Stephanie Jory-

b. 1978

Middlesex University Art Foundation 1997-1998

Byam Shaw School of Art, BA (Hons) 1998- 2001

I graduated from the Byam Shaw School of Art, London, in 2001, and have worked as a commissioned artist ever since. Upon graduation, I decided to leave behind the installations and wall paintings and go back to my first love- figurative, oil on canvas. I produced a series of nudes which were exhibited at 'A gallery', 'Beverley Knowles Fine Art', 'Chambers Gallery' and various other galleries in London.

I also started to produce portraits and have had the privilege of working with the wonderful actress Sheila Hancock, respected theatre director Terry Johnson and renowned cardiologist Mr Romeo Vecht. In 2012 I was shortlisted for the Diamond Jubilee Portrait Competition for my portrait of Her Majesty the Queen.

Working as a commissioned artist, I like to work with the client to produce something personal and timeless, that also compliments the space and surrounding hues; a painting should really be an integral part of the room. Recent commissions include a large painting of an album cover for a music producer, a diptyche of a woman's parents from the 70's and a portrait of Angelica Huston.

Whether working on a nude, a portrait of a child or a 10ft flower painting, the work has to produce a visceral, as well as cerebral, effect. I love to work big and bold. Having said this, I will just as happily produce a series of pre-raphaelite inspired miniatures!

Figurative work-

The nudes I paint are about the female form, mood and expression. I try to create this by painting the body without the head/face which would maybe reveal all too easily the figure’s mood; instead I want to let the body’s pose/movement speak to the viewer unaffected by the overriding facial expression. I like to juxtapose the detail and sumptuousness of the body and skin (painted in oil paint) with a simple or stark monochromatic/block coloured lifeless acrylic background or 'landscape'. The figure in the landscape represents the idea of finding yourself in a foreign environment, vulnerable and naked (physically, mentally and spiritually) in this desolate landscape of nothingness, like the feeling one sometimes gets in a dream- that feeling of being naked and scared because you don’t know where you are but at the same time powerful for it’s your own dream and you can create whatever landscape you like.

Portraiture-

For me, it is imperative to capture the physical likeness and attributes of a person's face/body but what is just as important is the incarnation of the person's spirit, whether that person be a child that I know or an actress from 40 years ago. We often talk about the notion of ‘the aura’ surrounding various artwork and I think this is particularly applicable to portraiture; the eyes really do need to come alive, follow you around the room, tell a thousand stories. In my opinion, portraiture should be charmingly haunting.

Exhibitions-

Group Show Dexter & Co (Go Figurative Gallery) 2014

Group Show One Alfred Place (Store St Gallery) 2014

Network AD Candid Gallery, Islington 2007

Female Nude Chambers Gallery, Smithfields 2006

Stuckists A Galllery, Wimbledon 2005

Group Show Beverley Knowles Fine Art, Notting Hill 2005

The Female Nude Grahams Picture, Crouch End 2005

Summer Aesthetics A Gallery, Wimbledon 2004

2 Degrees Euroart Studios, London 2003

Final Show Byam Shaw, Archway 2001

Saint Martins Collaboration Concourse Gallery, London 2000

Architecture/Art Show Concourse Gallery, London 2000

Group Show Lauderdale house, Highgate 1999