Oil, collage, wood putty, and gold leaf on wood panel; 30” x 48”
My current work investigates narrative identity and how I define myself in relation to others.

*His Affliction* is about the hardship that someone very close to me has been fighting through for four years. I painted this piece in a very loose and expressive style so that it would evoke the feelings of pain, anger, and frustration that he and I feel. This affliction that he endures consumes his identity and his perception of the world, so I created a very chaotic atmosphere around him.

*My Pietà* parallels and complements the themes at play in the first piece, because it is about how my identity in relation to him is defined by trying to be his savior. I lament over him the way Mary lamented over Jesus after he died, which is what Michelangelo’s *Pietà* depicts. The line drawings surrounding the figures are police officers and judges, which relate to his afflictions. However, I have utilized sanding techniques which fade the drawings, therefore bringing emphasis to the intimate lamenting figures.

Oil on canvas; 36” x 48”