VISUAL ARTIST · OIL · MIXED MEDIA · COLLAGE

Deborah *Pace*

The body as both subject and metaphor: dissolved, fragmented, reimagined, returned.

Portfolio 2026
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CONNECTION TO DIVINE · CLAY AND OIL ON CANVAS

ARTIST STATEMENT

“I paint what happens when the body *stops feeling like our own*.”

ARTIST STATEMENT

My background is in psychology, and that is where my painting comes from. Depersonalization, looping thoughts, the body felt as foreign are experiences I studied before I painted them. In my work the female figure loses its outline: it dissolves into smoke, merges with a tree trunk or a shell, lets itself be touched by hands that are not its own. I work across oil, mixed media and collage to hold open the threshold where the viewer does not just look at a work, but becomes part of it.

BIOGRAPHY

In high school I realized the power of a work that is not merely looked at: whoever looks at it becomes part of it. Ever since, I have believed that once a painting is finished, it no longer belongs to the artist but to everyone.

My practice moves across oil painting, mixed media and collage. Alongside the body and its dissolution, empathy, migration, memory and the sacred keep returning.

I

Nature and the Sacred

Shells becoming towers, faces guarding the world, a sea welcoming a reclining figure. Nature as sacred geometry, and as the place where the body returns home.









01	Babele	2026
02	Connection to Divine	2026
03	Shape of Water	2026
04	Cake	2019
05	Light and Shadow	2017



SERIES I · NATURE AND THE SACRED

Babele

Oil on canvas · Ø 35 cm · 2026

AVAILABLE

Does a true limit exist, or is it a human creation designed to keep us quiet and obedient? Is the legend of the Tower of Babel merely a story about man's vile pursuit of power to reach God, or is it about a power "above us" that demands our silence?
This piece offers a vision of the intricate relationship between nature and humanity. We see a massive shell, ascending and floating until it reaches the highest skies. The presence of both men and women within its spiral structure is so harmonious that they appear settled in their places, their small lights turned on like beacons of thought.
And yet, even as humanity thrives within, the shell continues its ceaseless floating.

PRICE ON REQUEST



SERIES I · NATURE AND THE SACRED

Connection to Divine

Clay and oil on canvas · 30 × 40 cm · 2026

On show at ART Expo Trieste 2026, 11–13 December 2026

AVAILABLE

Mother Nature is the eternal guardian of our existence. Like a mother offering unconditional love, she grants us the strength to reach far beyond the sky, expanding our knowledge through her gifts.

This piece is an invitation to open our eyes and consciousness, while she keeps hers closed in serene trust, granting us the space to gather wisdom simply by existing alongside her.

At the center rests the nautilus, a living link to the primeval world whose spiral form perfectly embodies the Golden Ratio. It serves as a reminder of nature's sacred geometry, urging us to embrace our identity as children of the natural world.

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SERIES I · NATURE AND THE SACRED

Shape of Water

Oil on canvas · 50 × 50 cm · 2026

AVAILABLE

It is often difficult to peer beneath a thin layer of water. Anything could be hiding down there: a welcoming presence, like a moss-covered stone ready to offer a soft landing, or a danger concealed in the shadows, like a venomous creature.
Yet, we continue to look. We remain spellbound by the shapes the water traces, by the way light reflects, creating a space in perpetual balance between brightness and darkness. Observing these sinuous lines, the perfection of nature merges with the curves of the female body: its softness, its grace, and at the same time, its potential danger.
You can never truly know what lies beneath, but you will always be inexorably drawn to it.

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SERIES I · NATURE AND THE SACRED

Cake

Oil on canvas · 2019

AVAILABLE

Much like a cross-section of a landscape, this piece reveals clear, layered bands of color with striking simplicity.
At the top, a soft-hued sky rests in perpetual ambiguity, blurring the line between dawn and dusk.
Below it, the deep blue sea conveys an inviting depth where the mind can wander and lose itself.
At the base, the warm, textured sand evokes the tactile memory of hot summer days beneath our feet.
Reclining along the horizon, the glowing white contour of the female figure merges with the shore, becoming one with the landscape itself.

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05 / 15

SERIES I · NATURE AND THE SACRED

Light and Shadow

Oil on canvas · 40 × 30 cm · 2017

AVAILABLE

A constant battle wages within ourselves: an eternal coexistence between darkness and light.
Life can be as delicate as the petals of a rose, yet as painful as its thorns. We must learn to carry it with care, fully aware that there are no winners or losers in this inner conflict.
The goal is not to master the shadow, but to find a fragile, precious balance that brings peace to ourselves and safety to those around us.

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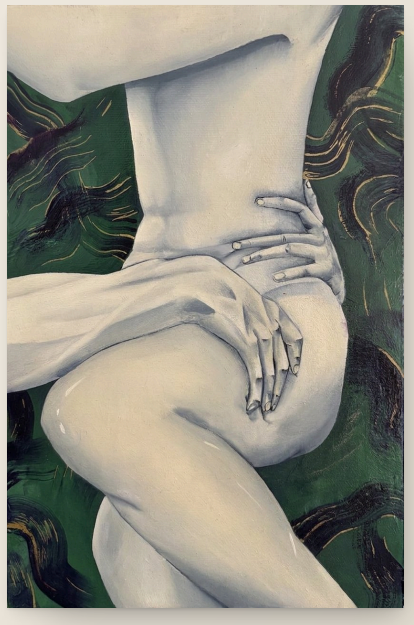
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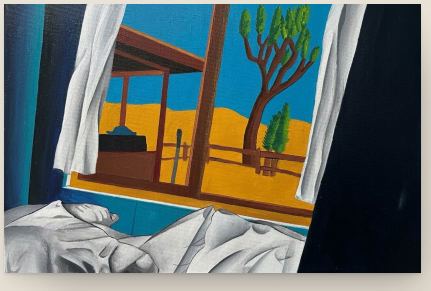
The Lives of Others

Collage and paint as a way into someone else's skin: a mother falling while holding her child, control turning into possession, a woman reclaiming her own image. An invitation to empathy.

06	Le vite degli altri	2026
07	Empathy	2026
08	The Rape of Proserpina	2023
09	View from a Window	2021
10	Immigrazione	2019











SERIES II · THE LIVES OF OTHERS

Le vite degli altri

Collage and oil on canvas · 30 × 30 cm · 2026

AVAILABLE

How much can we truly understand about the lives of others? It all depends on our perspective — how we look at them, how we listen to their stories, and how they perceive themselves. Yet, there is a fragile boundary where an outside observer can easily exploit the raw, lived experience of another.

Buying Myself Back by Emily Ratajkowski plays a vital role in this piece: it mirrors the struggle to reclaim control over one's own image and physical presence. Here, she does not stand alone, finding support in the protective presence of a guiding hand.

Opposing this narrative is the iconic UP50 chair designed by Gaetano Pesce — a striking visual symbol of how a woman's power can be bound and weighed down by patriarchal control. Yet, even within that constraint, a classical statue stands guard as a silent protector.

This artwork is a call for empathy: an invitation to step into someone else's perspective.

Perhaps, in doing so, we might finally understand a little more about ourselves.

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SERIES II · THE LIVES OF OTHERS

Empathy

Collage, acrylics and cotton thread on cardboard · 25 × 35 cm · 2026

AVAILABLE

Be careful! Someone is dropping a serpent into your glass.
But what is it doing? Instead of striking, it turns to gaze at a framed portrait of a man. What could possibly captivate the predator so deeply that it forgets its own victim?
Perhaps it's drawn to the intimacy nearby, the iconic love of John Lennon and Yoko Ono. Or perhaps it senses something intriguing in the man's quiet demeanor.
Maybe this is an unexpected act of empathy: a moment of connection that forces us to look at the world through a completely different light.
Heavily influenced by the aesthetic of Carlijn Jacobs.

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SERIES II · THE LIVES OF OTHERS

The Rape of Proserpina

Oil on canvas · 20 × 30 cm · 2023

AVAILABLE

What boundary can halt a man whose hunger for power is unyielding as iron?
The myth of The Rape of Proserpina embodies this very truth, echoing a message that is both dramatic and profoundly relevant today: the thirst for control can drive one to claim another person's life, seizing and shaping it to fit their own desire.
Just as matter yields to force, the body is enveloped by control.
Can we truly call this love, or is it merely the twisted compulsion of possession?

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09 / 15

SERIES II · THE LIVES OF OTHERS

View from a Window

Watercolours on canvas · 19 × 29 cm · 2021

AVAILABLE

The pandemic created a historical fracture: while so much was lost, many found something far more precious than material wealth. During that suspended time, we redefined the space we call "home." Our rooms suddenly became offices, quiet sanctuaries, and blank canvases where uncertainty turned into a creative drive.

This piece captures the view from a window in Texas, playing on the sharp contrast between inside and outside. The interior is wrapped in intimate shades of gray and blue, while the outside explodes with the warm, flat tones of the desert landscape.

Life has returned to its pace, but the awareness of how we learned to inhabit our world anew remains indelible.

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SERIES II · THE LIVES OF OTHERS

Immigrazione

Mixed media · 50 × 70 cm · 2019

Exhibited at London Contemporary · 19th edition, 9–22 October 2026

AVAILABLE

Death and Life — a Klimt masterpiece.
A perpetual tension between the two fundamental forces of existence — a struggle we often view from a safe distance, whispering to ourselves, "that could never happen to me."
Migration is an act of profound courage: a fierce devotion to life so intense that one is willing to risk losing it. All for the promise of something greater — a peaceful future for oneself, a family, or a child.
This piece captures the tragic descent of a mother falling into the abyss. Her figure transcends race and skin tone; it is defined purely by love. As she clings to her child, she holds onto hope even in the darkest void.
In nature, migration is an instinct of survival and protection — birds fly across horizons simply to stay alive. Yet humanity built borders and obstacles, forcing people into perilous journeys merely because others decreed that lands should remain closed.
Be open.

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III

Dissolutions

The body losing its outline: figures melting between tree trunks or into darkness, thoughts turning into bubbles, foreign hands on one's own face. A series about identity when it stops feeling like one's own.









11	Illusion	2026
12	Water Element	2020
13	Through the Colored Glass	2019
14	Dissolvenza	2018
15	Oltre il Vetro	2017



SERIES III · DISSOLUTIONS

Illusion

Oil pastels on wood · Ø 29 cm · 2026

AVAILABLE

A direct homage to René Magritte's surrealist masterpiece, "The Blank Signature." This piece engages the viewer in a game of optical perception, breaking the human form across the vertical trunks of a dense forest.

Delicate white outlines of a figure weave in and out of the trees: a fragmented body, a single eye peering through the bark, a hand reaching out from behind a trunk. By blending figure and landscape, the artwork disrupts traditional perspective and spatial logic.

Do you see yourself within this fragment?

Can you truly perceive your body, or do you feel it dissolving into the surrounding space?

And if so, do you believe it is truly yours?

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12 / 15

SERIES III · DISSOLUTIONS

Water Element

Mixed media and watercolour on paper · 2020

AVAILABLE

Sometimes our thoughts become so weightless and fleeting that they resemble bubbles: ideas that rise, float, and drift into the cool blue realm of memory.
This piece captures a silent moment of contemplation. As the body gently melts into the dark abyss like liquid, the mind remains surrounded by floating spheres, defying the laws of gravity.
It is a visual portrait of introspection, that quiet space where we surrender to our inner world, suspended between the lightness of imagination and the depth of silence.

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SERIES III · DISSOLUTIONS

Through the Colored Glass

Oil pastels on wood · 20 × 30 cm · 2019

AVAILABLE

A sudden wave of de-personalization.
That unsettling moment when you freeze and ask yourself: "Is it really me who's talking? Am I truly the one living inside this body?"
It is the experience of touching your own skin and feeling like a stranger to yourself, as if hands belonging to someone else were shaping your face.
Don't lose yourself.

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SERIES III · DISSOLUTIONS

Dissolvenza

Oil on canvas · 2018

AVAILABLE

Overthinking is an endless loop: circling the same thought over and over without ever reaching an answer.
We keep questioning, analyzing, and spiraling to the point where we lose touch with our physical reality. We forget that our bodies and minds need real nourishment to step forward; they need genuine fuel, not an endless trail of question marks.
I'll light another cigarette.
Maybe it will grant me a different point of view.

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SERIES III · DISSOLUTIONS

Oltre il Vetro

Oil on canvas · 2017

AVAILABLE

There are spaces we inhabit without ever truly entering.
Oltre il Vetro captures that peculiar tension of being present and absent at once — the body in the room, the gaze elsewhere, reaching through an invisible barrier toward a world just out of touch.
The glass is not a wall. It is a membrane between who we are and who we might become. Between the self we perform and the one we keep hidden, pressing its palms against the pane.
What are you looking at, when you look through?

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FAIRS AND GROUP SHOWS

Exhibitions

11–13 December 2026

UPCOMING

ART Expo Trieste 2026

Magazzino 42, Trieste, Italy · ART Expo International

Work on show: Connection to Divine

9–22 October 2026

London Contemporary · 19th edition

ELEMENTS Contemporary Art Space, London, UK · ITSLIQUID Group, curated by Luca Curci

Work shown: Immigrazione

BACKGROUND

EDUCATION

MSc in Work and Organizational Psychology
BSc in Psychology

MEDIA

Oil, acrylic, watercolour, oil pastels, collage, mixed media

THEMES

Identity, Empathy, Migration, Memory, The sacred

OPEN TO

Commissions, exhibitions, collaborations, residencies

ACQUISITIONS · COMMISSIONS · EXHIBITIONS

Let's *talk*

All works are available. For prices, shipping, commissions, exhibitions or collaborations, write to me directly — every message is read personally.

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