



Self Portrait
12" x 14" Oil on
Repurposed Aluminum Sign

Artist Statement

Unformally-taught, obsessively-practiced creator of figurative, figurative abstract and intuitive contemporary fine artworks, Live Events Illustration and Fashion/Commercial illustration. Betty is a rebelliously-human artist celebrating life and art using a variety of styles and mediums.

2024 & 2025 Exhibitions & Performances

- May 2025 **Live Illustration** Jack White No Name Tour Dallas Performance
- March 2025 **Live Illustration** Back to the Future, the Musical Tour Dallas performance
- March 2025 **Live Illustration** Marc Maron All In Tour Dallas Performance
- 22 February–April 2025 **Exhibit** 6 watercolor paintings in: Body Adorned II - Art, Fashion, & Identity at [Felstead Art London](#)
- January 2025 **Live Illustration** & Juliet Musical Dallas Performance
- December 2024 **Live Illustration** at Helium Queens at the UTA Planetarium
- November 2024 **Live Illustration** at Sylvester Tour with [DCC Studios](#)
- November 2024 **Live Illustration** at Fort Worth Stockyards Championship Rodeo
- November 2024 Houston Fashion Week **Live Illustration** with [DCC Studios](#) at The Grid Show and [Danny Nguyen Couture](#)
- September 2024 New York Fashion Week **Live Illustration** with [DCC Studios](#) at [Alex S. Yu](#) “Prologue”
- September 2024 London (Fall) Fashion Week SS25 **Live Illustration** with [DCC Studios](#) at British Fashion Council “Optimism”, Leblon London, and Fashions Finest
- August 2024 Retail wall at [Kettle Art Gallery](#) 4 pcs
- July 2024 [Off the Walls Studio Gallery](#) “Party for One” painting selected by **Disney Studios** for use on set in a pilot program
- February 2024 For the Love of Kettle “Thicc in the Streets” [Kettle Art Gallery](#)
- February 2024 For the Love of Artists “Hello Halo” [Kettle Art Gallery](#)

(2014–2023 exhibition lists available upon request.)

2024 Publications

September 2024 So Edited Magazine
[“Alina Ispas: Fashion & Beauty”](#)

July 2024 So Edited Magazine
[“STRAIT by ARIANNA ANTONIAZZI: Fashion & Beauty”](#)

May 2024 Zoot Magazine [“Illustrating the Sculpting Data”](#)

March 2024 Zoot Magazine [“Illustrating the Silver Cord”](#)

Regular contributor to a variety of fashion and art periodicals

Interview

[Donna Tallent](#)

Online

[BeSoArt.com](#), [@besoart444](#)

ARTIST STATEMENT

Betty Southerland
BeSoArt.com



Betty Southerland is a life-long serious amateur and independent student of the arts, un-formally trained; learning mostly from observation and practice using life drawing and the costumed figure as a vehicle for self expression and cryptic storytelling.

Betty makes figurative, abstract, expressionist art using bold/experimental styles and techniques; trusting her intuition. She works with dry media, watercolor, pastels, acrylics, and oils using figures painted/drawn from life, photos or from live online themed life-drawing sessions featuring emerging and established performers in dance, drag, aerialist, theater, cabaret, modeling and fashion design via Drawing Cabaret Couture/DCC Studios. She also paints/draws live at events and creates original works from life, photos, memories, concepts and feelings with both abstract and figurative elements.



Betty is interested in exploring the transformational power of art saying, “Making art feeds my soul allowing me to express, heal, connect and explore humanity; honoring the human experience and **celebrating art in all forms**”. Her paintings and drawings explore personal and universal themes through movement, form, tactile experience, and the power of color; filtered through her perspective of the moment considering her life experiences, universal themes, feelings, mood, music, movies, current events, memories, etc. The content is a spontaneous interpretation of the artmaking experience; a diary, a storytelling device, and visual evidence of art as a living, breathing, giving thing.



Abstracts like “Wolf Beach” or “The Reckoning” began in a detached meditative state and evolved subconsciously into a narrative figurative abstract painting. The stories are enhanced by changing the direction of hanging.

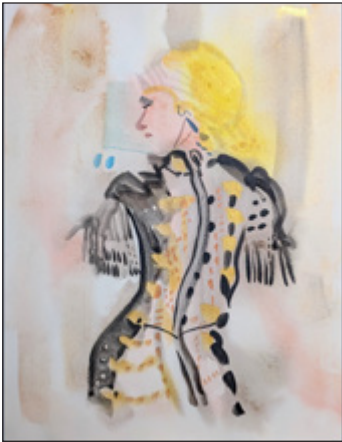
Betty believes we are all connected to everything. She expresses that theme through working with the figure to create “Self Portraits of Other People” with a desire to surprise, frighten, delight, challenge, and uplift you enough that you also see your own humanity in them.

EXHIBIT

Betty Southerland
BeSoArt.com

February 22–April 12 2025

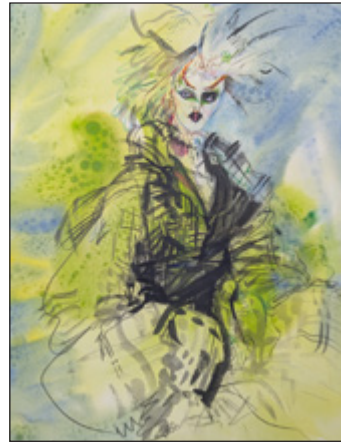
Body Adorned II - Art, Fashion, & Identity at [Felstead Art London](#)



Artwork title: Maison Chardon
Year created: 2025
Medium Watercolor
Original for sale
Price: £500



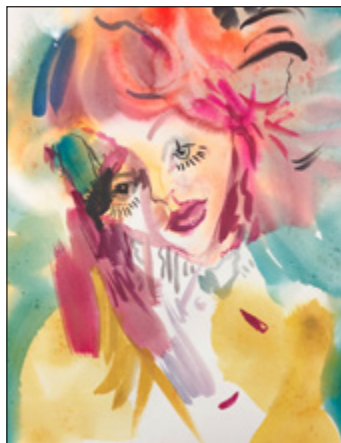
Artwork title: Kawaii Punk
Year created: 2025
Medium Watercolor
Original for sale
Price: £500



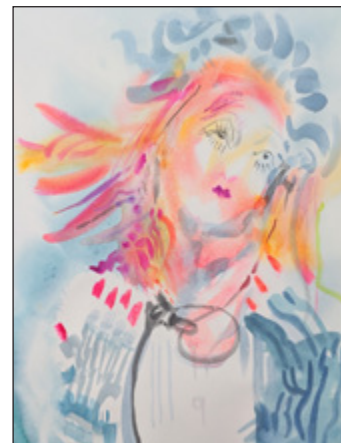
Artwork title: Kawaii Punk 2
Year created: 2025
Medium Watercolor
Original for sale
Price: £500



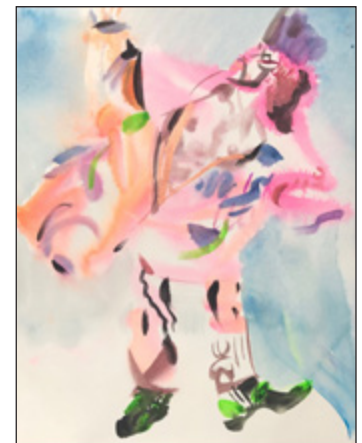
Artwork title: Karina Bond
Year created: 2024
Medium Watercolor
Original for sale
Price: £5000



Artwork title: Karbon Kyd 1
Year created: 2025
Medium Watercolor
Original for sale
Price: £500



Artwork title: Karbon Kyd 2
Year created: 2025
Medium Watercolor
Original for sale
Price: £500



Artwork title: Herman Stenko
Year created: 2025
Medium Watercolor
Original for sale
Price: £500