



# THE SCRIBE

We Make Art Visible



## Through the Lens of Jack Myers



### From Firefighter to Photographer

Jack Myers has deep roots in Ohio, growing up in Toledo and now living in Grand Rapids. For 33 years, he has served his community as a volunteer firefighter. After retiring from a 35-year career at The Wall Street Journal, Jack finally had time to pursue his true passion - photography. Since retirement, he has taken thousands of pictures, greatly improving his skills behind the camera. He especially loves photographing birds and joined the Photo Arts Club of Toledo in 2005, though he couldn't get fully involved until after he retired.

### Teaching Through the Lens

Today, Jack plays several important roles in the local photography scene. He runs monthly photo contests for his club, helps organize the yearly competition at Secor Park, and teaches "Improve Your Photography" classes. His love for photography began with his grandmother's oil painting of a full moon reflecting on a river - an image that stayed with him until he could finally capture that same beauty himself. Jack always shares his key advice: make sure your subject is sharp and clear, especially the eyes in photos of people or animals, because that's where viewers' attention goes first.



### QUICK SCROLL

Retired firefighter Jack Myers now teaches photography in Toledo and runs camera club competitions.

 [photoartscluboftoledo.com](http://photoartscluboftoledo.com)

PREHISTORIC ART



OHIO'S NONPROFIT ARTS NEWSPAPER

THE SCRIBE



"Lucistic House Finch" - Jack Myers

The Scribe™ is a monthly arts publication that is created and published under the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Apollo Press.

It is the **first** Ohio-wide visually-designed arts newspaper! Stocked in locations without paywalls for our readers, *The Scribe*™ makes Ohio art visible and accessible to the public.

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READ ONLINE AT THE-SCRIBE.ORG

WELCOME BACK KNOWLEDGE-SEEKERS!  
LET'S DISCUSS THE VENUS SCULPTURES!

THE MAIN THEORY IS THESE FIGURES REPRESENT A FERTILITY GODDESSES.

HISTORIANS HAVE NAMED THEM AFTER THE ROMAN GODDESS VENUS. HOWEVER, THESE FIGURES EXISTED BEFORE ROMAN CIVILIZATION.

NEXT MONTH WE'LL DISCUSS THE HISTORY OF "LA GUERNICA" BY PABLO PICASSO

721+C.E.

Seshat's Art Adventures - Faith and Connor Comics  
Read the earlier strips at the-scribe.org/comics

Who is The Scribe's Mascot?



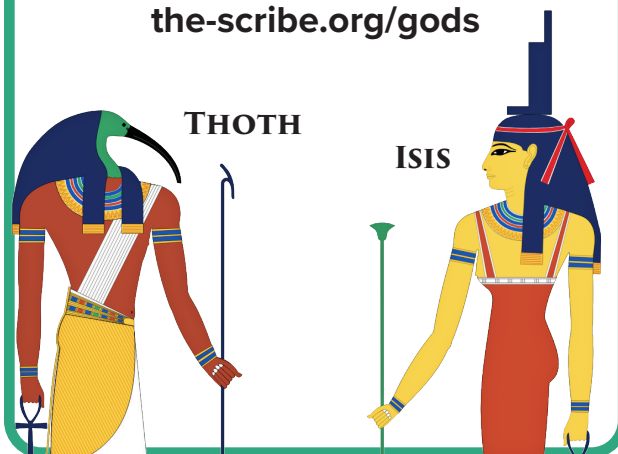
Seshat is an ancient Egyptian goddess of wisdom, knowledge, and writing. She appears as a woman wearing a distinctive headdress featuring a seven-pointed star or flower and what resembles horns or antlers. As the divine scribe and record-keeper, Seshat fulfills several important roles in Egyptian mythology.



She serves as the goddess of writing, record keeping, accounting, and mathematics, making her the patron of scribes, libraries, and archives. Seshat is considered the inventor of writing and is responsible for recording the reigns of pharaohs and their achievements.

READ MORE ABOUT SESHAT AND THE OTHER EGYPTIAN GODS!

the-scribe.org/gods



Poetry Corner

Suddenly I'm a Landscape

Slowed down by the soil,  
pierced by clouds,  
I read the wandering souls.

In me, Continental  
and Mediterranean climates  
alternate.

I've locked my past  
in castles and monasteries.  
Storms don't uproot its nudity.

To go further  
stop and open your senses,  
including the sixth.

Start from below and rise  
to the yellowish leaves,  
the folds of air.

If you're patient, wait  
on the island where the wind  
leans the cypresses to the shore.

What you embrace with your eyes  
is an approximation. What you've read  
and heard was blown away by yesterday's train.

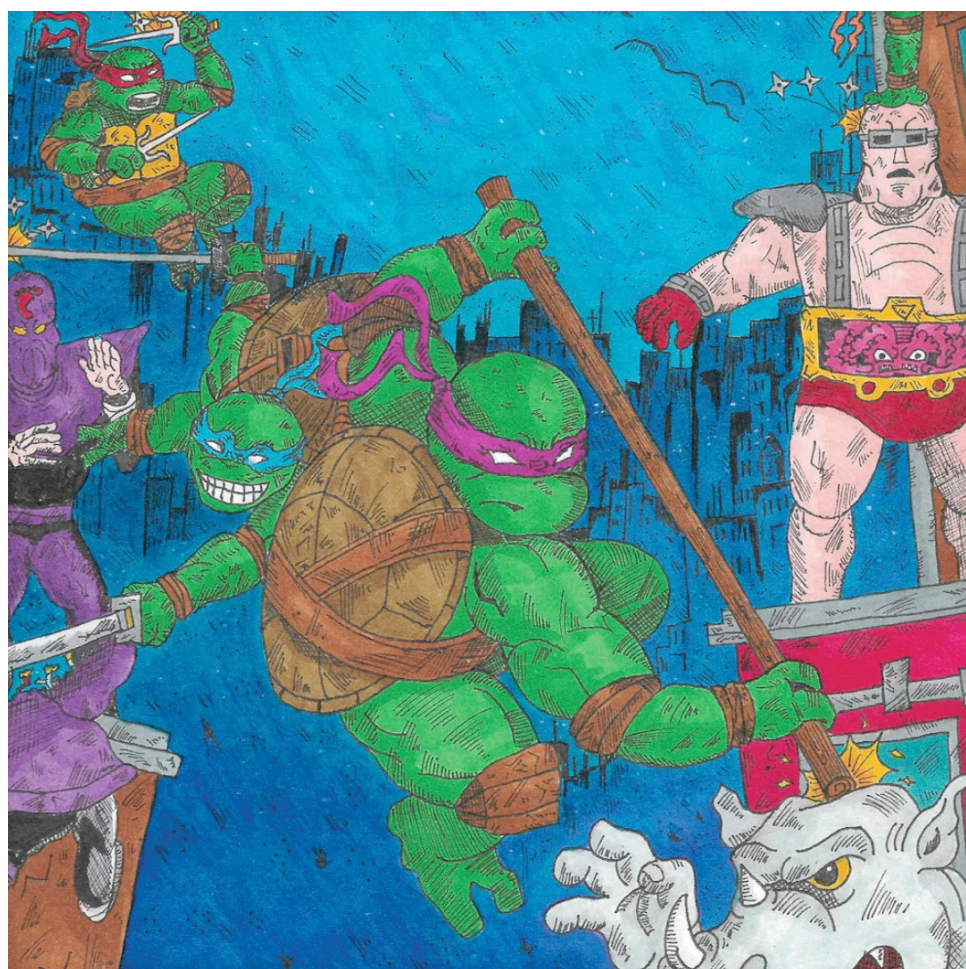
**Rob Simon**  
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Learn more about the nonprofit charity that runs The Scribe at [apollo-press.com](http://apollo-press.com)



# Riley Abrahamson Creates Comic Nostalgia

By Sheila McLaughlin



## Rediscovering Comics: Riley's Artistic Origin Story

Long before the internet, video games, and streaming services, comic books were a cornerstone to many of our childhoods. The books offered a vibrant portal into worlds of adventure, heroism, and imagination. With pocket change, kids could pick up the latest issue of Superman, Batman, or Spider-Man. The affordable price made comics accessible to nearly everyone. For some kids, comics were more than just a story, they were gateways to another world. One of the earliest comic prints hit the shelves in 1935; titled *New Fun: The Big Comic Magazine #1*, published by National Allied Publications which would later become DC Comics.

Riley Abrahamson understands and appreciates the joy comic and pop art has brought to us through the decades. His creative pieces currently made by inking and alcohol based markers, reawaken the magic of decades old nostalgic comic and pop art. "I've always been big on not forcing art for the sake of it," says Riley. Most of his life he has used various mediums but has discovered alcohol based markers are currently his favorite to use. "I started using them in the fall of 2023. So many neat things you can do with them!"

## Art as Escape: Finding Peace in Familiar Characters

The simple joy of creating keeps Riley motivated. He continuously learns new techniques to apply to his craft, which he finds keeps things exciting. "A lot of my pieces are pop and comic book inspired. Seeing people of all ages, young and old, see a piece of a character they remember from year back and smile makes me happy. In that moment, memories of a simpler time come back to them."

"Art has been a pleasant escape from the busy world. When I get to create, the world gets quieter for a bit. I'm calm, I'm focused, and I find myself excited to be part of the process," Riley explains.



### QUICK SCROLL

Creates nostalgic comic and pop art using alcohol-based markers, bringing childhood memories to life through vibrant characters.

@orileyfactor

the-scribe.org/riley



# Yugoslavia to Ohio: Diane Pribojan

## Roots and Achievements Across Continents

Diane Pribojan is a painter from Hinckley, Ohio, who was born in Zvjerinac, a small village in former Yugoslavia. Her family moved to the United States when she was three years old. She earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in drawing from the Cleveland Institute of Art and her Master of Fine Arts in painting from Kent State University in 1991. Since then, she has lived in the Cleveland/Akron area. Her work has been shown in exhibitions across the Midwest, with notable achievements including a wall display at Acme Corporation's original store in Akron, a design chosen for a US Postal Service Postmark America stamp in Hinckley, and a 2017 Ohio Arts Council Grant.

## Balancing Realism and Abstraction

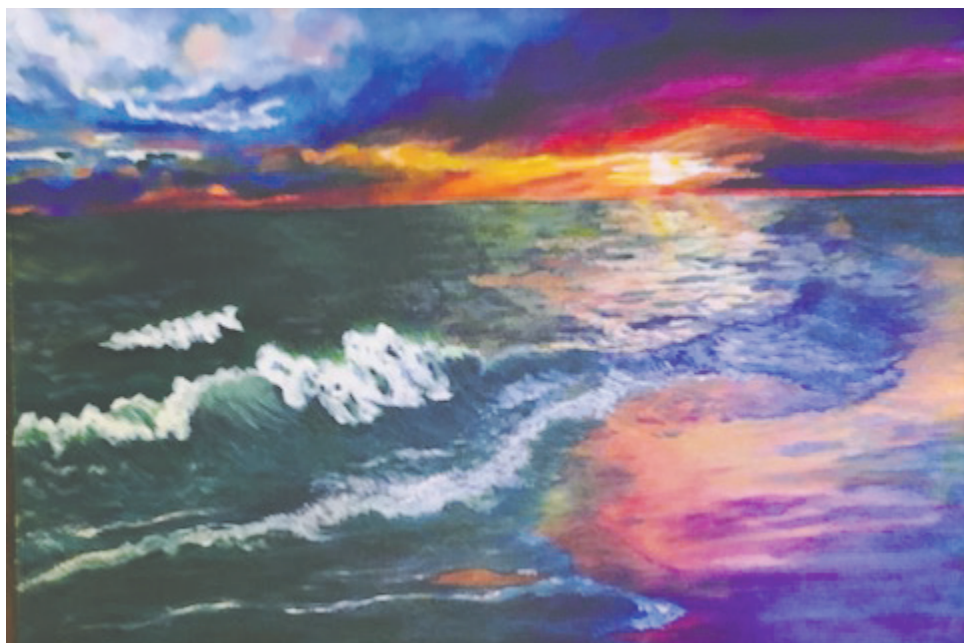
Diane draws inspiration from the world around her, including local landscapes, architecture, and other subjects. She uses bold colors to create specific moods in her paintings, mixing realistic and abstract elements influenced by art movements like cubism and constructivism. Her creative process involves constant sketching, note-taking, and concept development. Diane faces the challenge of having more inspiring ideas than time to complete them, as balancing multiple aspects of life creates urgency in her creative work. For Diane, painting is both her passion and an ongoing search for purpose in her art and life.



### QUICK SCROLL

Yugoslav-born Ohio painter with an MFA, merging bold color, realism, and abstraction. Constantly sketching, fueled by endless ideas.

 [zovica@hotmail.com](mailto:zovica@hotmail.com)



# A Life in Painting: Dianne Curtis

## Painting After Retirement

After 35 years of teaching and raising a family, Dianne Curtis returned to her childhood love of painting through a weekly class at the Wolf Creek YMCA. What started with Saturday sessions at the Toledo Museum of Art as a girl has grown into a joyful, full-circle return to creativity in retirement.

Working mainly in acrylics, she draws inspiration from a lifetime of travel with her husband of 60 years. From the wild beauty of Alaska to the colorful streets of Europe, her paintings often reflect those memories, as well as personal requests from children and grandchildren. One piece, a portrait of a pet duck, will even appear in a children's book she's co-writing with her daughter.

## Traveling Inspired Art Finds Local Home

Decades of travel and observation have turned into a rich collection of artwork for this Ohio painter. Inspired by visits to national parks, the Caribbean, and Mexico, she brings natural beauty and architectural detail to life on canvas.

She explores a range of media like pastels, watercolor, and pencil, but acrylic remains her favorite. Each week, she paints alongside friends at her YMCA class, where the creative energy fuels her ongoing projects. The group also hosts a yearly art show, offering her a chance to share work shaped by years of adventure and a deep appreciation of the world around her.



### QUICK SCROLL

Ohio acrylic painter drawn to bold color and quiet landscapes. Fueled by family, travel, and the joy of rediscovery.

# SESHAT'S CALENDAR

## Art Events for July

View our online calendar at [the-scribe.org/calendar](http://the-scribe.org/calendar)



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### TOLEDO

★ July 12-Nov 30 @ Toledo Museum of Art  
*Infinite Images: The Art of Algorithms*

★ July 27 @ University of Toledo  
*Art on The Mall*

July 12 @ Toledo Museum of Art  
Stories of Disability Pride

July 19 @ Toledo Museum of Art  
Lecture on Rachel Ruysch

July 26 @ Adams Street  
Art Loop: Young & Arty Summer Party

### COLUMBUS

Every Thursday @ Mayme Moore Park  
Heritage Music Festival

July 12-13 @ Columbus Metropolitan Library  
Columbus Book Festival

July 12-13 @ Heritage Park  
Westerville Music & Arts Festival

July 18-20 @ Scioto Mile  
Jazz & Rib Fest

July 23-Aug 3 @ Ohio State Fairgrounds  
Ohio State Fair

### CLEVELAND

July 3-Sept 7 @ Blossom Music Center  
Blossom Music Festival

July 11-13 @ Cleveland Heights  
Cain Park Arts Festival

July 12 @ Great Lakes Science Center  
Uncorked Cleveland

July 16-19 @ Playhouse Square  
Borderlight Fringe Festival

July 18-20 @ Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds  
Cleveland Irish Cultural Festival

### CINCINNATI

July 3-6 @ Hoffner Park  
Northside Rock N Roll Carnival

July 6 @ Cincinnati Art Museum  
Art on The Rise

July 13 @ American Sign Museum  
New Museum Wing Opening

July 18 @ Cincinnati Memorial Hall  
North Avondale Block Party

July 20 @ Sawyer Point  
AfriFest Cincy: Taste of Africa

# Audrey Johnson: 30 Years of Art

## The Early Click

Audrey Johnson picked up her first camera at age 10, starting a lifelong journey as a photographer and “history keeper.” Her unique “Point of View” has captured moments across the world - from Ghana, West Africa to Paris, France, Amsterdam, the Dominican Republic, Nassau Bahamas, Montego Bay Jamaica, and Hawaii. Each photograph invites viewers to see the world through her experienced eyes.

## Building Community Through Art

As co-founder of the Unbounded Artists Development Community (UADC), a nonprofit organization, Audrey works to encourage creativity and help communities grow through art. A Canton, Ohio native and Bowling Green State University graduate with a degree in Visual Communications Technology, she has spent 30 years volunteering with the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo and Toledo Museum of Art. As a retired high school teacher and member of Phi Delta Kappa Incorporated sorority, she remains dedicated to supporting young people’s growth.

## Living Her Philosophy

Audrey’s approach to life reflects her favorite quote by Wallace D. Wattles: “*The very best thing you can do for the world is to make the most of yourself.*” This belief shows in everything she does - from her photography that captures the world’s beauty to her community work that helps others reach their creative potential.



### QUICK SCROLL

Canton-born photographer and educator who captures global moments while building artistic communities through her nonprofit work and volunteer service.

# Maliyah Clark: Painting Heroes

## Building an Artist's Foundation

Maliyah Clark is a Black, queer artist who grew up in Northeast Ohio with a deep love for creating and sharing art. She followed her artistic dreams to Detroit, where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in illustration from the College for Creative Studies. After gaining valuable experience through an internship at the Whitney Museum of American Art, she returned to Northeast Ohio to continue her artistic career.

## Art with Purpose

Maliyah focuses her artwork on people of color, working to bridge the gap between fantasy illustration and Black representation in the genre. She uses both traditional mixed media and digital techniques to create welcoming scenes and thoughtful illustrations.

Her art appears in many different forms, including murals, cover art, editorial illustrations, art prints, posters, and comics, as the variety is important to her. Along with her twin sister Makaylah, she co-owns BlackStar, a small business where they sell their artwork.

Maliyah's artwork often starts with her emotions, which she uses to create fantasy worlds where big feelings can exist. While some pieces come to her fully formed and can be finished quickly, most require a longer, more detailed process. She begins with many pages of word lists and small sketches to figure out the best combinations of ideas and compositions. Next, she takes or finds reference photos, then creates a refined line drawing.

## The Whitney Museum Impact

During her internship at the Whitney Museum of American Art, Maliyah worked with diverse groups of teenagers and experienced educators. She witnessed firsthand how art can connect people and help them understand both the world and themselves better.

The internship showed her that workplaces can truly value inclusion and accommodations. This experience left her feeling optimistic about art's power to create a more welcoming and inclusive world.



### QUICK SCROLL

Black queer fantasy artist and Detroit College for Creative Studies graduate creates solo and collaborative murals for representation of POC.

[mvclarkstudios.com](http://mvclarkstudios.com)



# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

**Catching back up with previously featured artists!**

## JUDY JUNE DE ANGELIS - 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition - IG: @glassaeros

Cleveland artist Judy June De Angelis is preparing to make a bold statement with the upcoming debut full-length album from her band, Glass Aeros. Currently being recorded at Superior Sound Studios, the alternative rock project draws inspiration from The Smashing Pumpkins and The Cure, weaving together raw emotion and lush, artful soundscapes to chart a transformative journey from trauma to healing. Over the past year, Glass Aeros has expanded its lineup with the addition of Jessica Jane on bass and cello and Tom Nagle on drums, bringing new depth to the band's evolving sound.

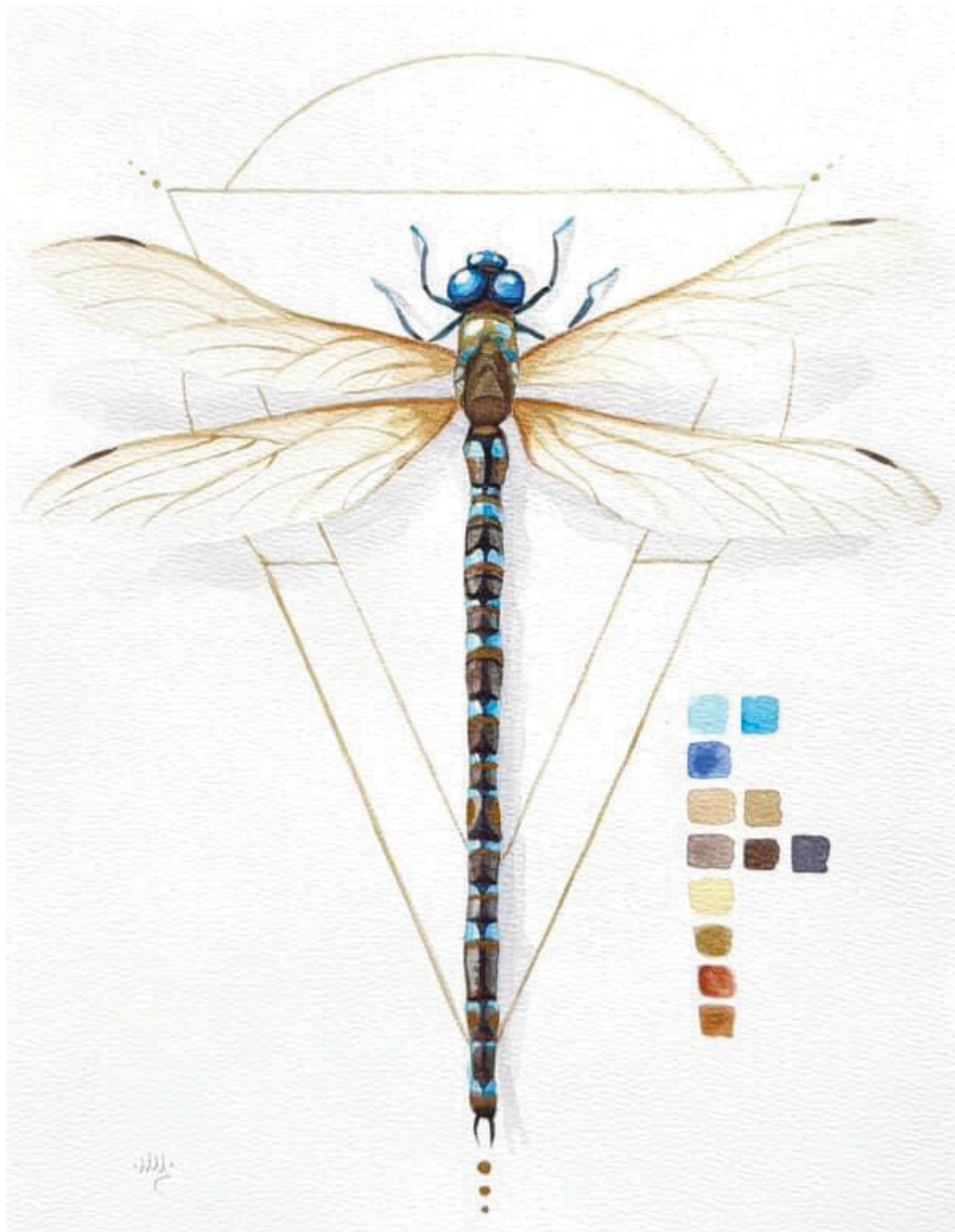
De Angelis is also producing the album's visual art in her studio at Chrysalis in the Asia Town Center, where she continues to refine her guitar work. While her focus remains on the record—set to begin releasing singles this fall—De Angelis remains active in the local arts scene, recently performing viola with her classical project, Misfits of the Forest, at Ingenuity Bal: Rust Belt Renaissance, alongside interpretive dancer Jessica Kennan, also known as Tambourine Goddess. Balancing her creative life, De Angelis also works full time at a nonprofit spay and neuter clinic and is studying to become a veterinary technician.



## TOM CROCE - 5<sup>th</sup> Edition - IG: @tcrocephoto

Over the past year, I've been deeply engaged in expanding my black and white photographic work, traveling across the country and focusing on the landscapes that have long inspired me. My recent photography of the Great Plains explores the quiet drama of open space—where vast skies, wind-shaped grasslands, and distant horizons evoke both stillness and strength. This work builds on my Heartland series, an ongoing project that captures the spirit and subtleties of rural life in the Midwest.

One of the highlights of the year was a cross-country journey from southern Ohio to Death Valley National Park and the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains. Along the way, I documented the shifting landscapes and contrasts—from arid desert basins to alpine terrain—each stop offering a new perspective on the American landscape. I'm looking forward to sharing more from these experiences in the coming months, and I'm grateful for your continued support and interest in my work.



# The Creative Dance: Margaret Manley

## Nature Meets Emotion: Margaret's Journey

Margaret Manley started her art career in an unusual way. She's originally from Cincinnati but has lived in Columbus for ten years now. After graduating from The Ohio State University with a zoology degree and an art minor, she taught herself most of her artistic skills.

It wasn't until 2020 that she sold her very first piece—a small charcoal drawing of a person. Since then, her artwork has grown and changed a lot, covering people, animals, landscapes, and even anatomy using different art materials.

## Two Sides of Her Art

Margaret's science background heavily influences her creative work. She focuses on the natural world and how humans connect with animals. Her art reminds viewers to stay curious about everything around them. She often draws everyday scenes and common creatures with lots of detail, like pages from a nature journal filled with animals, plants, and people.

Margaret also explores a completely different side of art. She creates visual representations of feelings and psychology. This work uses geometric shapes and solid blocks of color as abstract elements. This approach moves away from realistic drawings and dives into the mysterious and unknown aspects of human emotion.



### QUICK SCROLL

Columbus-based painter known for her emotionally rich watercolor work blending nature and dreamlike elements with her science background.



@margaret\_dm



margaret-manley.com

# Sylvia and the Art of Belonging

## Rooted in Zimbabwean Identity

Sylvia Munodawafa is a Cleveland-based visual artist and educator whose creative vision is grounded in storytelling, connection, and cultural identity. Drawing from her Zimbabwean background, she channels the spirit of unity—known as Ubuntu—into every piece she creates.

## Art That Tells Stories and Builds Belonging

Sylvia's practice spans both painting and sculpture, often guided by themes of belonging, relationships, and emotional resonance. Her artistic voice came into focus with her first solo show, KUMESO, held at Pinwheel Gallery, which featured a series of expressive masks that reflected personal and cultural narratives.

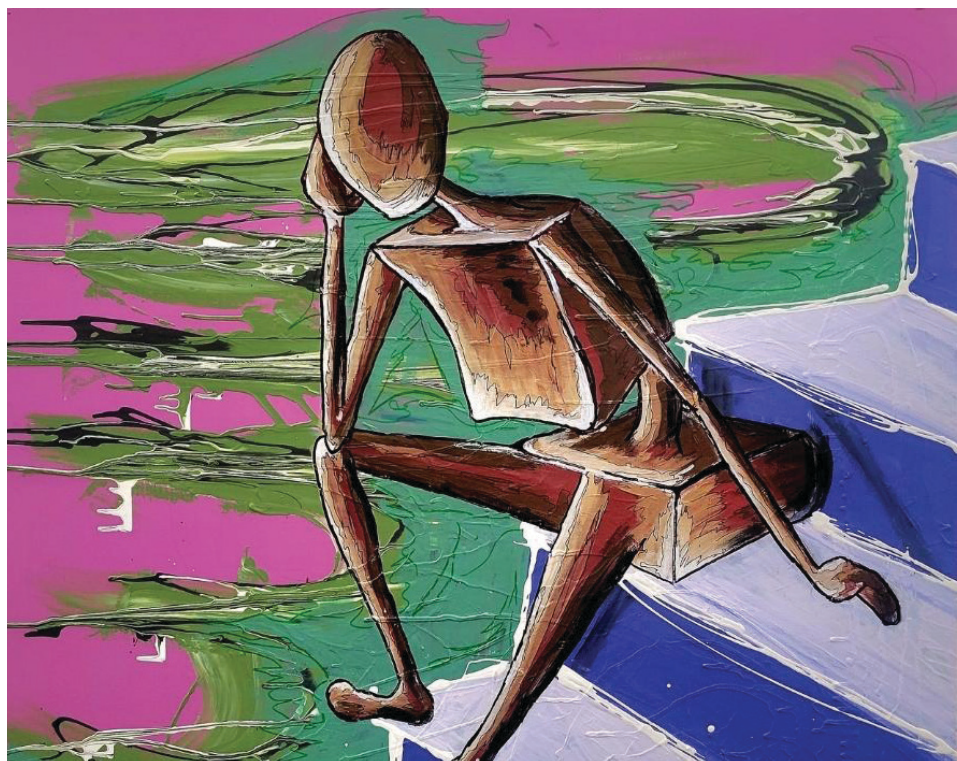
In 2025, Sylvia was named the first Artist in Residence at University Circle Inc., where her work will be displayed throughout the year and offered for purchase. She has exhibited in shows such as Be-longing at Worthington Yards, Where the Heart Is at the Feinberg Gallery, and the Emerging Artist Show with Heights Arts. Her efforts have been recognized with honors like a Scholastic Silver Key award and a partial portfolio scholarship from the Cleveland Institute of Art.

Beyond her studio, Sylvia actively contributes to the arts community. She serves on the board of Friends of Cain Park, participates in exhibition panels at Heights Arts, and teaches in youth and adult programs, including at the I Promise School and through PLAN with JFS. In her professional role as Marketing and Communications Coordinator at Heights Arts, she uplifts fellow creatives and promotes inclusive storytelling through visual media.

## Where Her Vision Leads Next

Sylvia continues to pursue meaningful collaborations, including a recent role as a featured teaching artist at the Cleveland Museum of Art's Family Fun Day at the Pivot Center.

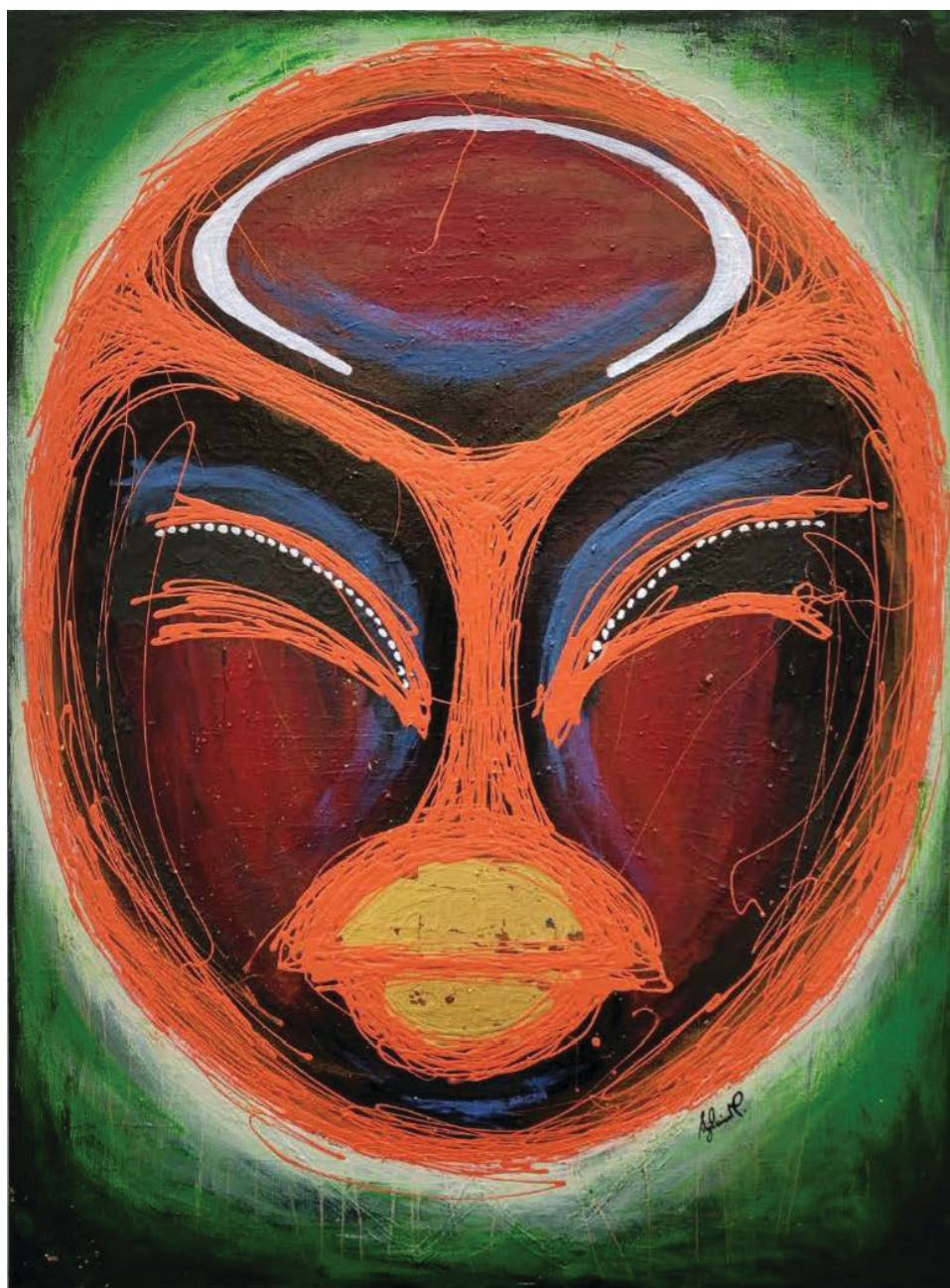
Her future plans include expanding her studio practice, teaching new workshops, and sharing her work with audiences around the globe. Her journey is guided by purpose, shaped by heritage, and driven by a desire to make space for healing and connection.



### QUICK SCROLL

Cleveland artist and educator using bold, story-driven work to explore culture, identity, and connection. Currently with Heights Arts.

@artislife





# Code to Canvas: Matt Gaberell

## Tech Guy Who Never Forgot His Creative Side

Matt Gaberell lives in Columbus, Ohio and works in Information Technology with a degree from Franklin University, but art has always been his real passion. From copying Sunday comics as a kid in Wisconsin to building snow sculptures, creativity was always part of his life. As an adult, he explored pen and ink drawings, fan art, and acrylic painting before discovering his true artistic home in 2020: realistic bird and wildlife paintings.

Teaching himself through books and online tutorials, Matt brings his tech problem-solving skills to each painting, treating every bird as a unique puzzle. He has to figure out anatomy, posture, feathers, and environment while balancing realism with his own artistic style. As a member of the Clintonville Arts Guild, he connects with other local artists and believes that both mistakes and successes teach him something new, making painting a thoughtful conversation between observation, technique, and imagination.

## Ready to Soar at the Columbus Arts Festival

Matt's big moment comes in 2025 when he joins the Columbus Arts Festival as an emerging artist. The festival runs June 6-8 along Columbus's downtown riverfront, featuring over 250 juried visual artists. You'll find Matt at booth B113 on Belle Street, showing bird paintings from tiny 5x5 inch pieces to large 3x4 foot works, as well as printed works.



### QUICK SCROLL

Columbus IT guy who became a self-taught wildlife painter that treats each bird painting like a puzzle. Debuts at the 2025 Columbus Arts Festival.



@mlg\_fine\_art



mattgaberell.com

# Classifieds in *The Scribe*

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- Findlay Art League
- \$1k for Best of Show!
- Artist drop off:
  - July 25<sup>th</sup> - 6-8pm,
  - July 26<sup>th</sup> - 9am-12pm



[findlayartleague.org](http://findlayartleague.org)

419-422-7847

### Call For Entries

- Bi-annual Members Show
- Heights Arts Gallery
- All members can enter
- Non-members: \$35 entry fee
- Submissions accepted until full

[the-scribe.org/heights](http://the-scribe.org/heights)



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  - Extra info? Add it here!
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  - Anything else?



[yourwebsite.com](http://yourwebsite.com)

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- Ashtabula Arts Center
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# Madeleine Rico: Dreams Take Detours



## Saturday Morning Dreams

Madeleine Rico is a Cleveland-based artist whose love for drawing began in childhood and was shaped by 90s animated movies and Saturday morning cartoons. As a kid, she was so inspired by these stories that she would trace over TV screens with pencil. Her passion for creating characters and illustrations that spark wonder drove her through high school and into art school, where she earned an MA in Illustration.

## Industry Experience Shapes Artistic Growth

After graduating, Madeleine worked in the animation industry as a production assistant and coordinator for TV series. However, creative exhaustion and the pressures of entering her dream field during COVID led her to take a break from art.

Despite this, her time as a manager taught her valuable communication and leadership skills. She also gained knowledge of the industry, plus meaningful connections within it.

Eventually, she realized she couldn't give up on her artistic dreams. Today, she creates whimsical, fantasy-inspired digital art using Procreate and Photoshop, often mixing in traditional sketches. She's working toward her goal of becoming a visual development artist in animation while continuing to grow her illustration skills.

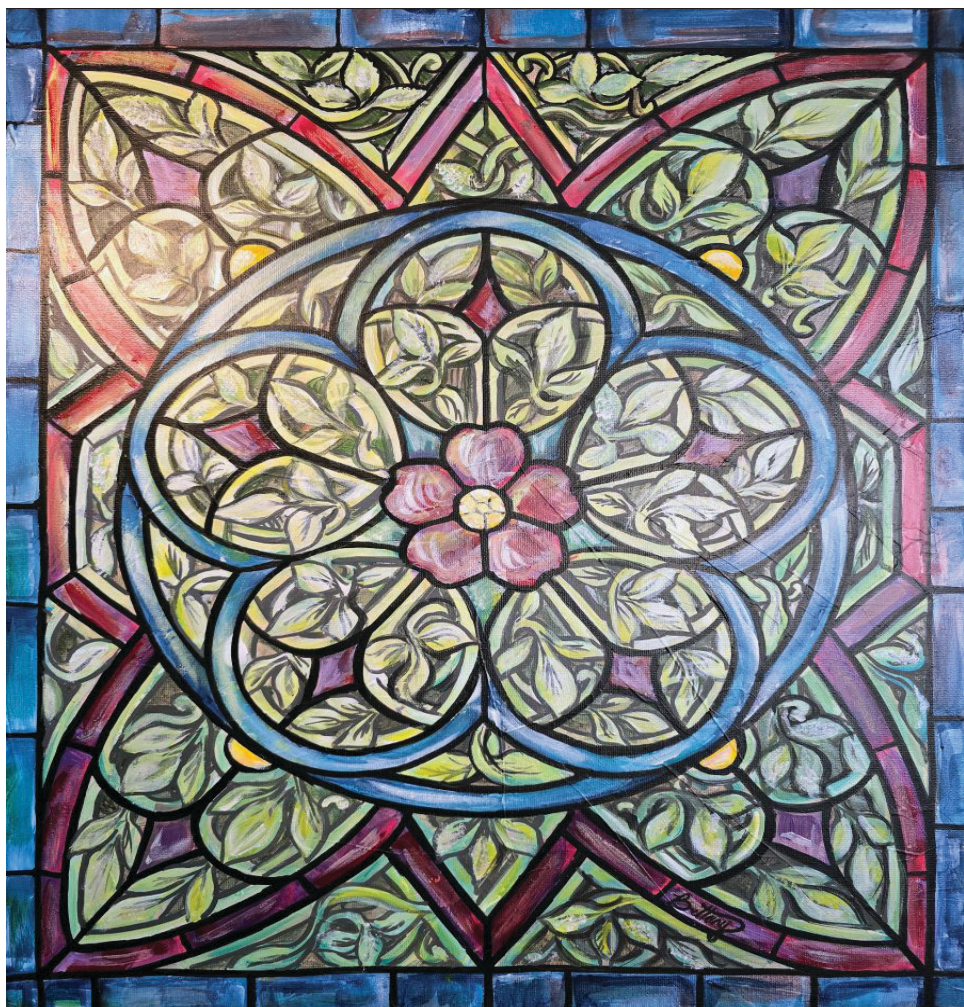


## QUICK SCROLL

Cleveland fantasy artist returning to her love of art after a hiatus due to career demands.

 @mrigo.art

 madeleinerico.wixsite.com/mrico



# Brittany Cosgrove: When Sound Meets Paint

## The Multi-Arts Master

Columbus-based artist Brittany Cosgrove blends visual art with music in her creative practice. She works as a painter, muralist, teacher, and musician, with advanced degrees in music from Arizona State University and Otterbein University. Her musical background performing in jazz bands and orchestras directly influences her visual work.

## Vibrant Acrylic Paintings

As a professional painter, Brittany creates works known for their bright colors, realistic details, and rhythmic compositions. She uses multiple thin layers of acrylic paint applied with brushes, palette knives, and pens to build depth and texture. Her subjects include musical instruments, wildlife, and botanicals, with abstract elements representing sound and movement.

## "Illuminated Life" Series

Her current body of work re-imagines stained glass windows as paintings, drawing from medieval, Renaissance, and art deco designs alongside original compositions. This series explores the relationship between light, nature, and craftsmanship. Her work is currently displayed at RAW Gallery and 83 Gallery in Columbus.



### QUICK SCROLL

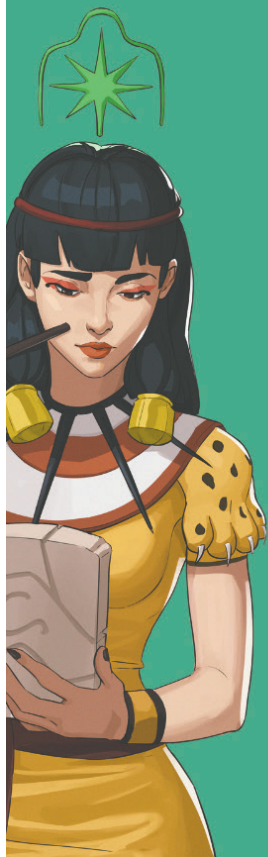
Columbus artist creates vibrant acrylic paintings blending her musical background with realistic subjects.

@BCosgrove\_Art



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## Who is Thoth?

Thoth was one of ancient Egypt's most important and respected gods, known primarily as the deity of wisdom, writing, and knowledge. The Egyptians pictured him either as a man with the head of an ibis bird (a long-beaked water bird) or sometimes as a full baboon. He often appeared in Egyptian art holding a reed pen and a palette, showing his connection to writing and record-keeping.

As the god of wisdom and writing, Thoth was believed to have invented hieroglyphs - the picture-writing system that Egyptians used. He was also considered the keeper of divine knowledge and the one who recorded the deeds of both gods and humans. In Egyptian mythology, Thoth served as a scribe and advisor to the other gods, helping to maintain order in the universe through his wisdom and fair judgment.

His wife is Seshat!

