

Nicola-Clare Lydon

Nicola-Clare Lydon attained both her Bachelors and Masters degrees at Bretton Hall, University of Leeds, England. Classically and contemporarily trained in both traditional portraiture and abstract, her work spans many mediums and subjects with a fascination for the mystical, the legendary and the age-old quest for the purity hidden within myth and deity alike.



Her deep intrigue with ancient linguistics and symbology continues to evolve through her unicorn portraits; "a modern epitaph to an aged graced by votive". Having joined forces with fantasy artist Peter Pracownik, she now manages their gallery, "Another Green World", based in historic Tintagel, Cornwall, alongside lecturing, giving workshops and doing private commissions. She was born in St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex, England in 1977.



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The Gatekeepers of the Cosmos

Inspired by research into the various gatekeepers we have at the threshold of the gate of the universe, this painting is an incorporation of many ideas by the artist. Combining the use of oil paint and airbrush, the contrast is created by the nebulars in the background and the unicorns intrinsic muscle structure

in many oil built layers in the foreground. The alignment of old age symbols such as the three aspects of the moon and the symbol of the pentacle containing the elements and the spirit of white light make this the deepest conceptual piece Nicola has ever painted.



The Three Graces

The unicorn is a constant fascination for Nicola and is present in many of her paintings. This is her most well known image. Fascinated by ancient linguistics, this oil on canvas has a border written in Anglo Saxon Runes. The Runes incorporate a message from the artist for herself and the viewer:

“If the power of love is to truly see;

By the power of three so mote it be shown in pigment to me.

So the three equus graces shall come unto thee,

By the power of three so mote it be.” N. Lydon-Pracownik



The Lady of the Lost Waters

The inspiration for this painting was taken from the tales of Nimhue; the Lady of the Lake. It brings together the portrayal of the woman in Celtic times and the echoes of the stories surrounding the Water Maidens of Avalon at a time when women were seen as the image of the goddess of nature herself; hence the runes around the goblet read: “Blessed Be She”

The Blessing

Inspired by the symbol of the Chalice Well of Avalon, this painting depicts a blessing being given by the deity of the unicorn to the virginal goddess. Here the unicorn is seen as the sage, delivering the knowledge of old and sacred times into the mind of the feminine.



Between Twilight & Shadow

This was the first painting by the artist that found her using an unconventional pigment for the unicorns. Inspired by the blue light of the moon and the union of the two forms, the Runic script reads:

“Betwixt twilight and shadow you may find us, enveloped in her lunar light and the path she casts that binds us eternally.” N. Lydon - Pracownik

