

Red Pebble Art

Val was born in Baltimore, MD, and received her Bachelor of Science in Fine Arts (*Magnum Cum Laude*), minor in Art History from Towson University in 2005. At Towson, Val concentrated in ceramics and craft, studying abroad at Glasgow School of Art in Scotland. After her undergraduate, Val moved to New York City and joined *The Women's Studio Center* in Queens. Attending open model sessions pulled Val toward painting and figurative subject matter. In 2008 Val moved to Buffalo, New York, receiving a certification in Art Education before settling in Virginia. Currently Val is a practicing artist and teacher residing in Richmond, VA.

Artist Statement:

Eastern philosophy and aesthetic has greatly influenced in my work. The realm of spirit and healing through yoga and enlightenment provides a jumping off point for my subject matter. Building on these themes and adding the emotional quality of the human figure, I hope to resonate my work universally, appealing to many peoples and schools of thought. Using an earthy, malleable material such as clay really allows my work to take on this organic nature, bringing it to life. I love the endless possibilities of technique and finish that clay provides; my work will continue to grow and evolve as does my spirit and connection to the world around me.