



Beauty Through Sacrifice Acrylic on Canvas 18" X 24" X 6

Ron Kelsey

My painting process is filled with mystery and discovery—it is gratifying to watch the slow breakdown of the layered acrylic paint after I apply various colors and pour water onto the canvas: the water and brush act as wind upon the rocks of thickened paint. I explore the mystery of the painting by slowly adding more water before the paint dries. The water naturally cascades down the canvas and I stand back, observing the colors that are revealed and the open spaces that still remain. Overall, what is barely seen becomes the object of my imagination.

Thinking about this series in the shadow of war, I realize that my process of painting represents beauty through sacrifice. Over time, paint drips from each canvas into puddles on the floor and I believe these puddles represent sacrifice. To capture this idea in the Beauty Through Sacrifice series, I set a canvas under each Beauty painting. As the water cascaded down the Beauty paintings, the drips captured on the canvas below became reminiscent of the tears, suffering, and pain I endured throughout my deployment to Iraq. The resulting piece represents the personal refinement achieved through the grieving process experienced through war.

The process of creating this series taught me to see the influence of the Creator upon the created in every act of art creation—I experienced peace beyond human understanding, a peace transcending the confines of war and tragedy.

Price: \$1,200