



Dawson Community College Art Gallery

October 6 – November 28, 2008

*The Things I Find Beauty In*

**Keely Perkins**

Artist Statement - Biography

I find beauty in the human figure- all shapes and sizes. I love the way no two are exactly alike. The figure is one of my favorite subjects. I like the challenge of mimicking human skin. It is translucent - which makes painting it interesting because it requires many thin layers of paint.

Keely, also, likes to dress her figures & put them in provocative poses – a uniform, a cocktail dress, in the spot light, in a water trough, or in the middle of the street.

Color is a big part of my paintings. I like using bold yellows and reds, they demand viewing. You have a hard time ignoring things that are bright.

Looking at the big picture, there is no color Keely has not put into her service. In addition to the figure, Keely likes painting still life montages of the delicate and familiar – a goat, a bird, origami cranes, a likeness of her grandmother's kitchen chair - in a bed of roses – yellow, red, green, blue, pink.

Keely grew up on a small farm in Miles City, MT. After graduating from high school she attended college at Louisiana Tech University where she studied art, receiving a BFA in 2D and then a Masters of Education. After graduating Keely returned to her home town, and accepted the Education Director position at the Custer County Art and Heritage Center in Miles City. She then accepted the Art Specialist Position for the Miles City Public School system. She currently teaches art with 1st through 6<sup>th</sup> graders. She, also, does mural work. In 2007, she completed a mural for the Miles City Veterans' Administration, and one for Miles Community College. In college she was commissioned to do three murals for Louisiana Tech University.