# Grace Vitale

Portfolio 2023

TRADITIONAL & DIGITAL ART



# About Me

Since I could hold a pen, I've spent my life doodling. In the sixth grade, I wrote and illustrated a children's short story which was published in a collection of children's writing. As I grew older and busier, I found little time to sit and draw, but took every opportunity to create beauty where I could.





Despite my love for art, I didn't pursue it in earnest until my junior year of college. Now, as an artist committed to capturing the overlooked beauty in the world, my work is rooted in classical training and characterized by whimsical elements. Using a variety of mediums, I find inspiration in the ordinary moments of life, striving to instill a sense of wonder in others through my art.

#### Education

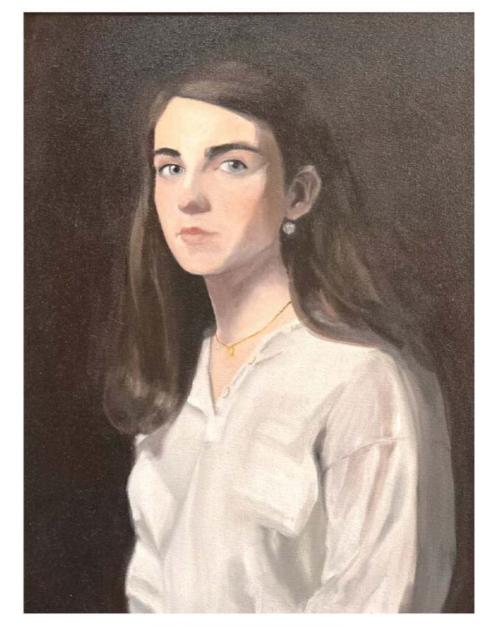
Hillsdale College Bachelor of Science in Art, 2022 Cum Laude, Departmental Honors

#### Skills

- Oil painting
- Graphic & Ink Illustration
- Portraiture

## Experience

- Creative Director and Founder of The Cradle Catholic (2020-Present)
- Free-Lance Fine Artist (2020-Present)



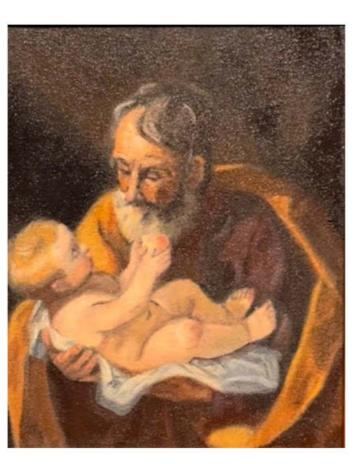
Self Portrait (2021) oil on canvas

# Oil Painting

I began oil painting in the fall of 2021. Capturing light and darkness in the tradition of the masters, I enjoy the pursuit of color and shadow in my work.



St. Mary's in the Mountains (2022) oil on canvas



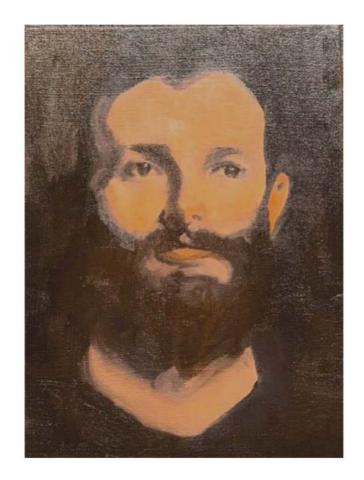
Master Copy of Guido Reni's "St. Joseph and the Christ Child" oil on canvas



Still Life of an Orange (2021) oil on canvas

#### Portraiture

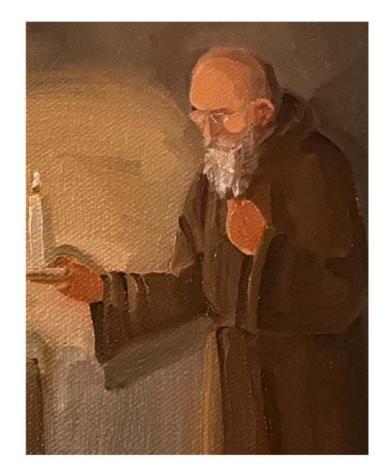
I have created portraits in several mediums, including oils, charcoal, graphite, and digital illustration. The challenge in capturing a person's likeness is a joy to me and remains one of my favorite subjects.



Man in Orange (2021) oil on canvas



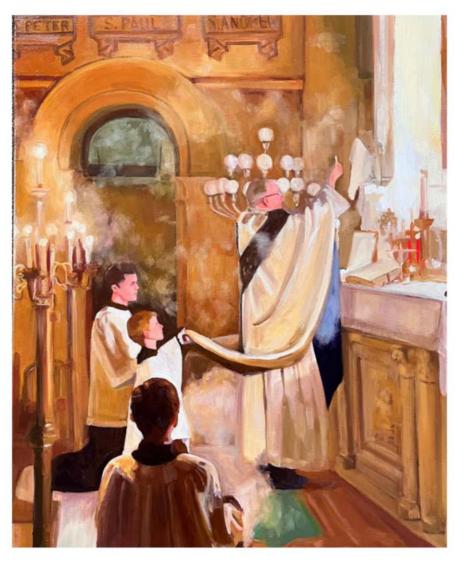
Master Copy of John Singer Sargent's "Jennie Jerome" (2021) charcoal on paper



Detail of "Forget-Me-Not" (2023) oil on canvas



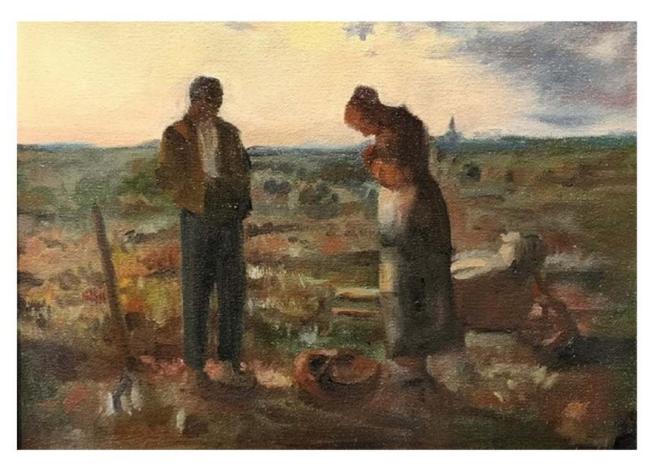




Where Heaven Meets Earth (2022) 20"x30", oil on canvas

For my final semester in college, I painted a scene from the Catholic Mass: the elevation of the Eucharist. Featuring billowing incense, candlelight, and strong shadows, the painting showcased the skills I had gained in my first year as an oil painter.

## **Master Copies**



Master Copy of Jean-François Millet's "The Angelus" (2021) oil on canvas



Master Copy of Guido Reni's "The Archangel Michael Defeating Satan" (2023) oil on canvas

#### Watercolor

I began using watercolors in the last six months. Their subtle coloring and natural transparency lend themselves to an ethereal atmosphere and soft palette.



Still Life of Lemons (2023) watercolor on paper



Afternoon Picnic (2023) watercolor on paper



Let the Children Come (2023) watercolor on paper

### A Touch of Whimsy

Alongside my traditional work, I delight in writing and illustrating short stories and poems to celebrate loved ones. Characterized by playful colors, an attention to detail, and lively design, my work is vibrant and charming.



Detail from "First Father's Day" (2023) digital illustration



Saint Francis of Assisi (2021) digital illusration



Tucked Away (2020) ink on paper



Piano Lesson (2023) watercolor on paper

## Embroidery

Out of love for the intricate detail of embroidery, I have intermittently enjoyed it as a medium. I have created designs and outsourced them to be embroidered by machine and I have hand-embroidered small projects. The slow pace of the medium is refreshing.



Friends in High Places (2021) embroidered sweatshirt



Adventure Hat (2021)
hand embroidered thread on
cotton hat

#### Card Design

Using hand-drawn designs, I created customizable Christmas card templates. I focused on timeless elements with a modern flair to curate a collection of cards that would appeal to the holiday spirit.







Blue Bows (2023) digital illustration

Winter Floral (2023) digital illustration

Blue Plaid (2023) digital illustration

#### Color & Abstraction

In these pieces I explored the effects of line weight, color, and shape. I was inspired by the vivid colors of Henri Matisse's later works and the organic gesture of Claude Monet.



Tidal Pool (2022) acrylic on paper



Matisse's Oysters (2022) ink on paper



July Undone (2022) oil on panel







Until I began my formal training, doodles occupied class notes, scraps of paper, gum wrappers, and napkins. Though the quality of my canvases has improved since then, I maintain the same love for creating beauty in the ordinary, and delight in this pursuit.

# Get in Touch!

Phone: (616) 799-3017

Email: cradlecatholic@outlook.com

Website: the cradle catholic.com

Instagram: @thecradlecatholic

