

Paintings of Duality

Vanessa De Zorzi

Franklin Pierce University
New Hampshire Zeta Chapter

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Author contact information is available from the Editor at editor@alphachihonor.org.

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Artist Statement

Every situation invites ambiguous emotions. I often wonder if it is possible to be in two different places at the same time, mentally or physically.

My paintings seek to investigate the idea of duality. The subjects in my work frequently find themselves in contrasting environments simultaneously. Other times the subject contemplates conflicting sides of themselves. I paint portraits that explore the gray area of personality. The disparate elements presented in any one of my paintings will make viewers consider what is real and what is imagined.

The technique I use is important to the work I do as it also coincides with the idea of opposition. Parts of my oil paintings are very detailed and realistic while other areas of color are flat and graphic. This creates a push and pull between the different parts of the composition. I then utilize the technique of pattern to emphasize these similarities and differences.

The concept behind my work stems from many different fields. In anthropology, liminality is the disorientation that occurs when someone is in the middle stage of a ritual when they no longer hold pre-ritual status but have not yet assumed their post-ritual identity. Psychology studies cognitive dissonance, where a person holds two or more contradictory beliefs at the same time. In literature, many existentialist writers such as Albert Camus and Franz Kafka have explored the idea of multiple selves.

In the future, I wish to continue exploring these concepts through studio practice, research, and creative thought. My goal is to create art that can invite introspection and contemplation.



“Check Point,” Oil on Canvas, 18”x24,” 2015



“Dazed,” Oil on Canvas, 14”x18”, 2015



“Double Take,” Oil on Canvas, 28”x18,” 2015