

G L O R I A A A D A M S

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Artist Statement

I was raised in rural western Pennsylvania, where hard work, early marriage and family rearing are valued more than a college education. My childhood experiences of hunting, rifle associations, Christianity, and factory work contrasted by my liberal college education and now urban surroundings, have influenced my artwork. My paintings draw from my experience of navigating the cultural space between rural poverty and the college-educated upper-middle class.

The animal imagery in my work is carefully arranged based on the personal and universal meaning that the animal embodies. The paintings refer to my experience of living between two cultures, to personal narratives and to global current events, such as the most recent war in Iraq and environmental crisis. I construct the paintings in oil on smoothly primed canvas, considering in detail the significance and character of every object. The finished works call to mind magic and create an emotional experience that is beyond the fundamental core of the objects depicted.