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ARTIST STATEMENT

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I believe art should reflect our lives. It should speak to our humanity.

The theme of my current work references the paintings of Jan Vermeer. They mostly feature young women going about their daily lives: playing music, reading a book, or playing with a cat. Originally I did several such paintings in a realistic style but I realized—at this point in history—they didn't work. The works came off as redundant, not much more than fluff. So I destroyed those paintings.

During a hiatus to gain my bearing, I tried several new directions (i.e. working on scrolls, working in 3D with wood and creating paintings that directly incorporated works of the Old Masters). But none of these directions felt right to me. I'm also a fan of the cubist painter, Juan Gris, and that eventually led to the thought of adding a modern sensibility to the earlier "Vermeer" theme. By incorporating both realistic and cubists techniques, I developed what I now call a "realistic cubism" style.

These paintings are rich in color, and intricately composed—two aspects I always admired in both Vermeer and Gris.