

**Erin Rehil**  
**Artist Statement**

My creative practice is centered around nature-based spirituality, the divine feminine, and the importance of building a relationship with the unconscious mind. I believe that the artist-as-mystic fulfills a vital social role that remains very much relevant today. Drawing and painting are my core practices and I often work with acrylic and mixed media on wood panel, though I am expanding my visual language into sculpture as well.

Born and raised in Flint, Michigan, I spent the past decade living and teaching at international schools across Asia, and raising a multicultural family. International-mindedness has become a vital part of who I am. The geographical places I have inhabited hold tremendous importance for me; much of my recent work also explores the darker side of travel, the mental burden of dislocation and the difficulty of retaining a sense of self while absorbing new cultures. In my work, I desire to connect to new and unfamiliar lands, to experience the sensation of rootedness. My landscapes combine inner and outer worlds; I use transparency, levitation, and other methods to insert dream imagery and personal symbolism into otherwise real spaces. Formally, this includes a merging of classical rendering techniques with flat, graphic patterning. While these works are highly personal, they carve out space for my own nontraditional viewpoints, empowering the audience to do the same for themselves.