

I am inspired and taught by the natural world every day. I aim to capture a fraction of its beauty and how I see the world through my paintings. My hope with this work is that people may reconnect with some of the prolific life that we are surrounded by. I hope my paintings can act as a reminder of how much we are missing when we turn our backs to other species. I want to show that we are destroying fibrous, sensitive, intelligent, beings who are much wiser than we are when we choose to ignore life and upturn it in our xenophobia.

When I paint, I imagine the shapes and colors that I create are microbial life, alive, invisible to the human eye. For me, these images swirling through my paint brush represent vibrant life that only becomes apparent when we pay attention. The abstractness represents what we do not fully understand. This lack of understanding is an integral part of living: It's curiosity.

In my paintings I try to capture how the creatures are feeling, seeing, touching and being in the external world. This includes their curiosity, perception and wonder. When I paint, the brush leads me. I may start out with a basic idea of what I want to create but, similarly to the earth and her ecosystems, the paint ends up taking on a life of its own. By trying to control and fulfill selfish desires that have been ingrained into western culture we deplete the vision of ecosystems. We become a cancer to the planet, in turn destroying ourselves. Beauty and fulfillment comes from creating an environment in which all life can thrive, not trying to confine it for one's own perceived benefit.

I went into this project with a strong plan, but I ended up straying from it which resulted in creating a more complex, richer, weirder world than I could have captured at first glance, just like life on earth.

WEB OF LIFE

Vivi D.