

HECTOR DIAZ

Valeria Reyna
Statement

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Valeria Lizeth Reyna Briones

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What would happen if love didn't exist? Would we still have a reason to dream? Would we become beings who only seek pleasure, chasing fleeting satisfaction without a deeper purpose? What happens when the line between fantasy and reality fades? When we dream, are we searching for realities or utopian fantasies?

These are the questions I often ask myself when trying to find answers to what I want to capture on a canvas.

In my surrealist paintings, I don't aim to replicate reality as we perceive it. My intention is to unravel the meaning of our harsh truth through symbolism and objects that invite us to reflect beyond what we can see.

Love, in all its stages, is the central theme of my work. I am fascinated by the way love shapes our lives, from the excitement of new love to the pain of heartbreak. A phrase that deeply inspires me, attributed to Pablo Neruda, says: "If nothing saves us from death, at least love should save us from life."

Over the years, my work has developed very specific characteristics as I have searched for my style. One of them is that, often, the main characters in my paintings lack eyes or heads, replaced instead by elements imbued with spiritual meaning. Why don't I paint them with eyes or heads? Primarily because of the idea of belonging. Through my paintings, I seek to create a connection between the viewer and the artwork, where the individual identifies with the symbolic elements—such as the meaning of flowers, animals, or any other object—rather than through the human features of my characters.

I do not aim for my works to reflect traditional realism; rather, I strive to evoke a sense of surrealism, where the elements within the painting coexist harmoniously within the composition.

With my art, I want to offer the viewer a moment of escape from the reality we live in, a space where they can find themselves in the elements they observe. Sometimes, not finding meaning in something can paradoxically lead us to discover the meaning of everything we carry within.

Oil paint is my preferred medium to bring my art to life. However, when I feel the need to express something more intimate and visceral, I turn to acrylic or graphite, sometimes applied directly with my fingers.

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Art, in its essence, offers us an opportunity to pause and reflect on the emotions, experiences, and dreams that define us. Through my work, I hope to evoke in the viewer a sense of introspection, a chance to look beyond the surface of life and delve into the depths of their own feelings. In the end, perhaps the greatest truth lies not in what we see, but in what we sense—an unspoken connection between art, love, and the human spirit.

Valeria Reyna
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