

Surrealism emerged in the late 1910s and sought to liberate the unconscious mind by capturing dreams and trance states. Despite its reputation for being "otherworldly," I view Surrealism as the most human representation of the self, embracing our humanity rather than distancing from it.

My painting is influenced by Surrealist painters such as Leonora Carrington and her works surrounding animal like creatures as central figures. My experience replicating a Persian miniature from the sixteenth century also influenced a detail oriented approach in which I used a smaller brush. I created a wistful scene through the use of vibrant colors and naturalistic symbols like lakes, rivers, hills, and grass create a wistful scene. The painting portrays an animal-led world with a birthday cake on the table, a symbol of human creation. Still, even in the presence of cake, a bird chooses to feast on fish. Amidst these peculiar events, a horse lies on the ground, bleeding and dying. The cause of its demise remains unknown, while other figures obviously continue their individual pursuits. This ethereal scene considers the distinction between humans and animals and whether we assign meaning to it.

I invite viewers to contemplate a world where animal and human behaviors are interchangeable. If the horse was a human, would its blood go unnoticed? Does it depend on what kind of human it would be?

TRANSCENDING REALITIES

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