## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

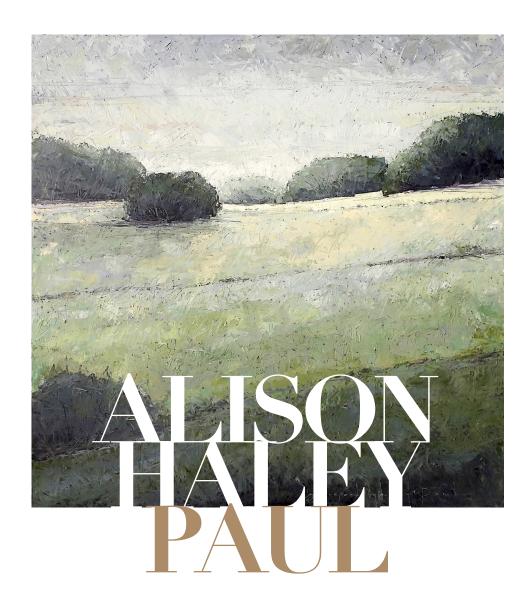


TOP Carmel

Oil, wax, charcoal, pigment and graphite on canvas, 68 x 56 in

RIGHT Secrets

Oil, wax, charcoal, pigment and graphite on canvas, 60 x 60 in



lison Haley Paul is a contemporary painter lavishly textured landscapes full of nuanced color. Her work conjures up connotations and geographical memories. The places she paints may not be physically specific, but they are immediately recognizable. Working in sections, she mixes oil and cold wax using palette knives to apply the resulting color. Her artistic critiques and comparisons of each area of the painting as a whole are continuous and fluid. Only the human eye can translate three of the most important aspects of Paul's work: her masterful use of color nuance, the enticing textures, and the feeling of a place.

"You can be a talented workaholic, but you must be able to recognize opportunities, be doggedly determined, and be resilient to achieve your goals."

Alison grew up in Connecticut and majored in Art and Design at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY. There she studied ceramics with Byron Temple, a disciple of Bernard Leach, and design with sculptor David Lee Brown. After earning a BA in Interior Design at the Design Institute in San Diego and many years as a successful Interior Designer, she has returned to her studio full-time.

"My work is abstract yet representational. The scale and balance are subtle, visceral, and felt rather than merely seen. The surface energy is bold and intriguing, while the composition has roots in the classical principles of design and proportion. What I see, think, and feel gets transformed into color and texture, paint and canvas, which then becomes a personal story translated through art. When joined by the viewer's own experiences and memories, the work takes on new meaning and offers the natural equilibrium that comes from centering oneself by gazing at the horizon."

ALISON HALEY PAUL www.alisonhaleypaul.com

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HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR ARTISTIC EVOLUTION?

I think of my artistic evolution as a long and complicated recipe with many unusual ingredients coming together for a wonderful feast. I feel lucky to have bounced between events, school, jobs, moves, and life's milestones to be where I am now. Some may call it planning, some may call it fate, but I feel like it was meant to be. I have over 10,000 hours in multiple areas, but I am content and delighted to be here and now as an artist. All of these parts and pieces of experience make me a better person and a more faceted artist.

WHAT IMPACT ARE YOU HOPING TO HAVE IN THE ART WORLD THROUGH YOUR WORK?

As a former Interior Designer, I believe it's important to live with art. Art heals, art inspires, art sparks enjoyment and appreciation. I truly hope my work heals, inspires, and invokes enjoyment for all my viewers and collectors. Do I want to be famous with all that entails? Not really, but do I want to leave a legacy, an important body of work, and a message with my work? You betcha. Whether it's a poster, a Picasso on your wall, or even a photo on your phone, art brings an important richness and depth that's hard to describe. I hope my hard work, determination, and devotion to my art add balance, richness, and beauty to people's lives and the art world.

TOP Sequenced Oil, wax, charcoal, pigment and graphite on canvas, 72 x 48 in

BOTTOM Aurora

Oil, wax, charcoal, pigment and graphite on canvas, 72 x 70 in





WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE CRUCIAL ELEMENT OF ANY ARTIST'S JOURNEY - TALENT OR PRACTICE?

For me, luck and grit are crucial elements of an artist's journey. You can be a talented workaholic, but you must be able to recognize opportunities, be doggedly determined, and be resilient to achieve your goals. Manifesting your successes, visualizing your dreams, and not losing sight of your wants and needs are all vitally important elements. There are so many distractions, dramas, and frustrations. It's so easy to get lost or off track. Luck seems to come in strange forms and at weird times, but it's there if you keep looking, and grit will get you to start that new canvas, try that new idea, make that call, and finish a difficult piece.





WHAT DO WE, AS A SOCIETY, NEED TO DO TO MINIMIZE THE GENDER GAP IN THE ART WORLD?

If I knew what to do or advise people to do, to minimize the art world's abominable gender gap, I'd be on it in a minute. I'd have hashtags, apps, social media accounts, magazine and professional publications, television documentaries, a full-time staff, and be on numerous corporate and museum boards trying to make a difference. Alas, I have no idea how to help other than to encourage women, especially older women, not to give up. Speak up. Don't take no for an answer, don't be a doormat, don't lose hope. Take a deep breath, keep on keeping on, nose to the grindstone, so to speak, and remember to have fun while you are doing something you love!

Surge

Oil, wax, charcoal, pigment and graphite on canvas, 72 x 48 in

RIGHT Quietude

Oil, wax, charcoal, pigment and graphite on canvas, 80 x 70 in

A 36

A 3'