

FROELICK GALLERY

LAUREN MANTECÓN

Artist Statement

A Flash of Beauty

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In my exploration of beauty, I have come to understand it as more than just an aesthetic—it's a divine intelligence that moves through us, fleeting yet eternal, both dark and light, subtle and profound. Beauty speaks to the soul, not just the eye, and it is this invisible, transcendent force that guides my work.

A Flash of Beauty is the culmination of a two-year journey into the intersections between form and spirit. The work is inspired by sacred geometry, ancient land sites, and the liminal spaces that might exist between dimensions—spaces that manifest as veils, geometric shapes, bursts of light, winged forms, and translucent colors.

The work takes on a life of its own as I witness the dialogue between the ephemeral and the concrete. In my practice, I seek to capture what is felt but not seen—the subtle realms beyond our rational minds—and the sensations that linger in the space between the mystery of the mystical and the everyday.

Midway through this exploration, I traveled to Egypt, a land rich in mystery and ancient power. It was not the physical monuments or the history that drew me in, but the resonance of the place itself. I felt a deep, ineffable connection. The sacred sites seemed to speak in a language beyond words, an elemental, primal force that left me changed. Upon my return, I began to paint not just the place, but the experience of it—the emotional and metaphysical essence that could not be captured by words.

Many of the works in this exhibition reflect that transformation—an exploration of the flashes of insight and beauty I experienced in the depths of the land called Egypt. It's as if the paintings themselves emerged as a way of processing that intensity and depth. One question I carried with me during this process was: What are these thin veils that separate us from the infinite?

Ultimately, the work is all about connection—the connection between the visible and the invisible, the profound and the everyday, the individual and the collective. The power of beauty to transcend divisions, to remind us of our shared humanity, and to invite us into a deeper awareness of the world around us. *A Flash of Beauty* is a record of that which is elusive, fleeting, and yet profoundly real.

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