

Ode to Matisse Series

Every decade or so I do a group of works as a tip of my hat (tribute) to various Masters I admire. In the past, I have done drawings and paintings in tribute to Grant Wood, Edward Hopper, Egon Schiele and Gustav Klimt.

I do not like many of the paintings by Matisse, but I have always found his huge collages (especially his blue and white females) and drawings and prints aesthetically interesting. I have replaced the face in a selection of Matisse's works with the face of Hannah (a student of mine).

I like this juxtaposition of the realistic portrait of Hannah opposed to the more abstracted, generic portraits of Matisse's women. In most of the photographs I have seen of Matisse and his models, the women were very dark haired and fair skinned. With his robust and verdant shapes I feel his women should have been blond and sturdy.....living along the oceans or on the sides of mountains.

Hannah is from Niceville, Florida, a suburb of Destin and if we arm wrestled, I am sure she would win.