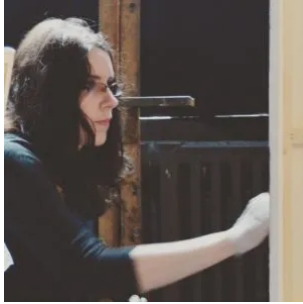


STEPHANIE DESHPANDE



BIOGRAPHY

Stephanie Deshpande is a realist painter living in northern New Jersey. She is best known for her psychological portraits and narrative paintings. Her work combines her love of realism with personal allegories. She creates paintings that unearth hidden emotions and capture the quiet drama of the world around her. Deshpande graduated from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst with a BFA in painting and continued her studies at the New York Academy of Art earning her MFA. She was awarded the Ellen Battell Stoeckel Fellowship to attend Yale Summer School of Music and Art and has received recognition for her paintings by the Portrait Society of America, RayMar Art, Artist's Magazine, and the Art Renewal Center, Allied Artists of America, and Oil Painters of America. Her paintings have appeared in multiple issues of Poets Artists Magazine and in the book *21st Century Figurative Art: The Resurrection of Art* by Jan Essman. She enjoys teaching classes and workshops at the Teaching Studios of Art, the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, Scottsdale Artists' School, and other venues in the New York City area.

Her work has been on display at the National Arts Club, Sotheby's, Salmagundi Club, Belenky Gallery, Eleanor Ettinger Gallery, Principle Gallery Charleston, Haynes Galleries, Abend Gallery, Waterhouse Gallery, Schomburg Gallery, AnArte Gallery, and Richard J. Demato Fine Arts Gallery. Her painting "Assembling the Pieces" was acquired by the New Britain Museum of American Art for their Post Contemporary room. She is represented by Arundel Contemporary in West Sussex, England.

ARTIST STATEMENT

I painted Conversations in 2019, but the idea behind the painting has been in my mind for many years. It stems from my fascination with the interactions between people in a social setting and the dynamics at play. I am intrigued by the inner world of hidden thoughts and the outward manifestation of visible sentiments. I tried to capture that drama in this painting. You can observe the intimate conversation between people but are left to wonder what each person is thinking. Although the people in the foreground are the focus, the painting is filled with groups of individuals, each with their own stories and experiences. The magnificent, spacious room is like a small universe with everyone absorbed in their own microcosm.