



JUNE GLASSON

STATEMENT

I'm an artist/designer/teacher whose practice is a marriage of the work I create in solitude in my studio (mainly painting) and work that lives in the world and is more collaborative or community based. In both my painting and socially engaged work, I'm interested in thinking about how both how individuals and communities are seen and see themselves.

For my portrait paintings, I stage photoshoots as a way of creating source material for my paintings. At the shoots I encourage my models to engage in "unladylike" behavior, to bring props and costumes, and to be actively involved in their self-presentation. My hope has always been to create portraits that challenge and play with our notions of how women should behave and be seen.

Before moving to the Hudson Valley, I lived in Wyoming, where I helped start a community art organization called "The Wyoming Art Party." We curated collaborative art projects, built community parade floats, created an annual citywide pop-up Artwalk, formed a free semester-long "Art & Action" course that focused on Socially Engaged Art & Direct Actions, and helped to create and facilitate visual storytelling for numerous protests and direct actions. During this time, I also taught workshops and was part of the Laramie Mural Project, through which I helped organize and paint figures for a Hidden Historical Figures Alley, as well a large-scale community mural. All of this work taught me how important creative processes, especially those that require us to gather and work with our hands, are to strengthening our social fabric and encouraging civic engagement.