

Kathleen Beausoleil

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Statement

The primary medium, and subject /content of the paintings is oil on canvas or panel, that explores human social interaction and territorial drivers of crowd behavior. At the core is a fascination with how people organize. Often it is the spaces between people that define their relationships.

We consider ourselves as having conspicuously unique personalities. Yet, if one takes a closer look, it is clear that there exists a pack mentality programmed into our social interaction, and territorial behavior. There is a sense of liberty in anonymity; a safety in getting lost in the crowd.

How people behave in public is very telling about the culture they live in. Observing these groups can help give us a better understanding of our place in our culture. Even our individual expressions only appear acceptable or distasteful within the context of a larger community of organized and accepted social norms. It is with this premise that observations for the subject are made with the realization that people need other people, their own people, to be happy, accepted, and fulfilled. We also need other people to project our grievances and , at times, rally around a common enemy. It is a sense of belonging that people seek both in our microcosmic home lives and within our macrocosmic social lives.