

AN ARTE

GALLERY & STUDIO

PATRICIA SCHAPPLER



BIOGRAPHY

City of Taras

When I began thinking of this painting, my mother who was a traveler had recently passed. Through her, my thoughts circled around women and stories, the richness of cultures, and the hope for new life found within religions. Mixing Christianity, 1001 Nights, Wayang, and the curios of memory and time, the women were painted and assembled as the Green and White Taras of compassion and regeneration. Placing stories within stories, I question how we define home, where we find it, and how we protect it with the underlying belief that home is, at its' richest, expansive. The figure's gaze, body language, and proximity to the viewer become catalysts for communicating. Forms are built and destroyed (wiped out, torn, and collaged,) and rebuilt again in this process, until something unseen, is discovered...and meaning, is recognized.

My imagery focuses on the drawn and painted figure in shallow, often collaged spaces. I work from family and friends and am encouraged by the narrative that naturally accompanies a psychologically driven subject. Merging my love of Western sensual form with Eastern, flat patterned design, I alternate between depth and surface to create pictorial tension. If the human figure within the narrative of home are my starting points, uncovering where home is held, how we share it, and how it shifts through event, archetype, and fictionalized story, are part of the journey made visible through tools and process. Photography provides the raw material of day to day and accompanies working from life.

Moving between the two sources contrasts between the external, detailed information of the photo, with the textural complexity of observed space, material shifts, and internal feelings and thought processes. The act of creation shuffles between the real, touchable, and enterable spaces of the physical world I know, with the more transparent, shifting world of memories and adaptation. Through layered surface, I hope to extend time, communicated through complex imagery. The energy of these spaces creates a hybrid of worlds; a contrast of heavy and light, flat and formed, still and mobile. Parallel to my own experience of living, the world is one of transformation and in the state of becoming. Whether sourced from biblical, familial, or fairytales; the narrative remains the same; connected histories in an ongoing love story.