**Artist Statement:**

I have always been fascinated by older buildings and the stories that go along with them. Wondering what kind of people lived there or worked there and how they impacted that building in such ways. Downtown Wilmington, North Carolina is home to several historically established buildings that I chose specifically because of their significance to Wilmington. These buildings have unique character, artistry and a simplistic quality in architecture that I drew inspiration from for my work. By drawing the architecture, I can capture the history behind each building.

My process involves understanding the structural aspect as well as the actual building material used in construction. With this understanding, I draw from photos of these buildings that make use of perspective and cropping. I draw with charcoal on 8 x 10 pastel board which creates a small-scale view. This cropped perspective and small-scale work, act as a window to which you are viewing the building from. It draws you in and makes you wonder what the rest of the building looks like.

My drawings are mounted on decoratively painted boards that represent a piece of that building. I create texture with various faux finishes that mimic pieces of the architecture whether it is an actual building material or a style that reflects that era in history. My drawings are also able to hang on something that becomes part of the artwork as opposed to being mounted on just a white gallery wall. By bringing a touchable and realistic element of architecture to you, you feel a connection to the history of that structure in a way you have never viewed it before.