

Bio

Alla Parsons is a Russian-born artist teaching various Drawing and Painting classes in the Art Department at ENMU. She received her Bachelor of Fine Art degree from Minnesota State University Moorhead and her Master of Fine Art from Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia. Growing up in Russia, Alla always expressed her emotions through drawing, and admired works of Old Masters in the Hermitage in Saint-Petersburg. Her work is in oil and mixed media, although in the past she worked exclusively in watercolors. Her works exhibited nationally and internationally, have received awards and are in private collections across the US, Canada, Russia and Germany. She likes to travel the world with her husband Michael, visit art museums and paint on plein air (landscape painting outside) in her spare time.

Research Interests

Figurative drawing and painting, traditional methods of drawing and painting, portraiture, still life, trompe l'oeil, and plein air. Artistic influences include: Magic Realism, Surrealism, Symbolism, Russian icons and Russian artists of the XXth century.

Artist Statement

My work is figurative and imaginative. I use figure in an imaginary landscape or interior to explore human emotions, feelings and memories. Sometimes I use life models, sometimes photos of myself or old family photos. I define my current body of work as Magic Realism – this is art in which some mystery or secret seems to be hidden within the subject matter, the objects of everyday life are emphasized in new and unfamiliar ways. I strive to create works with an air of mystery and ambiguity. My paintings explore my physical, psychological and spiritual self as well as my memories, family history and my Russian heritage.