

Mia Carollo Cross

Statement

My works in this show belong to a world that I have named the Painted Place. I started dreaming up the Painted Place two years ago. I wanted to create a sort of utopia where my figures could exist. It is a world where people and nature are intertwined, living in harmony. It is peaceful, abundant, lush, and bursting with color. All creatures are equal, and everything is seen as miraculous, down to the wiggly winch worms and itchy-glitchy blades of grass. Here every inhabitant has realized their innate gifts, based in color, invention, and the act of mark-making, and each plays an instrumental role in sustaining the Painted Place.

I couldn't tell you exactly where this place is—if it's tucked away on a corner of the earth or on the other side of the galaxy—or when it is, whether it's in the past or in the future, or if time even works the same way there. I've discovered, though, that this is all part of the magic of the Painted Place, which will continue to unfold for whoever chooses to explore it.

Biography

Mia Cross launched her career in 2014 following her graduation from Boston University with a double major in painting and sculpture. In 2016 she received the “Emerging Artist Award” presented by the Danforth Museum in Framingham, MA. Cross has been the recipient of multiple grants, including a VSC Boston University Alumni Grant, the Blanche Colman Grant and a Mass MoCa Match Grant. Recent residencies include the Archipelago Residency in Kökar, Finland, the Facebook Artist in Residence Program in Cambridge, MA, the Sasaki Artist in Residence Collaboration in Watertown, MA, the Vermont Studio Center Residency in Johnson, VT, and the Goettelman Residency at the Rocky Neck Art Colony in Gloucester, MA. Her work has been featured in numerous galleries and exhibits throughout New England and New York. Her work lives in private collections throughout Europe and the United States. Cross' mural project “We the People II” existed on the Rose Kennedy Greenway in Boston MA from fall of 2017 to fall of 2019. Cross has recently created permanent murals at Tender Greens in the Copley Mall in Boston, at the Facebook headquarters in Cambridge, and at Blick art store in Boston. In the fall of 2019 Mia exhibited her work in an invitational group show at the Danforth Museum and in her first university solo show at the Trustman Art Gallery of Simmons University. She is a member of Fountain Street Gallery and exhibits her work at her studio at 450 Harrison Ave in the SoWa art district of Boston.