



# Holly Fischer

## PAINTING STATEMENT

[www.HollyFischer.com](http://www.HollyFischer.com)

My intention in exhibiting complementary oil paintings alongside my sculptures is to create a context for the forms in which the viewer is given additional clues and glimpses into the figures' psychological duality. Like the sculptures, I want the paintings to seduce through beauty. Alluring and ambiguous compositions beckon viewers to explore the mysteries hidden in the shadows. Much like an exotic and poisonous flower that exploits its most desirable attributes to lure and devour prey, I want my paintings to pull viewers in but leave them with a feeling of uncertainty and vulnerability.

My choices of color and line quality are calculated to create a pushing/pulling dynamic that intrigues through subtle tension. Rhythmic lines describe the contours of the forms - leading the eye across the composition and dipping in and out of shadows. Meticulous, repetitive brush strokes juxtapose warm and cool color palettes, creating optical blending and an illusion of depth when viewed from afar. Up close, these tiny lines formed through delicately overlapping layers of translucent paint begin to mesmerize. I hope this intricate, coiling brushwork entices viewers to examine each onionskin thin layer in an attempt to glimpse what may lie hidden just beneath the surface. These paintings offer viewers an entrance into enchanting, otherworldly environments with haunting micro/macro ambiguity.

When shown together, I hope the sculptures and paintings inform each other. The sculptures are analogous to mythological sirens beckoning viewers with their smooth, undulating forms, and the paintings offer an ominous foreshadowing of the threatening darkness and duplicity that lurks underneath the tempting surface. Characterizations of femininity, whether ancient archetypes or modern stereotypes, are fraught with contradictions, and believing in the fantasy almost always leads to disillusionment. Similarly, the art of illusionistic painting is inherently misleading, an attempt to convince a viewer, even if only for a moment, that something is more than it actually is. I hope the juxtaposition of these two forms of representation creates an atmosphere in which viewers can contemplate how they perceive reality: what is real, what is imagined, and what is desired.