

## **Shayne Murphy: Artist Statement**

My practice focuses on the creation of an invented space that combines the real and imagined. Through drawings, paintings, and installation-based works I am building a world composed of invented settings, characters, and happenings. While this world is a fictional one it maintains connections to our physical world acting as a place where the past, present, future, and dreams converge. Formally work focuses on the relationship between realism and abstraction attempting to integrate these visual languages while allowing them to remain distinct. The figures within these spaces embody different roles, including that of transient, protector, destroyer, or remain ambiguous.

My practice draws inspiration from a range of sources, including but not limited to: nature, mythology, folklore, theology, cinema, cartoons, design, and comic books. My most recent body of work is inspired by the golden age of Hollywood set design and explores the relationship between what we perceive to be real and what is façade. Teetering between reality and reverie, my work is meant to force speculation of what we see, what we imagine, and whether these concepts are mutually exclusive.