

Sarah Murrin

She Is Loved, 2023

ABOUT THE ARTWORK

When my childhood friend, Allison Dwyer, asked me to join in the Women United gathering, I was thrilled to do so. There is no end to the good that can come from women helping other women; all boats rise when we each pitch in to support each other. Umbreen Ahmad and I enjoyed collaborating on the art installation and the process. I used Umbreen's format of canvas on panel and her color palette, yet my finished product is unique and individual, just like each of us are as women. Stronger and better together.

I was listening to the documentary special on Toni Morrison while I was painting the United Way piece so I titled the work "She Is Loved" in reference to Toni's writings; despite all of the hardships (and joys) we go through as women, at the end of the day it's about giving and receiving love to make our time here together count.

BIOGRAPHY

Sarah Murrin is from Houston, Texas. She lives and paints on a ranch in Fort Worth with her husband, Philip, and their three grown children. Sarah is a graduate of the Kinkaid School, UT Austin Plan II, where she wrote her thesis on art collecting thanks to her parents' inspiration of collecting, and SMU's Cox MBA/Meadows MA in Arts Management.

Sarah is a self taught painter and is always innovating to see what the colors and paint reveal. Her style includes Collage, Assemblage, Color Field, Illuminated Manuscripts, Pop Art and Kawaii.

Faith and family are most important to her, as well as her cherished groups of girlfriends in Book Club, Lunch Bunch, Pretty Kitties, Theta Kats and the Fort Worth Women's Art Circle. Art has always been a way of connecting throughout her life, and travel and museums provide great inspiration. Organizations near and dear to her are: Studio Beloved/Project Beloved, Respond Against Violence, SASSGO, Save Venice and UT's Harry Ransom Center. Hook 'Em Horns!



Sarah Murrin, Artist
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Umbreen Ahmad

Led by Love, 2023

ABOUT THE ARTWORK

I feel so lucky to have the opportunity to create this unique and special piece for Women United. This necessary and wonderful cause that recognizes barriers and works tirelessly to shatter them. Its strives towards equity, hope and the promise of dreams manifested. This art piece is inspired by all of that and their fierce strive to create a better tomorrow for other women. This piece includes countless inscriptions embedded within the paint. The words you'll find are in English but also in Urdu (my native language), some exposed and others hidden. All of the sayings and words are connected to our ability to face adversity and find ways to gather ourselves, support each other and lift up. The inarguable strength, courage, kindness and the magic of women are an overwhelming inspiration for this work. What a dream to share creative dialogue with Sarah Murrin as we both embarked on our works for Women United.

BIOGRAPHY

Umbreen Ahmad is a Muslim-American abstract artist. She grew up in Pakistan and moved to Houston, Texas at a young age. At nineteen, a serendipitous decision led her to start painting. In 2002 new beginnings brought her to Austin, where she continued to paint and started a family. After fifteen years of creative expressions through paint and texture and overwhelming encouragement from her friends and husband, she participated in her first art show during the West Austin Studio Tour and has continued to show in various art exhibitions since then.

Umbreen has a Bachelors and a Masters in business, but throughout her schooling art was a constant. Sometimes it takes a while to recognize one's calling but she's immensely grateful she found home with art.

Umbreen finds inspiration in nature and the grand adventure we call life. The constant reminder that we are a small speck of creation in a vast world that comes in many colors is simultaneously humbling and inspiring. It is also a reminder that regardless of the distance in time, space and culture, we are connected by the very simple, yet powerful emotions we feel, no matter how vast an ocean or wall stands between us. She leans on abstract expression to illustrate the depth of human emotions, gratitude and the hope for love and light.



Umbreen Ahmad, Artist
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