

StreetARToronto Live Painting at TIFF 2020



Artwork by: Syrus Marcus Ware



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StreetARToronto Live Painting at TIFF 2020 is a series of Live Painting Events featuring artists whose backgrounds and/or artistic styles connect in a meaningful way to the film being screened each night at TIFF's West Island Open Air Cinema at Ontario Place. Each evening, from September 10-19, pre-film from 6:30-8:45pm, one Artist will create an original artwork live before the audience, that will be gifted to one lucky cinephile in attendance that night. StreetARToronto Live Painting at TIFF 2020 kicks-off a new collaboration between StreetARToronto (StART) and the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF).

StreetARToronto (StART) is a suite of innovative programs that showcase, celebrate and support street, mural and graffiti artists throughout Toronto. StART programs and projects are rooted in a set of values that demonstrate the positive and powerful impacts of diversity and inclusion, foster community engagement and civic pride, add colour and vitality to neighbourhoods, encourage active transportation, showcase Toronto artists and contribute to their skills development, mentor emerging talent, and create opportunities for positive engagement among residents, business owners and operators, artists and arts organizations. StreetARToronto is an initiative of the City of Toronto, Transportation Services Division.

Artwork by: Christiano De Araujo



CURATORS



Shaniqué Small

Shaniqué Small, is a GTA based art director with a background in project management. Inspired by the creative process and strong desire to bring about change, she hopes to bring public art more to the mainstream.



Ann-Marie Power

Ann-Marie Power was born and raised in Canada and earned a BA at Queen's University, and an MBA from the University of Guelph. She established AMPlove in 2011, a consultancy specializing in the production of public works, interior and exterior murals, sculptural installations, live art events and art festivals in Canada and the United States. During her tenure in the public art realm, Ann-Marie Power has produced over 100,000 square feet of artwork for public and private property owners, festival organizers and government bodies.

Artwork by: Jessey Pacho (Phade)



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday September 10	Friday September 11	Saturday September 12	Sunday September 13	Monday September 14	Tuesday September 15	Wednesday September 16	Thursday September 17	Friday September 18	Saturday September 19
AMERICAN UTOPIA	MEMORY HOUSE	AKILLA'S ESCAPE	THE NEW CORPORATION THE UNFORTUNATELY NECESSARY SEQUEL	NO ORDINARY MAN	BANDAR BAND	WILDFIRE	LIFT LIKE A GIRL	GAZA MON AMOUR	A SUITABLE BOY
<p>Summary: Spike Lee documents the former Talking Heads frontman's brilliant, timely 2019 Broadway show, based on his recent album and tour of the same name.</p> <p>StART Artist: Elicser Elliott</p>	<p>Summary: João Paulo Miranda Maria explores the racial tensions of modern-day Brazil in his lush, haunting debut feature rooted in Brazilian folklore.</p> <p>StART Artist: Christiano De Araujo</p>	<p>Summary: With Jamaican gang culture and the reach of its rampant international drug trade as a biting political backdrop, Akilla's Escape is a wide-eyed look at social violence and the toll it takes on Black lives.</p> <p>StART Artist: Jessey Pachó (Phade)</p>	<p>Summary: The sequel to The Corporation exposes how companies are desperately rebranding as socially responsible — and how that threatens democratic freedoms.</p> <p>StART Artist: Mike Parsons</p>	<p>Summary: The legacy of Billy Tipton, a 20th-century American jazz musician and trans icon, is brought to life by a diverse group of contemporary trans artists.</p> <p>StART Artist: Syrus Marcus Ware</p>	<p>Summary: Manijeh Hekmat's music-infused twist on a road movie follows a band's day-long journey across a flooded landscape to Tehran.</p> <p>StART Artist: Melika Saaeda</p>	<p>Summary: Lift Like a Girl is an intimate journey into the inner life of an aspiring athlete (weight lifter)</p> <p>StART Artist: Keitha Keeshig-Tobias</p>	<p>Summary: With Jamaican gang culture and the reach of its rampant international drug trade as a biting political backdrop, Akilla's Escape is a wide-eyed look at social violence and the toll it takes on Black lives.</p> <p>StART Artist: EGR</p>	<p>Summary: The latest from the Nasser brothers (Dégradé) is a satire on love and desire, and an affirmation that life continues amidst the absurdity of living.</p> <p>StART Artist: Rowell Soller</p>	<p>Summary: A young woman in post-partition India struggles to balance family duty and personal independence, in Mira Nair's six-part drama series adaptation.</p> <p>StART Artist: Ghazaleh Rastgar</p>

Artwork by: Ghazaleh Rastgar



FEATURED ARTISTS



ELICSER ELLIOTT

Since graduating from Sheridan College's animation program, Elliott has amassed a collection of murals and public artworks that have come to help define Toronto's cityscape. Moving beyond notions of the streets being his only canvas, Elliott has exhibited works at The Art Gallery of Ontario, The Royal Ontario Museum, and LE Gallery. Elliott has also acted as an arts educator working with the Art Gallery of Ontario's "Free After Three" youth arts program, and the Toronto Jazz Festival, teaching youth aerosol paint techniques.

Elliott's most notable works can be described as a highly improvised collage of soft characters and organic shapes, layered and blended through transparencies. His character work is often mediated by past experiences and relationships while also drawing on the likenesses of passers-by to complete his community-based murals. Elliott has also illustrated and produced a small run of books titled "Know Love".

@eliscerelliott

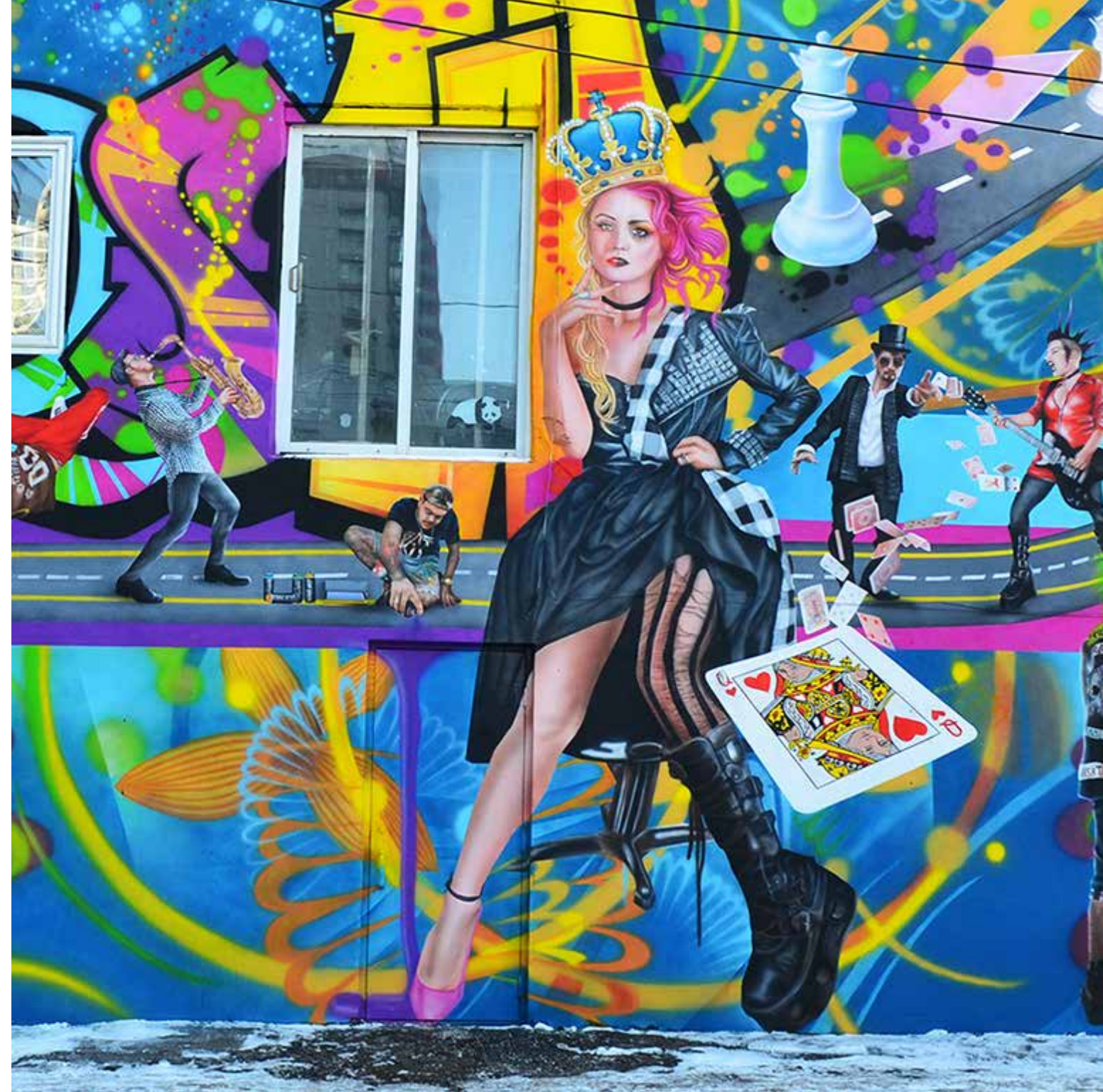




CHRISTIANO DE ARAUJO

Christiano De Araujo is a multidisciplinary professional artist born in Brazil residing in Toronto, Canada. He is an award winning visual artist specializing in Murals and Paintings. He is a master painter skilled in 3D Art and Installation, Digital Art, Illustrations and Comic Strips.

He is the founder of Toronto Artists Studio and has exhibited his art and worked on over 100 murals and public art installations across Canada; including a creation of 10 community artwork images embedded into a larger public artwork, metal panels for the 2015 Toronto Pan Am Games opening ceremonial cauldron, a large scale 3D Sculpture for Avatar the movie in Toronto, Cirque du Soleil mural in Calgary, Alberta and 2 large scale high profile murals for World Pride 2014 in Toronto. He has devoted his life to the visual arts and likes to experiment with new media and techniques.





JESSE PACHO (PHADE)

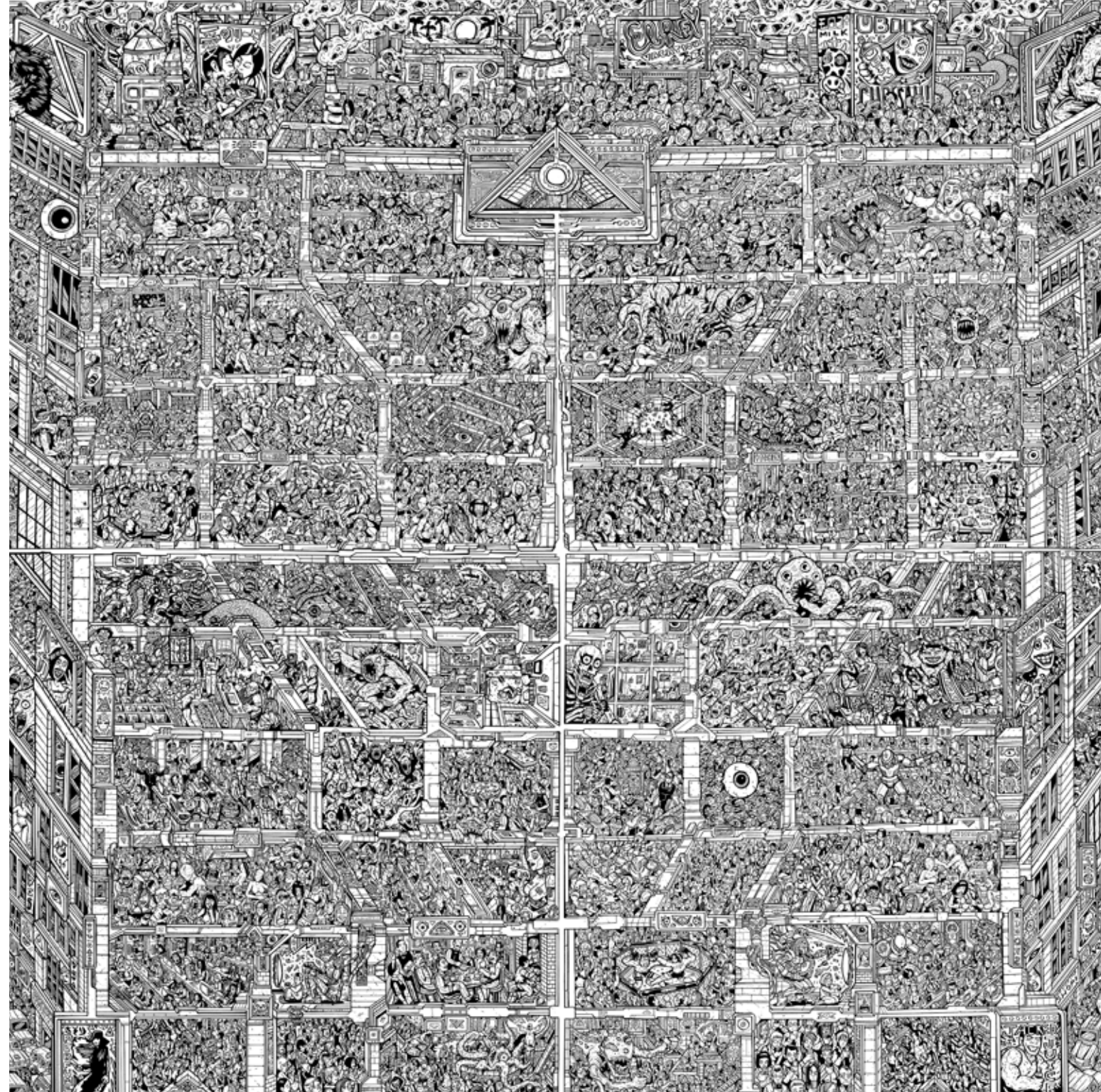
Jessey (Phade) Pachó, a renowned graffiti artist and recognized by the Canadian government for his artistic endeavours, has dedicated his life to community, arts education and mural making. Overcoming Homelessness through his craft, Jessey has positioned himself as a leader in his industry and carved a niche market for his artistic abilities, using the experiences in his life to positively contribute to society, one mural at a time. For ten years Jessey managed multiple teams of professional artists, using the various hip hop art forms to deliver this programming in schools K-12 and learning environments, as well as Indigenous, New Comer and Marginalized communities across Canada. Jessey has done many murals for schools nation wide, local businesses, private commissions, corporate clients, live painting and his work has been published both nationally and internationally. Jessey's work builds community and breathes new life into spaces that could use a boost of both colour and commerce. While seeking bigger opportunities and the pursuit of greater heights in his craft, Jessey remains a student to time and a humble servant of the arts.

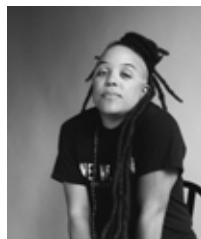




MIKE PARSONS

Mike Parsons is a Toronto based artist specializing in large scale murals, live painting, comic books and street art. Mike uses black and white imagery combining cartoons with expressionism in order to create thoughtful artworks that can be appreciated by all ages. Mike started working as a licensed street performer doing live paintings in downtown Toronto. Since that time he has gone on to do live murals and large commissioned works all over the world. Notable clients include Scotiabank, Thyssen Krupp, Converse, Dr. Martens, A.G.O., Heinenken and StART Toronto.





SYRUS MARCUS WARE

Syrus is a Vanier Scholar, visual artist, activist, curator and educator. Syrus uses painting, installation and performance to explore social justice frameworks and black activist culture. His work has been shown widely, including in a solo show at Grunt Gallery, Vancouver (*2068:Touch Change*) and new work commissioned for the 2019 Toronto Biennial of Art and the Ryerson Image Centre (*Antarctica and Ancestors, Do You Read Us? (Dispatches from the Future)*) and in group shows at the Art Gallery of Ontario, the University of Lethbridge Art Gallery, Art Gallery of York University, the Art Gallery of Windsor and as part of the curated content at Nuit Blanche 2017 (*The Stolen People; Wont Back Down*). His performance works have been part of festivals across Canada, including at *Crippling The Stage* (Harbourfront Centre, 2016, 2019), *Complex Social Change* (University of Lethbridge Art Gallery, 2015) and *Decolonizing and De-criminalizing Trans Genres* (University of Winnipeg, 2015).

He is part of the PDA (Performance Disability Art) Collective and co-programmed *Crip Your World: An Intergalactic Queer/POC Sick and Disabled Extravaganza* as part of Mayworks 2014. Syrus' recent curatorial projects include *That's So Gay* (Gladstone Hotel, 2016–2019), *Re:Purpose* (Robert McLaughlin Gallery, 2014) and *The Church Street Mural Project* (Church–Wellesley Village, 2013). Syrus is also co-curator of *The Cycle*, a two-year disability arts performance initiative of the National Arts Centre. Syrus is a core-team member of Black Lives Matter–Toronto. Syrus is a co-curator of Blackness Yes!/Blockorama. Syrus has won several awards, including the TD Diversity Award in 2017. Syrus was voted “Best Queer Activist” by NOW Magazine (2005) and was awarded the Steinert and Ferreiro Award (2012). Syrus is a PhD candidate at York University in the Faculty of Environmental Studies.





MELIKA SAAEDA

I was born after the revolution in Iran. The idea of freedom greatly influenced my whole life not only as an artist but as a human being. I began painting at an art university. My style draws upon elements of traditional Persian painting (Persian Miniatures), the "flatness" and unique composition of which are surprisingly contemporary.

After getting my BFA, I studied Graphic Design at TM university in Tehran. Meanwhile I started working as a freelance illustrator. Over the past 10 years I have illustrated more than 30 children's books in Turkey and Iran and all the time I was trying to tell my story with my special language, picture language. My works have been shown in exhibitions and book fairs in Iran, The Emirates, South Korea and here in Canada but I got Inspired by this idea a few years ago which is that the art that we should be doing today in the 21st century should not be just for the museum, it's art for the street and for people in their daily lives. Also thinking about freedom and social justice in my country lead me to express what I'm feeling through my art works on street walls so after I answered a call for submissions from Tehran City Hall I started to learn about and experience mural painting. Since then, I've opened my mind and eyes to observe other mural artists experiences. After coming to Toronto I've found a great number of mural artists and I've seen their art works in the city. Having this great chance to learn from one of them through a mentorship award I received from Toronto Arts Council in 2018 makes me feel so excited and enthusiastic and ready to start some mural projects out there. My style has changed from Miniature to Mural but, like my work as an illustrator, I try to use this medium's potential for telling stories.



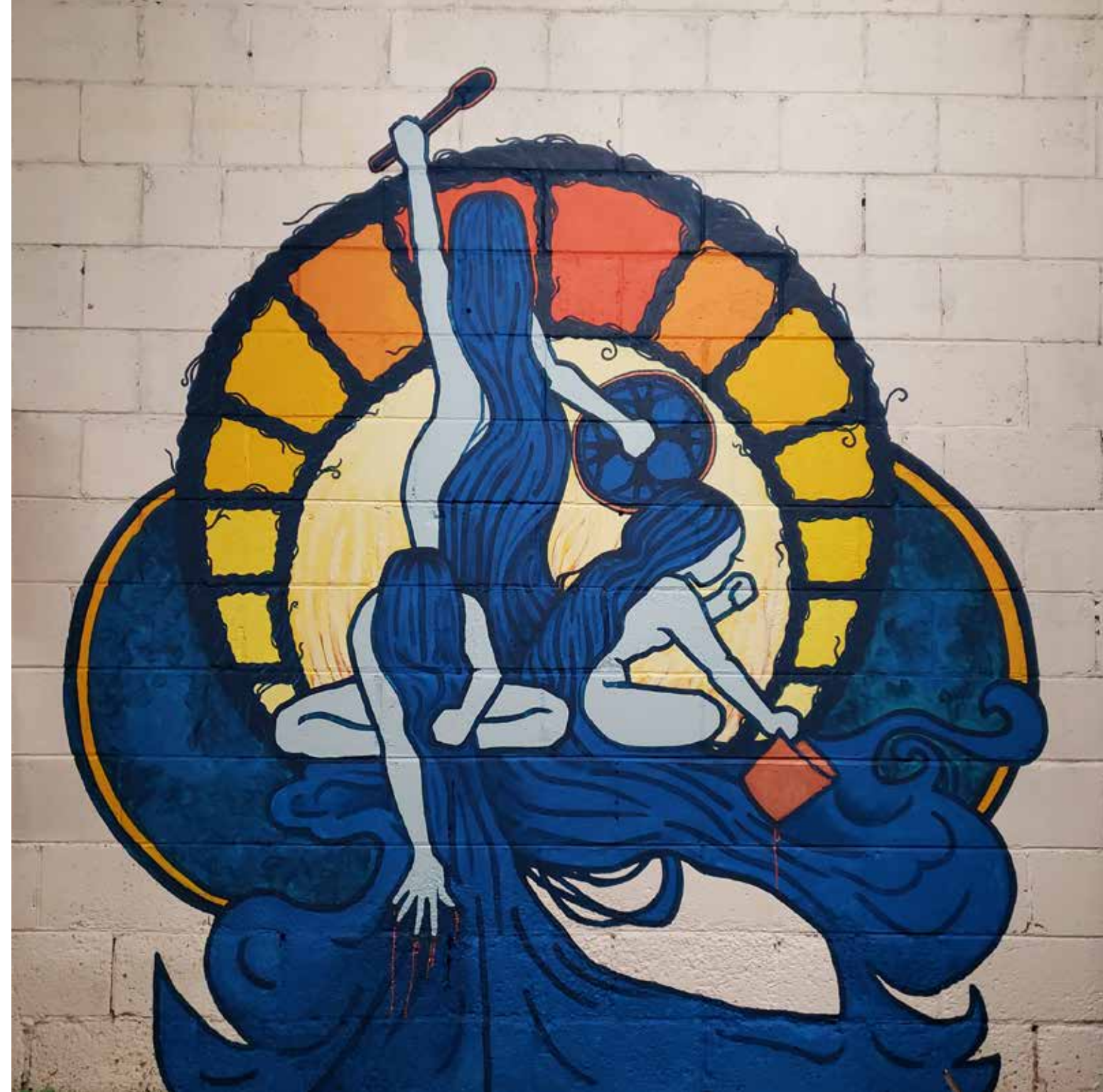


KEITHA KEESHIG-TOBIAS

My name is Keitha Keeshig-Tobias and I come from the Delaware Nation at Moraviantown, Anishnaabe from Neyaashiinigamiing Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation and grew up in Toronto. I have taken on the duty to represent our indigenous culture in a contemporary context. I am a Contemporary Indigenous Artist specializing in bringing forth complex issues and inspiration with beauty and grace. I incorporate science, history, current affairs, empathy, and gracefulness with female figures into a unique style I call N8V Nouveau.

biizindam.com/shows

@keithakeeshigtobias





EGR

EGR (pronounced e•grr) is a contemporary visual artist based in Toronto, Canada. Creating artwork on just about any surface you could imagine, pop culture and social themes abound as her work explores themes of determination, female empowerment and women's ever-changing roles; while her fairies represent angels among us. EGR's work was included in Canada's first national exhibition of street art at a major Canadian museum at the Royal Ontario Museum; at the Art Gallery of Ontario, The McMichael Canadian Art Collection; and in galleries and collections worldwide.

EGRart.com





ROWELL SOLLER

Rowell Soller is a 27 year old Filipino-Canadian, multidisciplinary artist born and raised in Scarborough. His practice revolves around traditional painting on canvas, sculpture and murals. Through these practices, he has established a signature style of his own called, 'Ancient Graffitiurism'. In this he combines elements of abstract art, Manga, international Architecture, Calligraphy, Graffiti & Ancient Filipino Design Inspired Images & Symbols. Being a Diaspora, Rowell likes to blend his asian heritage into his work to feel more connected with himself & his roots.

His Paintings, Sculptures & Murals supply life force and uplifting imagery. He aims to strengthen spaces & communities through his art by awakening ways in which people can feel freedom in themselves and connect to their roots instinctively. Driven by the struggle of his traumas and poverty that he grew up with. Overcoming these challenges, he has found a new self inspired by the light and love to spread these elements through his work and daily living. Constantly evolving his inner self his work becomes affected and changes with him.

Rowell Has Paintings and Murals in Private collectors homes from Los angeles, Philippines, Alberta, Thailand, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Peru to China & Montreal, Toronto, Canada.





GHAZALEH RASTGAR

Ghazaleh is a multidisciplinary artist based in Toronto. Born in Shiraz, Iran, she moved to Toronto at the age of 14. After graduating from the OCADU with a Bachelor of Design, she started working a corporate job for 7 years, at which point she decided to dive back into her original plan of working as a full time artist.

She creates colourful and whimsical paintings, murals, digital art and GIFs that focus on life as a woman, love and spirituality. Shas since been awarded and published a number of times, had a solo exhibition and her GIFs were featured in CBC Arts show, Exhibitionist.

ghazaraza.ca

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Let's Be In Touch!

For more information about StreetARToronto (StART) programs, events, and special projects please contact us at:



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