

ARTIST STATEMENT



The start of spring is such an exciting time to me flowers bloom in forgotten places, baby ducks follow their mothers tightly, and my head is on a constant swivel taking in all of the new growth and emergence. Yet the reminder of fragility is constant, and was never more present to me than the weeks I watched a mallard duck and her ducklings nest low in the ground, adjacent to the danger of a large highway in Memphis. The ducklings' numbers slowly dwindled, and their mother retreated from an empty nesting ground.

From this experience of sadness, I painted the ducks in this collection. To accompany them, overarching flowers and camouflaging leaves, garden canopies and towering grasses slowly emerged. These hedges of natural boundaries preserved in painting the protection lacking in real life. I focused on earthy, grounding colors throughout this collection to connect with the subject's low, humble stature and pops of color as bright pockets of innocence and beauty.

While painting this body of work, I have also been experiencing the growth and flutters of a sweet, baby girl incubating inside my belly. This collection has provided me with a momentary sense of control, a Heavenly peace, and a needed reminder that nature rests in God's hands. Someday soon there will be no more trouble nor mourning, and in the meantime I hope to witness life being lived to the fullest and longest, and widest and deepest.



ALICE



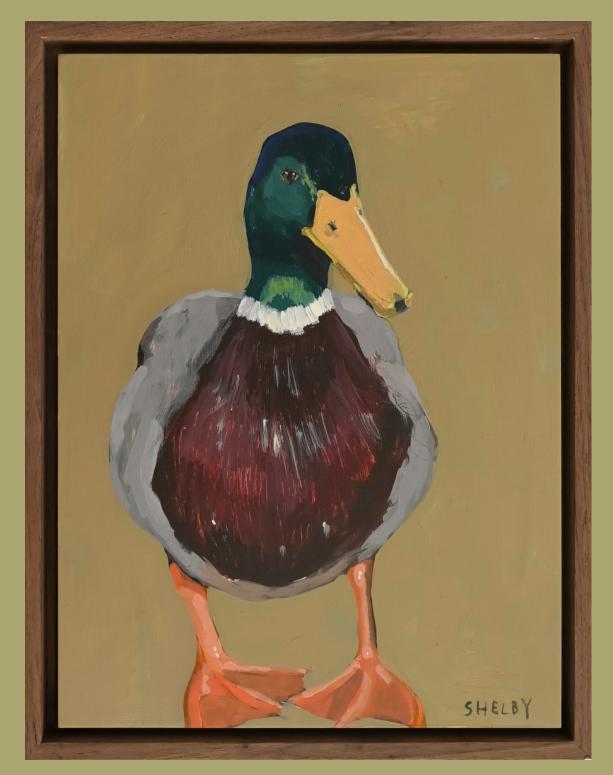
9x12" | Acrylic on Panel | Maple Float Frame | \$800

BEATRICE



9x12" | Acrylic on Panel | Maple Float Frame | \$800

DUKE



9x12" | Acrylic on Panel | Walnut Float Frame | \$800

HENRY



9x12" | Acrylic on Panel | Walnut Float Frame | \$800

KELLY



9x12" | Acrylic on Panel | Maple Float Frame | \$800

ANDY



9x12" | Acrylic on Panel | Walnut Float Frame | \$800

MINT TO BE



20x20" | Acrylic on Panel | Maple Float Frame | \$1,800



NESTING



20x20" | Acrylic on Panel | Maple Float Frame | \$1,800



SUMMER HAZE



20x20" | Acrylic on Panel | Maple Float Frame | \$1,800



TRAVELLER



20x20" | Acrylic on Panel | Walnut Float Frame | \$1,800



ZINNIA GARDEN



36x36" | Acrylic on Panel | Maple Float Frame | \$3,400



WATERING HOLE



36x36" | Acrylic on Panel | Maple Float Frame | \$3,400



For any questions or for further details on the collection please contact hello@shelbymonte.com.

