

CARRIE BUCALO

TIMELESS

Recollections of an artist's life in watercolors, acrylic, and glow in the dark paint



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Figure 2

Carrie Bucalo was born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico. At ten years old she became an apprentice to a Contemporary Hispanic watercolor painter who taught her color, composition, and the various forms of watercolor painting. For the next eight years, Carrie painted as an apprentice and developed her own unique style.

At eighteen years old, Carrie took her watercolors with her to the Carmelite Monastery of Santa Fe, New Mexico. For the next three years she continued to develop her watercolor techniques in monastic silence and solitude in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

As an Army wife and mother, Carrie paints on commission and is working to expand several collections for exhibition. Several of her works are displayed on her online gallery, and her paintings can be found in hundreds of homes and private galleries around the world. To learn more, go to www.healedbytruth.com.

To inquire about her artworks, contact Carrie by email at: healedbytruthoutreach@gmail.com

HEART COLLECTION

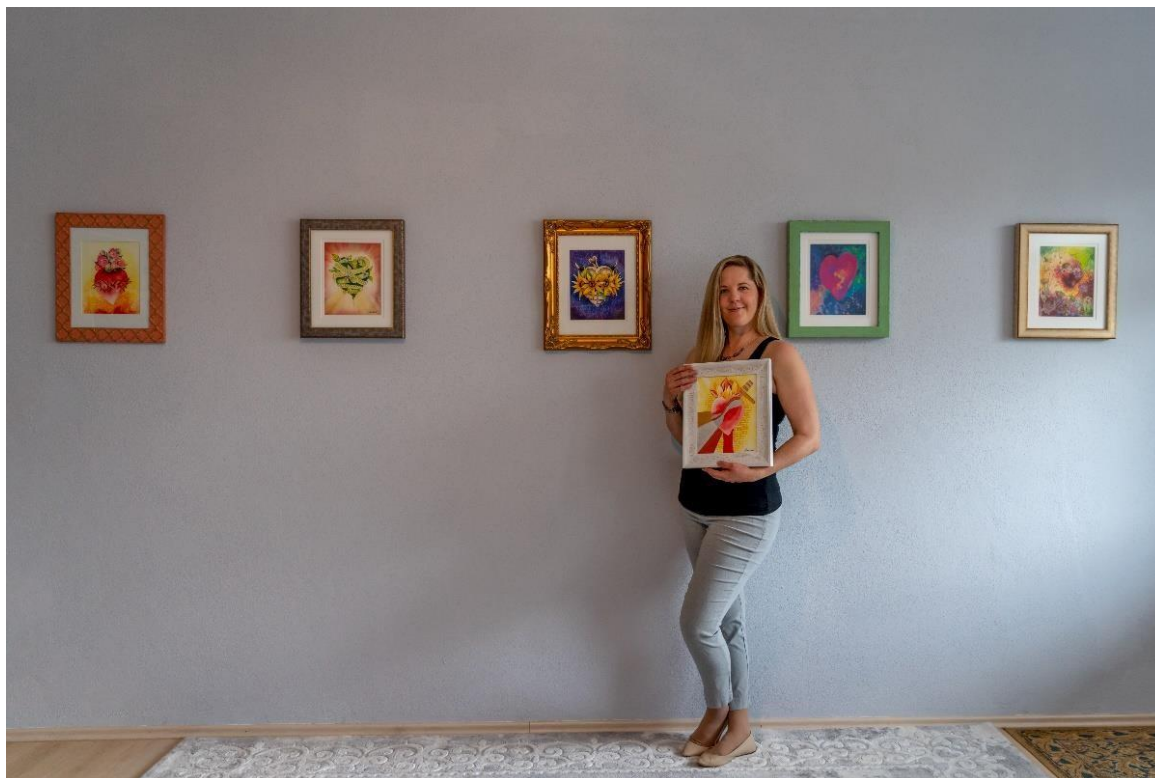


Figure 3

Carrie began painting her heart collection in 2018 to represent the different moods, dispositions, vulnerabilities, and desires of the feminine heart. Over three years, a variety of hearts emerged: *Wounded, Guarded, Nocturnal, Olympic, Healed, and Fruitful*.

These hearts were on exhibition at *Pilgrim Center of Hope's* annual Catholic Women's Conference on July 16 & 17, 2021 in San Antonio, Texas. It is Carrie's hope that these hearts will contribute in some way to the legacy of natural and supernatural beauty of women everywhere.

Wounded

Watercolor on Cold Press



Figure 4

Coiled tightly around a green and tender heart this serpent is reminiscent of Eden. Our innocence is often lost in our earliest memories of this fallen world. Our growth is restricted and sometimes crushed. We say that we are free to love, but our hearts do not lie. If we have the eye and the skill, we can discern where healthy vines grow and twisted tails end. If we are honest, we will admit that there is a force around us that wants to keep our love small.

Yet there is something greater still; there is an *Original Love* which sustains and nurtures our hope like rays of the sun. Leaves and delicate blossoms emerge from within to greet this primordial light. They seem to tell us another story.

If we reach for the *Light* and become a tree, we can outgrow the serpent.

Guarded

Watercolor on Cold Press



Figure 5

Anyone who has been betrayed, abandoned, or abused knows what the heart does to protect itself from further harm. It closes up, sometimes entirely. The ribcage locks itself and grows horns to prepare the heart for future battles. The heart's vibrancy is drained to a pale pink. Where love should have flowed, there protrudes a boney handle. It is clear this heart has been weaponized. It is no longer a vessel of love. It can smash, pierce, and slash.

But there is beauty inside. This beauty grows and blooms with a message from the depths of the heart that says: "I can open again! I am made to love!"

A heart-shaped key can unlock the guarded heart.

Nocturnal

Glow in the Dark Paint on Cold Press



Figure 6

The heart's dark night can frighten anyone who is accustomed to the light of day. With senses stripped and deprived of their ordinary functions, the only thing imaginable is a deeper shade of night. Intense loneliness sets in. Our memories of the day cannot bring back the light but only seem to wound us further.

The heart beats, unseen. Nothing changes. We try everything in our power to end the night. It takes time for us to remember that we are created beings, unable to produce light on our own. Only then are we ready for a relationship with the Light. Then suddenly, like a creature from the deep, our heart is filled with light, like the gift of bioluminescence.

The night will never be the same for the heart that can glow in the dark.

Olympic

Acrylic on Canvas



Figure 7

There are moments when we choose to love God freely and the course of human history is changed forever. Quite often God draws a hidden starting line for the race to his heart. There is no competition; no one knows the race is about to start. God calls each by name. He pulls the trigger, and the heart takes off like an Olympic runner.

The pace is personal and unrepeatable, but the finish line is always marked by a sword of flaming fire. It cannot be crossed without giving it your all. If won, the taste of victory is sweeter than honey. The reward for a victorious heart is gold, silver, and bronze.

If we run the race, we can bear the Standard of an Olympic heart.

Healed

Watercolor, Acrylic, and Pressed Flowers on Cold Press



Figure 8

Healing is a transformation, a resurrection. It is the realization of the heart's deepest desire, whether big or small, visible, or invisible. Healing lifts us from the darkness of our wounds and takes us upwards into the light. Although it can suspend us in the realm of the miraculous, God's restorative work is always a grounding experience, rooted in everything he created and called 'good.'

Here the heart is transported in full bloom, surrounded by all the experiences that shaped it. From this vantage point we can see that there were more blessings, more treasures, and more beautiful moments sustaining us in our times of trial than we ever realized.

Only love can measure the heart's true worth.

Fruitful

Watercolor on Cold Press



Figure 9

A fruitful heart is ultimately open, beautiful, and vulnerable. Anything can touch it, wound it, and hold it. The heart chooses this openness because it has learned that it cannot fully love if it is caged in. It must beat in the open! It can only be a gift to another if it is free and accessible.

This heart is sustained by fire. The trappings of Eden are burned away. Nothing can stop its passion and growth. It accepts the hardships that surround it like a crown of thorns because it refuses to abandon the ones it loves.

A heart given to God as a votive offering produces the hundred-fold.

CARMELITE COLLECTION



Figure 10

Carrie painted her *Carmelite Collection* during her time as a nun (Sister Teresita Marie) in the Carmelite Monastery of Santa Fe, New Mexico (2001-2004) and throughout her early years of marriage (2005-2010). These pieces were greatly influenced by the silence and solitude of monastic life, as well as her journey of healing.

Deep violets and blues represent her childhood trauma, while the untouched whites and vibrant yellows reflect healing and hope. This was more than a study in complementary colors; it was a profession of faith.

Beneath the Cross

Watercolor and Pressed Flowers on Cold Press

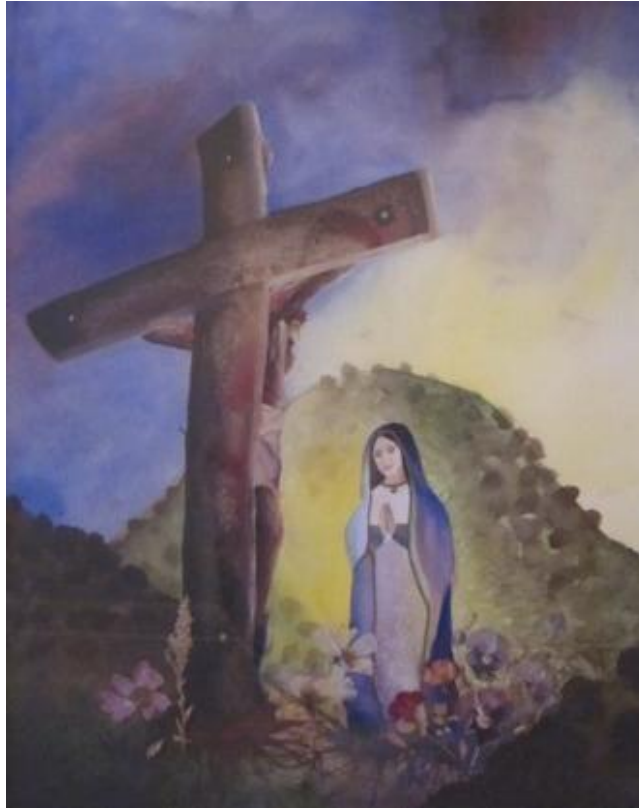


Figure 11

In Carrie's own words: I was inspired to paint Good Friday because I was drawn by the beauty of Jesus's Mother. I was impressed with her ability to stand in the most painful place in the world, and still love God. In the Gospels, she is the one who directly encounters God, straight on. She was rooted in the Mystery, so I painted roots shooting down from Mary, mingling with the roots from Jesus on the Cross. Mary's presence grounded me and held me fast, in my deepest wound. She showed me that with eyes of faith, I could remain in that place, with God.

I was so moved by her 'yes' to God that I 'planted' myself in this painting, represented by the flower on the back of the Cross. Through Mary's example I wanted to be rooted in the Mystery, whether I felt I could face God straight on or not.

By saying my own 'yes' to God, I have watched my life bear fruit, like the flowers, who refuse to remain silent about what they see.

The Nativity

Watercolor and Pressed Flowers on Cold Press

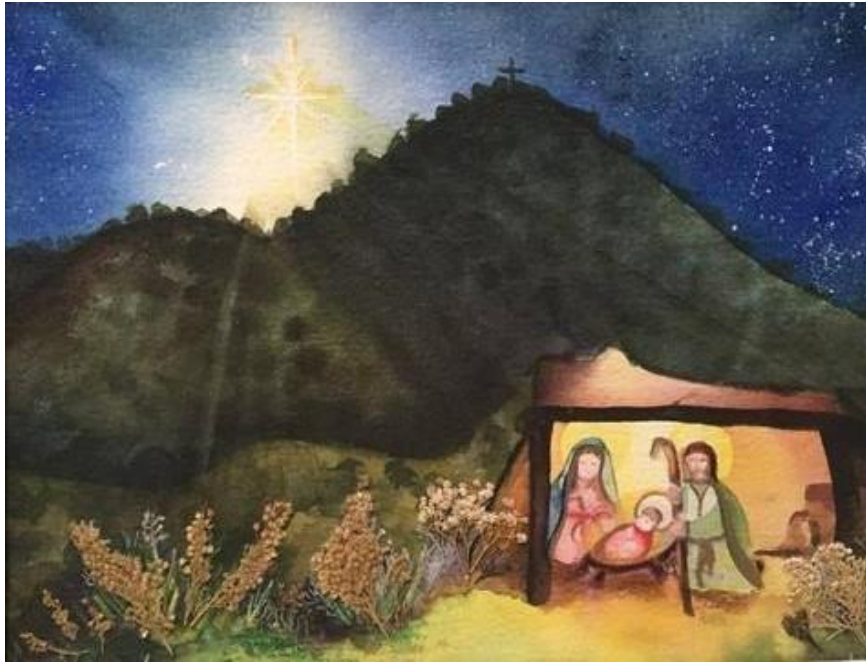


Figure 12

Pentecost

Watercolor on Cold Press



Figure 13

Desert Cactus

Watercolor on Cold Press



Figure 14

Cala Lilies

Master copy of Kathleen Martinez's *Cala Lilies*
Watercolor on Cold Press



Figure 15

Carrie's Cala Lily
Watercolor on Cold Press



Figure 16

TECHNO-MOSAIC COLLECTION



Figure 17

Carrie's experiences in Europe greatly influenced her *Techno-Mosaic Collection*. This collection is all about the old and the new. Bright, neon, and glow in the dark colors combine effortlessly with ancient mosaic styles and imagery to create a sense of modern timelessness.

The themes and subjects of this collection meet us from ages past with a spirit that can only be described as *Avant Garde*.

St. Joan of Arc

Acrylic on Canvas



Figure 18

In Carrie's own words: Saint Joan of Arc is an Allstar Saint. I've been inspired by her courage and tenacity my entire life. While visiting the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City in 2018, I had a chance to see one of their exclusive exhibitions: *Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination*. It was a collection of gowns and dresses from fashion designers who largely had Catholic upbringings.

One of my favorite gowns was the "Joan of Arc" evening ensemble made by Versace. I loved the idea that we could wear the 'fashions' of the Saints, and so I painted this piece as a self-portrait, in the armor I imagined St. Joan would have worn. As a survivor in the Catholic Church, this painting is an ode to all survivors who battle and fight to keep their faith and love for God.

Christ is Risen

Glow in the Dark Paint on Canvas
by Carrie and the kids

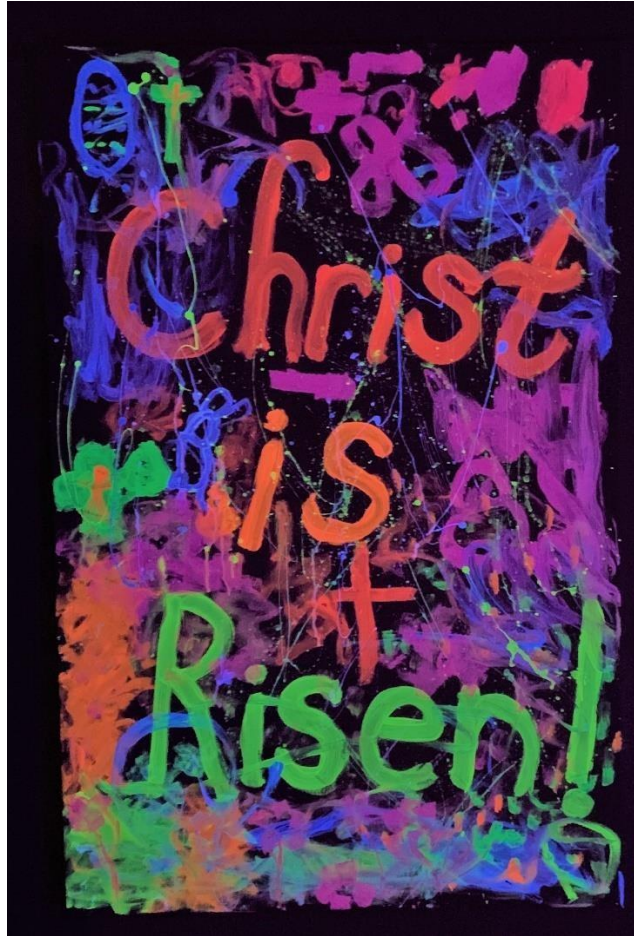


Figure 19

In Carrie's own words: Locked down on Easter Vigil 2020, the kids and I got creative. Unable to go to church, we came up with our own way to celebrate "Christ the Light." We gathered around a large white canvas with brushes and glow in the dark paint. Each of us painted our favorite Easter symbols. The kids ended up wearing half the art as I turned on the blacklight and our painting party turned into a dance party, with glowsticks and Euro Pop music. It was an Easter we will never forget!

Easter Vigil 2020

Family paint out on Easter Vigil 2020



Figure 20

Blue Sky
Acrylic on Canvas

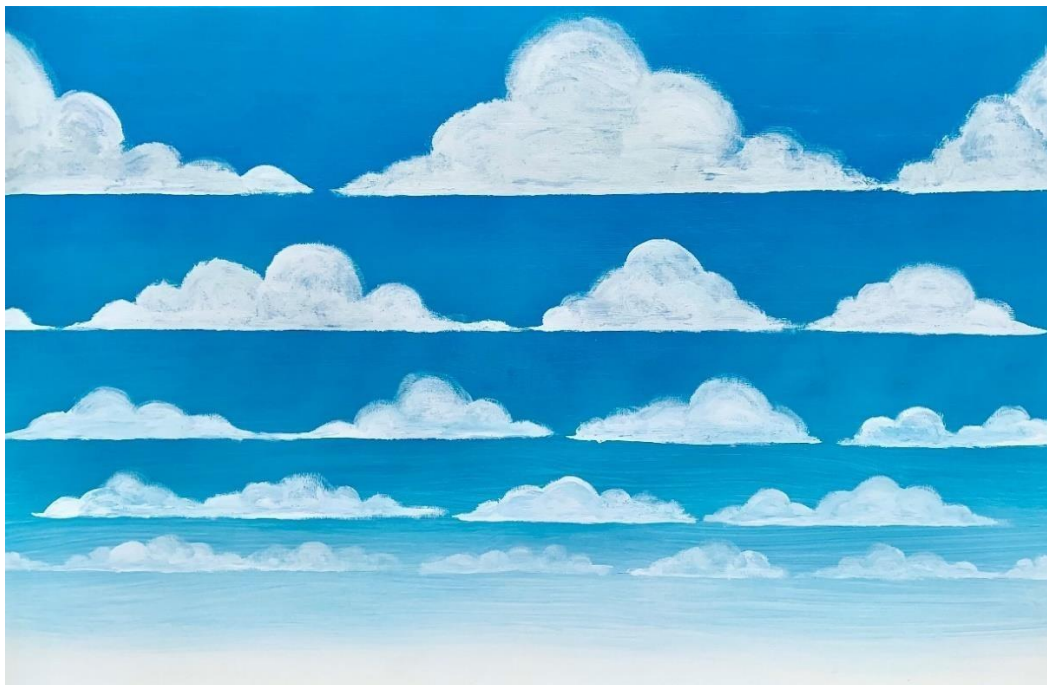


Figure 21

Nocturnal
Glow in the Dark Paint on Cold Press



Figure 22

Olympic
Acrylic on Canvas



Figure 23

TIMELESS PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jessica Rhine Photography



Carrie Bucalo



Elijah Bucalo



ARTWORK & PHOTOGRAPHY

Figure 1: (Front Cover) Jessica Rhine, *Carrie Bucalo Gallery Shot*, October 2020, photograph.

Figure 2: Jessica Rhine, *The Painter*, May 2021, photograph.

Figure 3: Jessica Rhine, *Carrie's Heart Collection*, May 2021, photograph.

Figure 4: Carrie Bucalo, *Wounded*, 2019, watercolor on cold press, 8 X 10, Heart Collection. Figure

5: Carrie Bucalo, *Guarded*, 2019, watercolor on cold press, 8 X 10, Heart Collection.

Figure 6: Carrie Bucalo, *Nocturnal*, 2020 glow in the dark paint on cold press, 8 X 10, Heart Collection.

Figure 7: Carrie Bucalo, *Olympic*, 2020, acrylic on canvas, 8 X 10, Heart Collection.

Figure 8: Carrie Bucalo, *Healed*, 2021, watercolor and pressed flowers on cold press, 8 X 10, Heart Collection.

Figure 9: Carrie Bucalo, *Fruitful*, 2019, watercolor on cold press, 8 X 10, Heart Collection, private gallery.

Figure 10: Elijah Bucalo, *My Mom*, May 2021, photograph

Figure 11: Carrie Bucalo, *Beneath the Cross*, 2003, watercolor and pressed flowers on cold press, 22 X 30, Carmelite Collection.

Figure 12: Carrie Bucalo, *The Nativity*, 2003, watercolor and pressed flowers on cold press, 11 X 14, Carmelite Collection.

Figure 13: Carrie Bucalo, *Pentecost*, 2010, watercolor on cold press, 8 X 10, Carmelite Collection.

Figure 14: Carrie Bucalo, *Desert Cactus*, 2002, watercolor on cold press, 5 X 4.5, Carmelite Collection.

Figure 15: Carrie Bucalo, *Cala Lilies*, 2005, watercolor on cold press, 11 X 14, Carmelite Collection (master copy of Kathleen Martinez, *Cala Lilies*, 1995, watercolor on cold press 11 X 14).

Figure 16: Carrie Bucalo, *Carrie's Cala Lily*, 2006, watercolor on cold press, 16 X 20, Carmelite Collection.

Figure 17: Elijah Bucalo, *My Mom and the Castle*, October 2020, photograph.

Figure 18: Carrie Bucalo, *St. Joan of Arc*, 2020, acrylic on canvas, 16 X 48, Techno-Mosaic Collection.

Figure 19: Carrie Bucalo, *Christ is Risen*, 2020, glow in the dark paint on canvas, 29.5 X 45, Techno-Mosaic Collection.

Figure 20: Carrie Bucalo, *Easter Vigil 2020*, 2020, photograph.

Figure 21: Carrie Bucalo, *Blue Sky*, 2020, acrylic on canvas, 29.5 X 45, Techno-Mosaic Collection.

Figure 22: Carrie Bucalo, *Nocturnal*, 2020, glow in the dark paint on cold press, 8 X 10, Heart Collection & Techno-Mosaic Collection.

Figure23: Carrie Bucalo, *Olympic*, 2020, acrylic on canvas, 8 X 10, Heart Collection & Techno-Mosaic Collection.