

Nathaniel Devarie

Artist Statement

The COVID-19 pandemic has transformed my artistic practice, shifting my focus towards public art as a means of fostering community connection during isolating times. My front lawn in Somerville, MA has become an impromptu gallery, merging my passions for art and gardening while drawing constant attention from passersby. This initiative has sparked further public art projects throughout Somerville, including large-scale Paint By Numbers events that directly engage the community in the creative process. Parallel to this, since 2015, I've been exploring deeply personal themes in my studio practice through a large-scale painting series documenting my journey as a queer individual emerging from a conservative evangelical background.

This body of work has been instrumental in my personal healing and broadened my understanding of diverse faith traditions, facilitating meaningful connections with individuals both within and outside religious communities. My husband, a Methodist Pastor, has been invaluable in providing a safe space for reflection and deepening my understanding of evolving church theologies and biblical history. Drawing inspiration from various cultural sources and art history, this collection visualizes my experience navigating the complex intersection of queer identity and Christian faith. Through my art, I seek to share truth, promote understanding, and contribute to the deconstruction of harmful faith-based practices and theologies, with the goal of envisioning a more inclusive, peaceful future while bridging seemingly contrasting worlds.

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Biography

NATHANIEL DEVARIE, a multifaceted artist, hails from Easton, Pennsylvania. His artistic journey began at the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Performing Arts, where he graduated from the Visual Art Department in 2009. Furthering his education, Nathaniel earned a degree from the prestigious Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA) in 2013. There, he majored in painting with a minor in sculpture, honing his skills and developing his unique artistic voice.

Following graduation, Nathaniel spent seven formative years in Philadelphia. During this period, he balanced his artistic pursuits with various professions, working as a cashier and florist while also serving as a figure model for art schools. These diverse experiences enriched his perspective and informed his artistic practice.

In 2017, Nathaniel relocated to Boston, Massachusetts, where he continues to thrive as both an artist and figure model. His modeling work has taken him to numerous prestigious institutions and studios, including:

The Academy of Realist Artists (ARA)
Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt)
School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University
Cambridge School of Weston
Brick Bottom Sketch Club

Additionally, Nathaniel has collaborated with local artists such as Michael Costello and photographer Robert Siegelman, as well as various drawing groups in the area. These experiences continue to influence and inspire his ongoing artistic endeavors.

Website: Natedevarie.com

Instagram: [@Nate_Devarie](https://www.instagram.com/Nate_Devarie)

TikTok: [Natedevarieharris](https://www.tiktok.com/@Natedevarieharris)

Nathaniel Devarie Titles

Queerly Faithful Paintings



Members of the Breach, Oil on canvas 36" x 48" 2019



Is This Seat Taken, Acrylic on canvas 52" x 64" 2018



The Separation of Church & Nate, Acrylic on Canvas 48" x 48" 2017



Liar Liar Pants on Fire - Unfinished- Oil paint on canvas 18" x 24" 2020

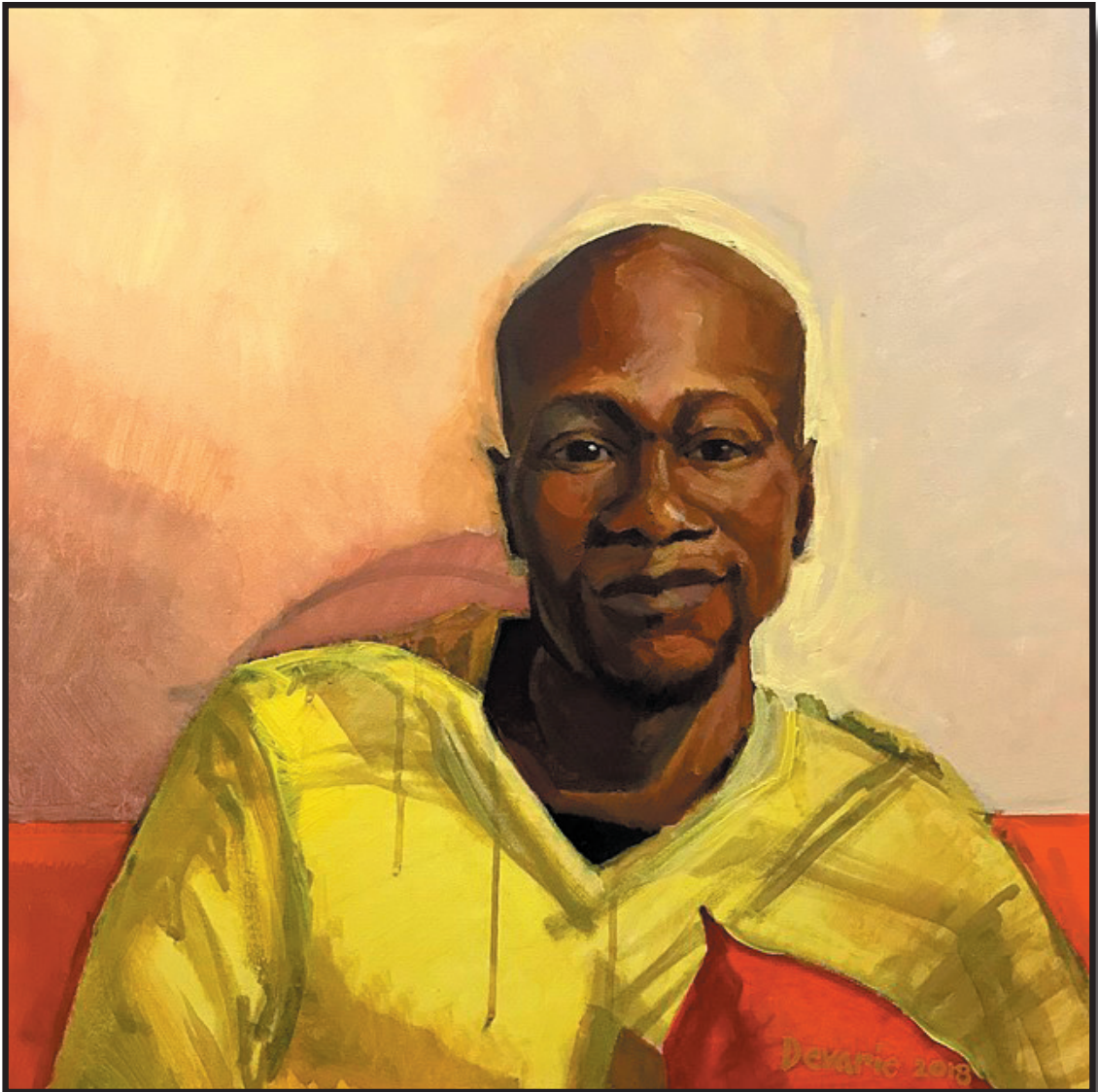


The Conflict Between Love and Church acrylic paint on canvas
74" x 52" 2017

Portraits



Study of Warm and Cool Light on Jordan Harris acrylic paint on wood
12" x 12" 2017

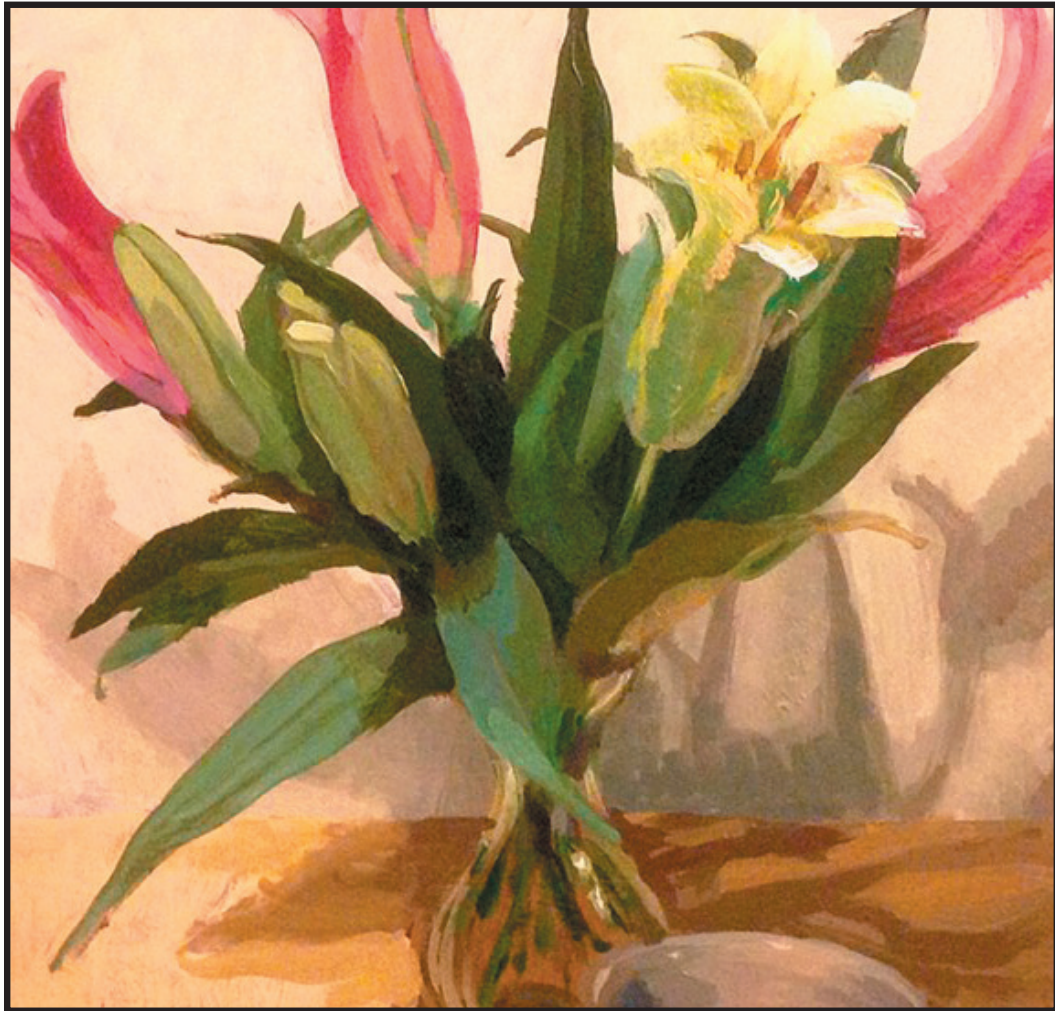


A Sit in with Carlson, acrylic paint on canvas 23" x 23"2018



Big Blue, acrylic paint on canvas 96" x 124"2019

Still Lifes



Lily's for Ella's Fourth, Paint on Panel 12" x 12" 2016



Mint Tea, Paint on Panel 12" x 12" 2017



Painting in our first living room, Oil on canvas, 21" x 28" 2019

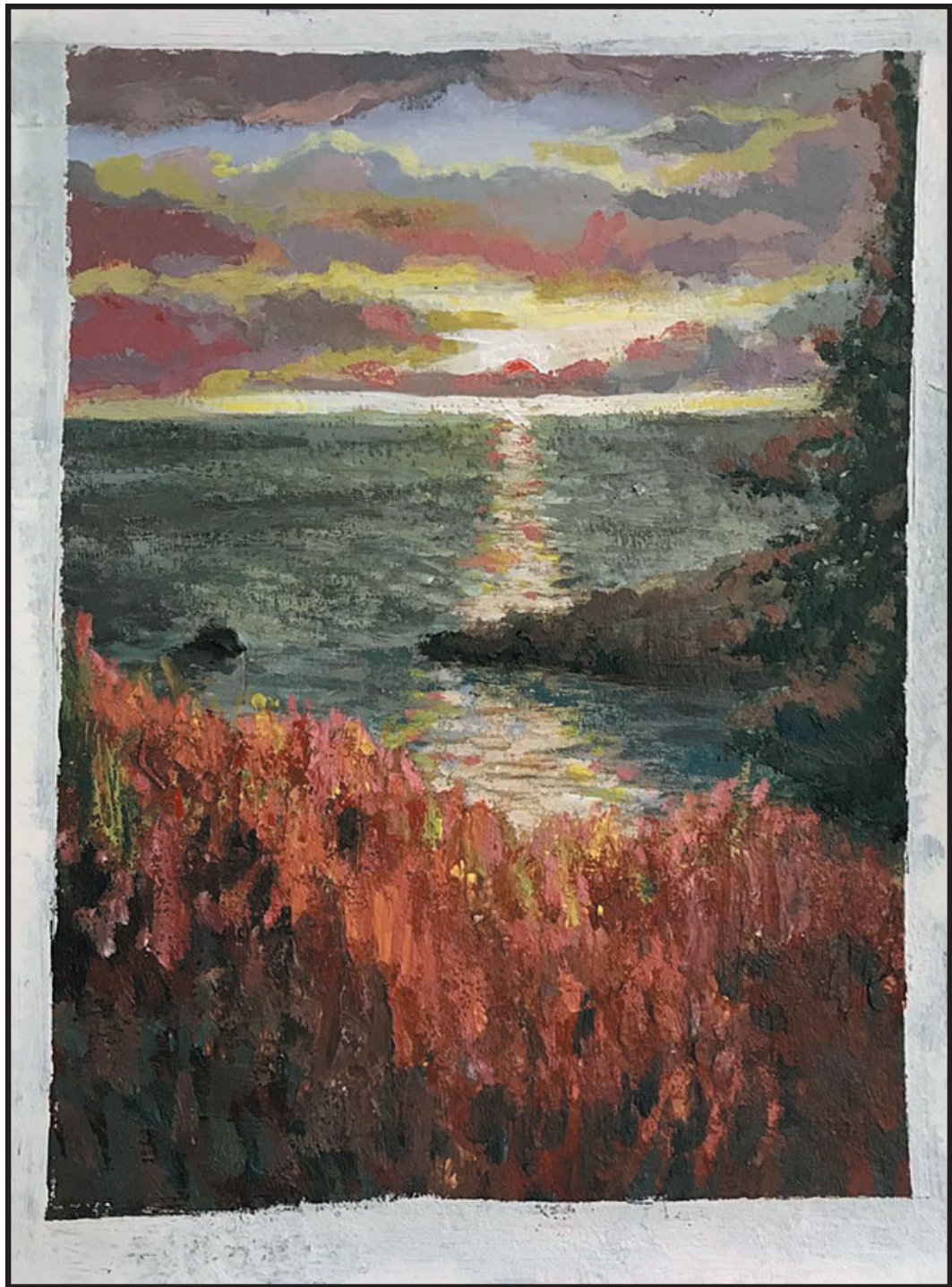
Landscapes



Kiamo Ko, acrylic paint on paper 11" x 15" 2019



Crickets in the Grasses, acrylic paint on paper 15" x 15" 2019



Sunset by Manana Island acrylic paint on paper 11" x 15" 2019

Watercolors



The 17th, watercolor, pen, on watercolor paper 11" x 15" 2019



Colorful News, watercolor, pen, on watercolor paper 11" x 15" 2024



The 24th watercolor, pen, on watercolor paper 11" x 15" 2019

Cutouts



Quarantine Daydream, shadow Boxpaper, cardboard, tape, fishing line
2020



Quarantine Daydream, shadow Boxpaper, cardboard, tape,
fishing line 2020



Quarantine Daydream, shadow Boxpaper, cardboard, tape, fishing line
2020



Quarantine Daydream, shadow Boxpaper, cardboard, tape, fishing line
2020

Textiles



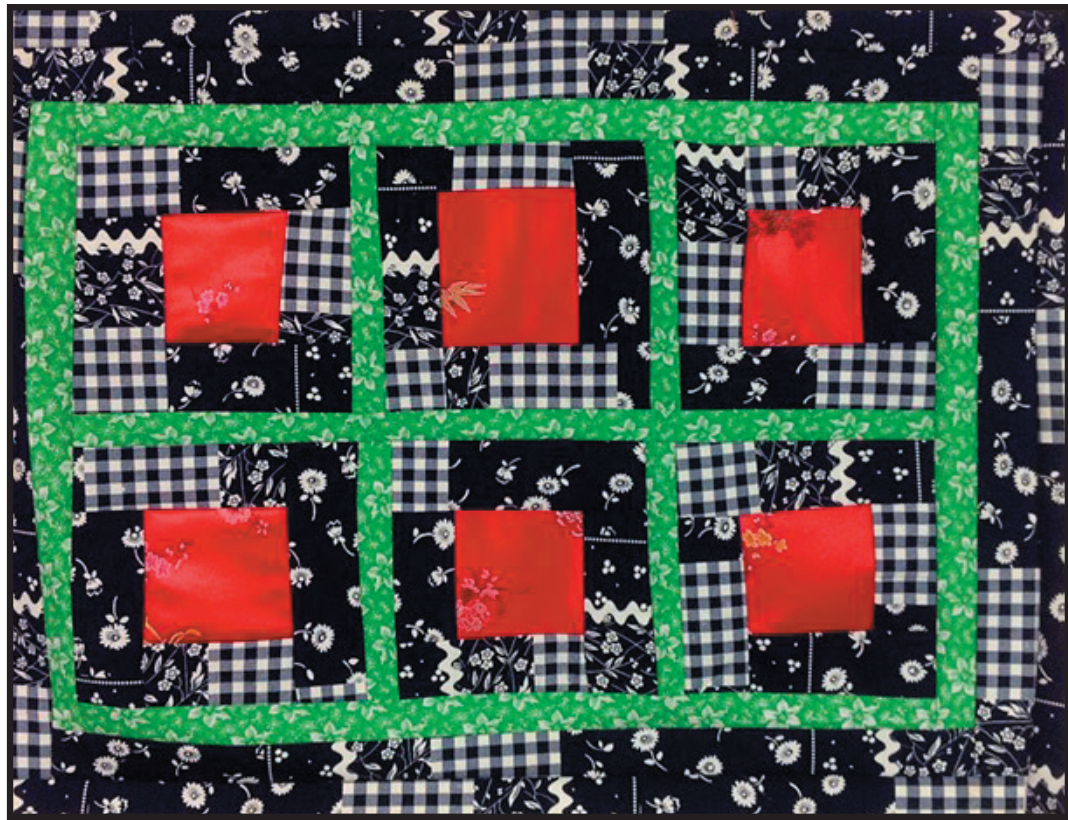
Sewing in the Studio on Spring Garden in Philadelphia Fabric2017



Zim Zall-A-bim, First Tent for The Senior Art Exhibit at PAFA PA.Fabric,
Wood, Roap, Stakes 11' x 10' 2014



Wall Chops Fabric 40" X 40" 2017



Green Gridlock Fabric 22" x 18" 2017



Black and Gray Halloween Fabric 12" x 12" 2017