

Artist Bio:

Celia Wilson is a mixed media artist and art educator based out of Ontario, Canada. As a young artist at the age of 5, Celia found comfort in creating. Her family was full of love and support for her passion for creativity. Her colorful paintings pay homage to the cultural melting pot of her city and Caribbean roots. Through her works, she aims to inspire others to create and be socially aware and present.

Artist Statement:

In the series of mixed media paintings called 'Gladiators' Celia's socially concerned work is informed by the collective societal challenges faced by Black Canadians today. Through her work, she comments on challenges of justice, inequality and preparedness to face those challenges.

Utilizing acrylic paints, spray paint, charcoal, pastels, markers and collage, Celia's figures are typically anonymous looking, yet very attuned to the social realities and hardships experienced by Black Canadians in urban environments. With close attention, Celia's figurative paintings also reveal moments of pride, frustration, and elevation.

Celia's distinctive visual technique takes on layering and pops of texture. Much of the Gladiator series is a mashup of urban settings with classical Roman architectural elements behind her figures. The modern gladiators are prepared to fight for the culture and the future.