ORA SORENSEN

Ora Sorensen describes her work as "exaggerated realism," where the colors, scale, contrast and lighting are pushed just beyond reality. Her popular still lifes evoke the beauty of nature then heighten it with vibrant colors, brilliant light and dancing shadows. Their sensuality draws you in, making the viewer want to breathe in the sweet aroma of the luminous flowers or bite in to a luscious pear. Sorensen's laborious method of oil painting uses many layers of thin transparent oil paint to give a deep, jewel-like glow to the surfaces of the painting's subject matter.

Sorensen was born in New York but grew up overseas in countries including Libya, Turkey, Iran, Holland and Thailand. Throughout her travels, Sorensen spent a lot of time drawing and painting, taking workshops from artists all over the world.

Her paintings have been shown in many gallery exhibitions over the past decade as well as in the Ritter Art Gallery at Florida Atlantic University and NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale.

Sorensen's latest projects include a commission for the Cleveland Clinic in Naples, Florida, as well as five commissioned paintings for the lobby of the new Intercontinental Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio.

She was a featured artist in the July/August 2006 issue of *The Artist's Magazine*.

Sorensen has recently joined the Board of Directors for The Cornell Museum of Art and American Culture, in Delray Beach, Florida. She has also served as a juror for the All Florida Exhibit, and for Women in Visual Arts.

Artist Statement

"I love my chosen profession: how I can sit quietly and take note with my paints of the world around me. I feel that art is a form of communication that crosses all cultures and all times. When I see a painting in a museum that was painted thousands of years ago, and in the composition are similar objects that I gather to place in my own still life paintings, I feel connected to the past, and I feel that I am carrying forward into the future my own effort at lasting communication."

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