a single continuous line of black ink, not lifting or peeking, and using her imagination to create a new image. After the organic shapes are revealed, she opens her eyes and colors with alcohol markers or acrylic paint to fills the spaces.

After a community television interview for her work in graphite drawings, the host became very transfixed on her only art piece done with blind contour. “Heather, you really need to pursue this type of abstract work. I can't stop looking at it.” David Emmel comments really gave her the confidence and motivation to pursue a new medium.

Now 8 years later, she has displayed her illustrative work in over 50 exhibits in art galleries, museums, fundraisers and local business establishments of the Tri-Cities area.

Imagination Illustration



AWARDS

2024 “Animals in Art” Exhibition
Creative 360 Art Gallery, Midland, MI
“Breathe in Mother Nature” Best 3D Art Award (\$300)
“Ghosts of Boomer” Honorable Mention 2D Art Award
2019 35th Annual Midland Artists Guild
“Indeed Roses” Award of Excellence
Creative 360 Art Gallery, Midland, MI
2017 “Leadership of Bay County Achievement”
Studio 23 Art Gallery, Bay City, MI
2015 Midland County Art Letourneau Award
“Collaboration and Creativity in Community Support”
2014-2018 Legacy Trust Award Collection
Michigan State Wide Exhibition, Art Prize
Grand Rapids Museum of Art
2000 American Advertising Federation Award
“Citation of Excellence Silver” Advertisement Design
East Bay Business Journal, Pleasanton, CA