

In the Studio with... Malinda Prud'homme

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Malinda Prud'homme is a Canadian Mixed Media Artist with a talent for Portraiture. She loves travelling, reading, her big cat Maverick and working in her comfy little studio!



Malinda in her studio.

1. Where is your studio based?

My studio is in my home in Toronto's Art & Design District. It is truly my favourite place in the world.

2. How does your working day begin?

I always begin my day by tidying up our home. I have a very hard time doing any kind of work if things are disorganized. Once this is complete I spend time on multiple social media platforms in the hope of spreading the word about my artwork.

3. Do you have any rituals or habits before you start work?

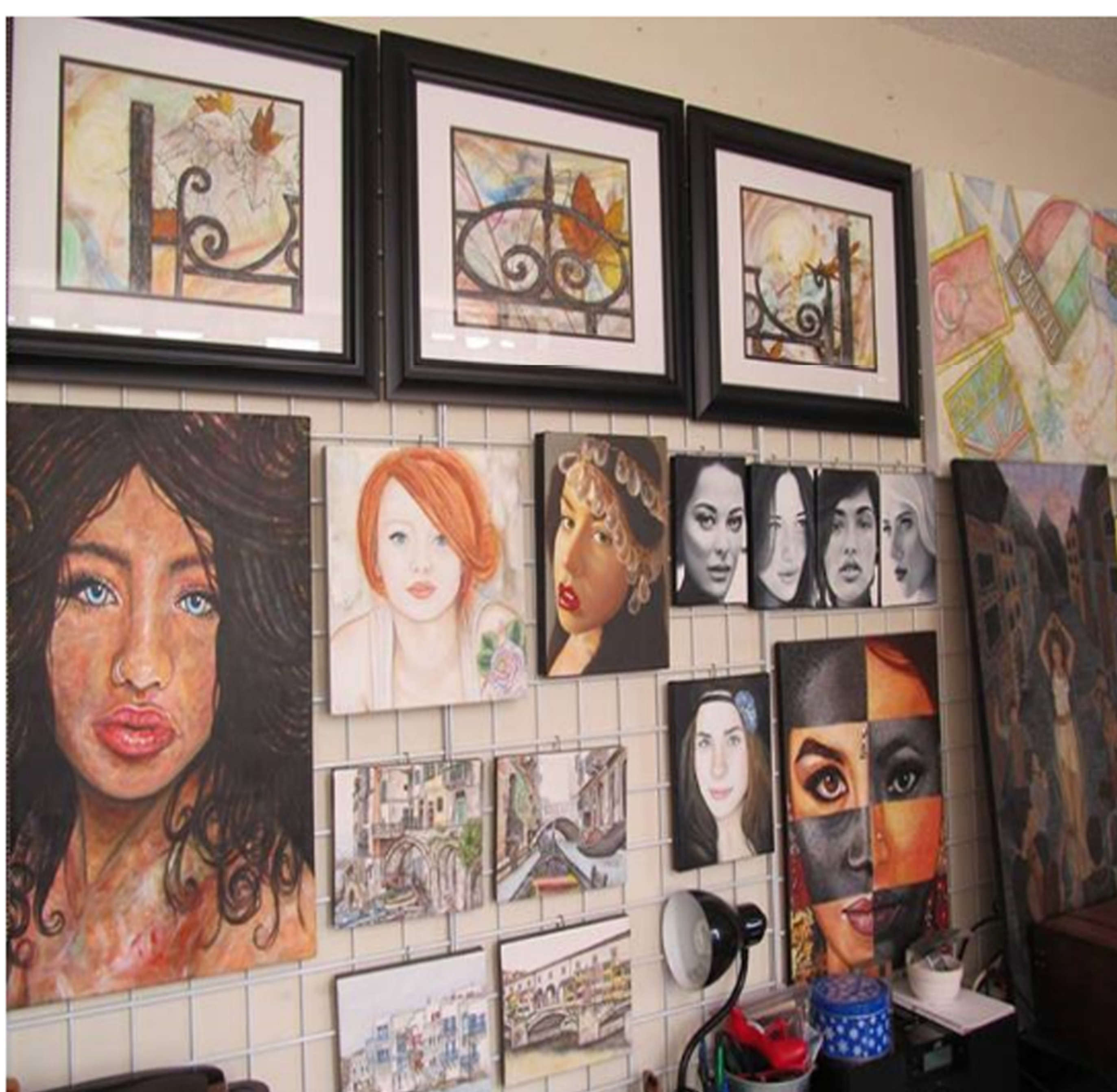
Before I start painting or drawing I lay everything I will need out and I put on one of my favourite television shows/movies to listen to in the background. I have a very overactive mind which can be distracting when working on the type of detailed artwork I create. Music doesn't cut it. I require a storyline of sorts for my mind to follow if I want it to relax and concentrate on the task at hand. My favourite things to listen too are Xena Warrior Princess, BBC's Merlin, Lord Of The Rings, and HBO's Game Of Thrones.

4. What themes do you explore in your work?

I love to create travel artwork as well as abstract expressions however my greatest passion is expressing natural female beauty. I hope that with my artwork women will begin to see their true beauty and not rely so heavily on cosmetics and constricting clothing. Beauty is not only seen in naturally beautiful features but also in one's personality.

5. What are your favourite materials to work with?

As a mixed media artist I have almost every medium at my disposal. Though I love encaustic (wax) paint, graphite pencils, soft pastels, acrylic paint, and others; my absolute favourite materials are oil paint and willow vine charcoal.



Malinda's studio work.

6. Who or what inspires your work?

My work is inspired by a variety of sources. I am an avid traveller and cannot help but be incredibly inspired by the beauty of architecture and culture found around the world. Yet the majority of my inspiration comes from women. Naturally beautiful women give me the ultimate feeling of "I need to create". Whether they are an actress, model, friend, family member, or complete stranger, I can't help but be captivated by female beauty. Lately I have been passionate about portraying the beauty of curvaceous women and hope to steer my artwork more so in this direction in the future.

7. Do you prefer working alone or in the company of others?

I have always and will always prefer to work alone. As mentioned above my mind easily wanders and I just simply cannot get the same results when there are people speaking around me or if there is a mess in the room. I admit, I am a bit of a control freak, but that is just the way I am and I've come to accept it.

8. How long do you generally spend on one piece of art?

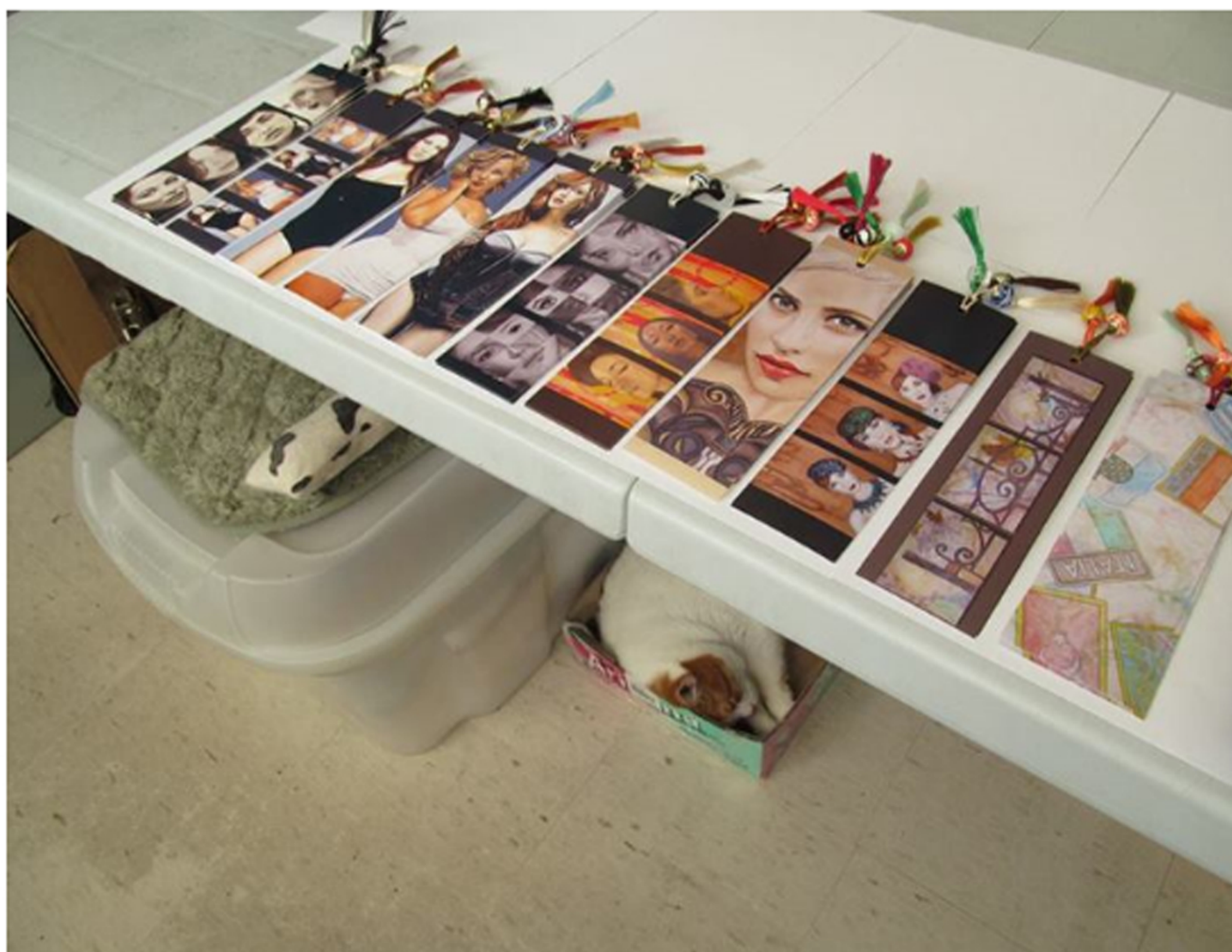
The time required to complete my artwork can vary greatly. Some of my work can take 2-3 days while others can take well over a month of full time work. The time an artwork will take me is all based on the amount of detail in the image. I am a very realistic painter and have found that, compared to other art forms, realism is very time consuming.

9. What do you enjoy doing when not working in your studio?

I love to travel and, when finances don't allow the actual travel, I like to travel to a new place through my fantasy novels. I am currently reading George R.R. Martin's series "A Song Of Ice And Fire" and am rather obsessed. Other favourites are J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord Of The Rings" and Terry Pratchett's "Discworld" series.

10. Have you always wanted to be an artist?

To be honest, no. It's not that I didn't want to be an artist; it's that I never really believed it could be possible. I grew up in a smaller community that didn't have a wealth of art involvement and therefore I just never considered being an artist as a career. A hobby or second job ... maybe. But a full time art career just didn't seem plausible. I wanted to be a teacher since I was 12 years old and since that age I always felt it was a realistic career choice. There is currently an overabundance of qualified teachers here in Ontario and therefore, despite my collection of qualifications, I was not able to find work. I decided I would go back to University in order to broaden my teaching qualifications. Since I was so passionate about visual arts I went on to complete my two year minor in one year so I would be qualified to teach the subject. Well let's just say it was a year like no other in my life. I truly excelled in this program and eventually decided I had the skills to make it a career. I am so glad I did!



Malinda's studio assistant, Maverick!

Posted By admin

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