

CLARISSA SHANAHAN

Figurative painting, mythological in spirit
clarissashanahan.com · @clarissashanahan

As seen on Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year, Series 13

Represented by Bridgeman Images, London

Member, British Film Designers Guild

EDUCATION

2005 BFA, Studio Art and Art History, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia – Bread (Full) Scholarship

2002 Certificate in Painting, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia

1998–99 New York Academy of Art, Painting, New York

1996–98 The Art Students League of New York, Drawing and Painting, New York

1991–93 Isabel O'Neal Studio for the Art of the Painted Finish, Gilding / Decorative Arts, New York

CURRENT INDEPENDENT WORK

Golden Bones - ongoing series of mythological figurative paintings exploring kintsugi philosophy, repair, and renewal, rendered in oil with gold and precious leaf.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2027 Conversations in Color, with Tessa Maagdenberg, Gallerie Arti-Shock, Rijswijk NL

2027 Conversations in Color, with Tessa Maagdenberg, Amsterdam, NL

2026 Coastal Currents Hastings, West Street, Hastings Old Town, UK

2025 Lenormand de Paris Exhibition, St. Andrews Mews, Hastings, UK

2019 Collection, Gravers Lane Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

2018 The Grand Tour, Gravers Lane Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

2016 Tales from the Ruins, Gravers Lane Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

2012 Old Carnival, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2020 Tell Me a Story, Cerulean Arts Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

2018 Group Exhibition, B. Deemer Gallery, Louisville, KY

2018 Faculty Exhibition, Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA

2015 On the Edge: Looking with New Eyes, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

2015 116th Annual Exhibition, Fellowship of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

2013 Ghost Stories, Artists' House Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

2012 The Future of the Past: Encaustic Art in the 21st Century, Boston Center for the Arts, MA

2012 After Dark, Greg Moon Art Gallery, Taos, NM

2012 Encausticon International Juried Exhibition, Gallery Nord, San Antonio, TX

1999 Paintings from the film Pollock, Pollock-Krasner House & Study Center, East Hampton, NY

TEACHING

2027 Incoming Faculty, College of Psychic Studies, London

2021 Visiting Faculty, Getty Center, Los Angeles (The Art of Drawing a Criminal, with VAWAA)

2019–current VAWAA, International Studio Visits and Virtual Teaching (Narrative Painting, Symbolism of Color, Palettes of the Masters, Film as Visual Narrative)

2000–18 Adjunct Instructor, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts — Encaustic Painting, Portrait

Painting, Gilding, Medieval Manuscript Illumination, Film as Visual Narrative, and others

2006–18 Adjunct Instructor, Samuel Fleisher Art Memorial, Philadelphia Museum of Art — Encaustic Painting, Life Drawing, Portrait Painting

RESIDENCIES

2023 Koningsteen Center, Kapelle-op-den-Bos, Belgium

2022 Isle of Rum Community Trust, Kinloch, Isle of Rum, Scotland

2022 Iris Arts Centre, Afidnes, Greece

1993 Friends of Vieilles Maisons Françaises, Buxy, France

PUBLIC, PRIVATE & CORPORATE COLLECTIONS (SELECTED)

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia · Museum of Natural History, New York · Museum of Encaustic Art, Los Cerrillos, NM · Iris Arts Centre, Greece · Koningsteen Center, Belgium · The Logan Hotel, Philadelphia · Sundance Channel Offices, New York · Rum Bunkhouse, Isle of Rum, Scotland · The Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia

SELECTED PROJECTS & COMMISSIONS

- Produced gilding for the exhibition Gold, Museum of Natural History, New York
- Commissioned artwork for The Logan Hotel, Philadelphia, via Kevin Barry Fine Art Associates, Los Angeles
- 72-foot mural for private client; 30-foot Krasner-inspired mural for private client — with JAGR Projects, Philadelphia
- Produced sculptural mural in the style of Anselm Kiefer for the film *The Tempest*. Additionally, work from production installed as permanent display at Steiner Studios, NY.
- Scenic Artist and Production Designer, 40+ film and television credits including *Pollock*, *Boardwalk Empire*, *Angels in America*, *Unbreakable*, *The Tempest*, *Man on the Moon*, and *The Horse Whisperer*. Created the paintings of Lee Krasner for *Pollock* (2000). Full credits available on request.

SELECTED PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

2025 Catalyst Club – The Grand Tour 1933 lecture, Brighton, Shoreham and Lewes, UK

2018 “Clarissa Shanahan Channels the Movies” – Vasari 21 (Ann Landi)

2017 “Such Stuff as Dreams Are Made On” – Vasari 21 (Ann Landi)

2013 *The Future of the Past: Encaustic Art in the 21st Century* - Publication, Boston Center for the Arts

2012 Artist of the Month – R&F Encaustics (Laura Moriarty)