

An exploration of 'the sacred' through the ancient artwork of body painting Merging women's bodies with holy architecture.

Recognising the hidden experience of women inside of the religious monotheistic narratives

Reclaiming HER significance for local and global balance, harmony, sustainability and restoration.

Declaring sovereignty and demanding safety for **all** people.



Presenting the bodies and voices of women, hidden within the cultural and physical constructs of religious doctrines and their underlying cultural narratives.

WOMAN.LIFE.FREEDOM.



The Sacred Series - Jerusalem - The Vision

ARTIST STATEMENT

My name is Orly Faya and I am an Australian Woman, creative activist; mimetic body painter, photographer, writer, poet, and speaker.

For the last 10 years I am known as the person who 'paints people into the world', blending the human form with anything and everything. My work has always come out of a deep desire to express our human need for belonging, via my own lens as an Australian, Israeli, Jewish woman born into a modern experience of deeply uncertain times.

In 2012 I discovered the art of *mimetism* (camouflage) through a commissioned installation by World wildlife Fund, and my passion for merging humans into the environment has only deepened since. My first series, *The Gaia Collection*, was completed in 2014, and exhibited in Burrinja Gallery Victoria and Starseed Gardens Byron Bay. Born out of my passion for body painting, photography and the natural environment, this adventurous and intense art form took me all over the world, painting over a hundred people into stunning earthly landscapes, promoting a strong unequivocal message that 'we come from the earth, are *of* the earth and return to the earth'.

The imagery and message of my work has been published extensively in both print and digital magazines, newspaper articles, and my adventures painting people have become the content for international television documentaries, in both US & AUS, featured on national television and radio interviews.

Over the decade I spent embracing and propagating this message, sitting with shamans, drinking plant medicine and learning about the needs of the environment, it became apparent to me that our connection to the earth was **only** a **part** of the story of humanity. More and more, I understood the cosmic element to our conscious human experience, and as with all my works, a vision fell upon me...

ARTIST STATEMENT CONTINUED

The Sacred Series was born out of The Gaia Collection, in a similar vein to monotheism being born out of Paganism. Represented are a compilation of multimedia fine art photography prints that contrast the sacred woman's body with sacred religion institutions. The main three monotheistic faiths are the subject of this series, merged into the walls of religious architecture throughout Israel (namely Jerusalem but also Abrahams Tomb in Hebron). Each woman painted, was born into the faith of the wall that she has disappeared into.

This series is an elegant & rebellious expression that juxtaposes the most contrary symbols of 'the sacred'. Designed to shakedown the essence of right and wrong, questioning: What is holy? What is sacred? In a world that sees women continually persecuted by institutionalised injustices, this series aims to highlight the dangers that exists for women all over the world, when it comes to physical, emotional and spiritual self expression within the religious context.

By exploring the institutions of religion as centralising forces of patriarchal control and gender narration, alongside the taboo of nudity and sexuality, this series speaks about the ways in which women have been treated as property; controlled and persecuted over thousands of years - and points to the systematic failure that ensures female leadership is hindered, inequality perpetuated, and peace blockaded.

I aspire to draw my viewers in through the lens of beauty, ie they are invited to relish in the forbidden fruit, via the calculated curation of revelation, exposure and contrast. This series is a dance with the human form, public spaces, and a question of holiness; intended to incite emotional responses that seduce, entertain, educate, and **disrupt**.

The Sacred Series is to be presented by Lily Eve, signed 'Love Lily', a biblical representation of women that acts as both a protective veil between my personal identity and the audience as well as a symbol for the danger that exists for women in expressing ourselves, in speaking out against oppressive regimes and authorities, and thus our hidden voices, bodies and stories.

TRANSPARENCY IS KEY

Mimetism is about transparency, highlighting the hidden, and making visible the interconnectivity of things.

The Sacred Series speaks to the historical fact that 'the Goddess' was usurped by 'the Gods' long before she was entirely kicked out of the divine pantheon, and the process by which monotheism became **absolute**, relegated her role to being of the earthly realms, aka a tool and accessory to male divinity & leadership.

Since ancient times, women's bodies, voices and lives have been secondary to patriarchal forces, backed by religious doctrines. Violence and oppression is increasingly sanctified by cultures that disguise systematic patriarchal values within cultural norms. The Torah and Bible depict ancient cultures that also denied women the power of their sexuality and dismissed them as passive bearers of life ie property of man. The ancient stories are a reflection of HIS-story which is at most is only half the population's perspective which has perpetuated this imbalance.

Thus, the institution of religious doctrine has actively, both subtly and obtusely, endorsed the oppression of women's freedom, autonomy and safety in the name of control, capital and corruption. It has also allowed for the earth mama to be used and abused. This has created a dangerous imbalance on the planet, that is disruptive to the entire ecosystem.

It's time for a realignment, by creating new ways of working in the world that rebalance the narratives and support our largest percentage of disenfranchised people - women - to rise up into their necessary leadership roles for the betterment of all humanity.





Values & intentions

- 1. Women's empowerment, autonomy, sovereignty and leadership.
- 2. Creativity, empowered messages and art as activism.
- 3. Disrupt consciousness paradigms, rebuild cultures.

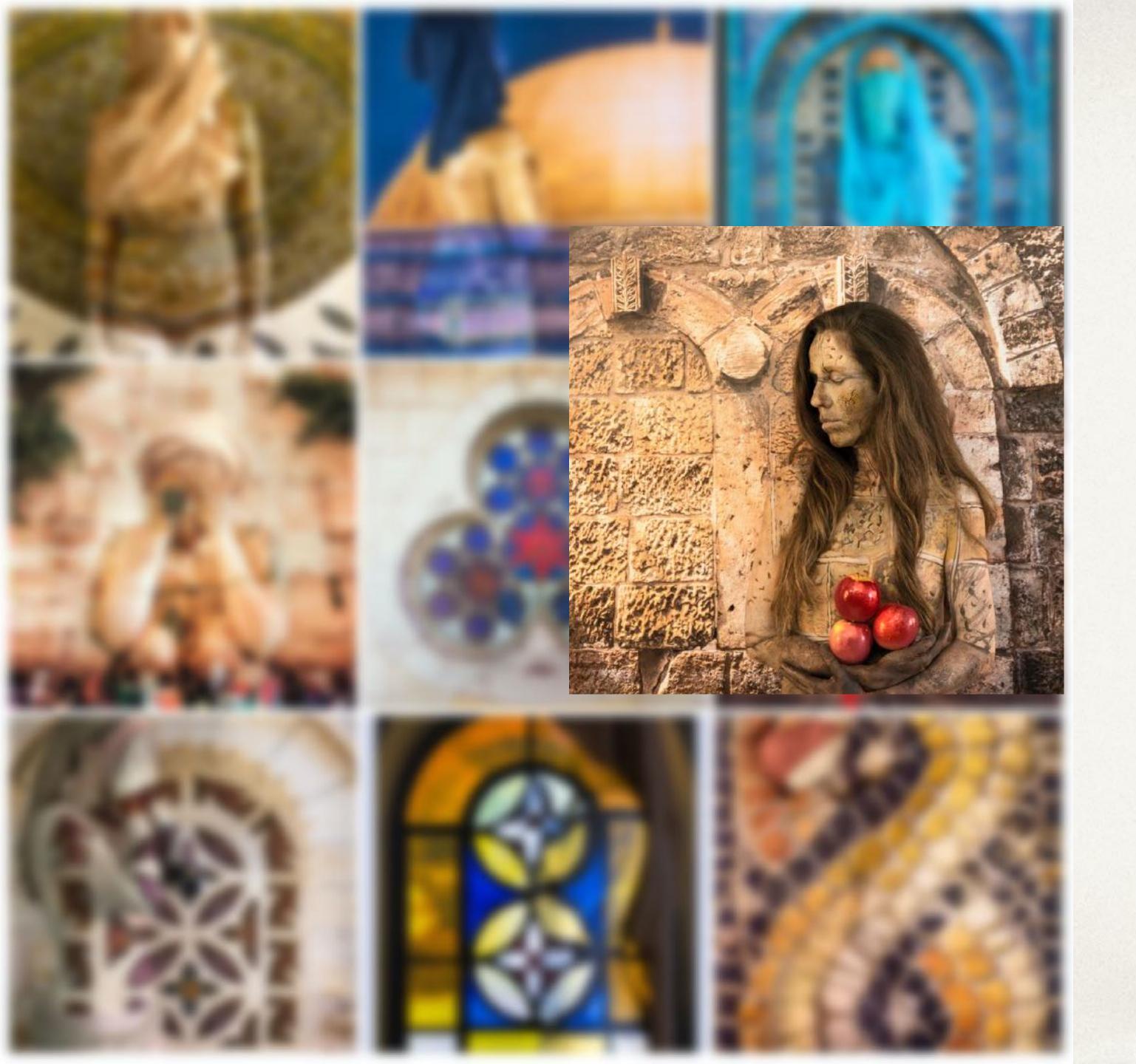
- Transformation [
 - Demystification

- Disruption
- Power

- Revolution
- Spirituality

Feminism

- Change
- Empowerment
- Decentralisation



THE FOCUS OF ART

- * Body painting is one of the most ancient forms of Art in the world. It speaks volumes about our human connection to the earth, to each other, ceremony, ritual, transformation and more.
- * The genesis of monotheism dates back to The Garden of Eden, and as the biblical version tells, our innocence (nudity) was lost (covered) by the shame brought about through Eve's sin of eating the apple from the tree of knowledge.
- * This Series focuses on the bare bodies of women, as a symbol for the origins of humanity. The women (except one) who are made anonymous by traditional hair coverings that are a symbol of modesty and piousness.
- The one who is visible is the one who represents the 'demoness' Lilith, mentioned in the Alphabet of Sirach in 700AD and with reference in many different cultural mythologies, as a statement of our revelation.

PROPOSED ART SALE OUTLAY

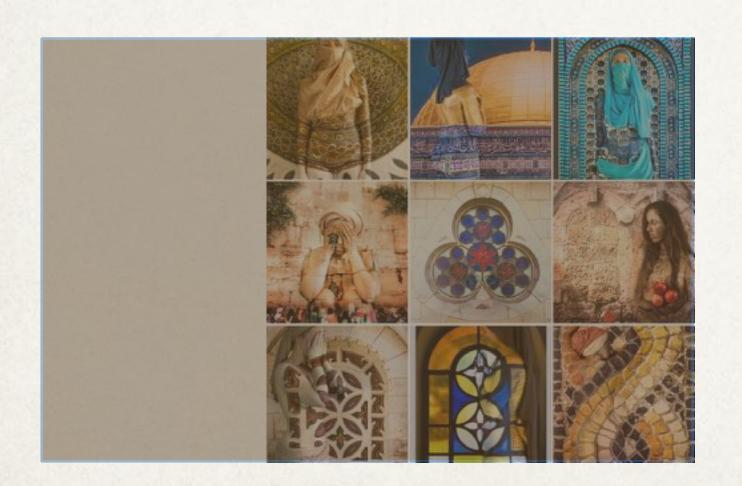
- * There are 15 unique artworks in this first edition of The Sacred Series: Jerusalem
- Limited edition of 29 prints in 3 sizes (made to order)
- Book sale: The Sacred Balance
- Each purchase will include a corresponding NFT that has application to community initiatives (women rights movements, initiatives, events, unique website access, decentralised communities)
- * There will also be 'Limited Edition Series' available see next page.



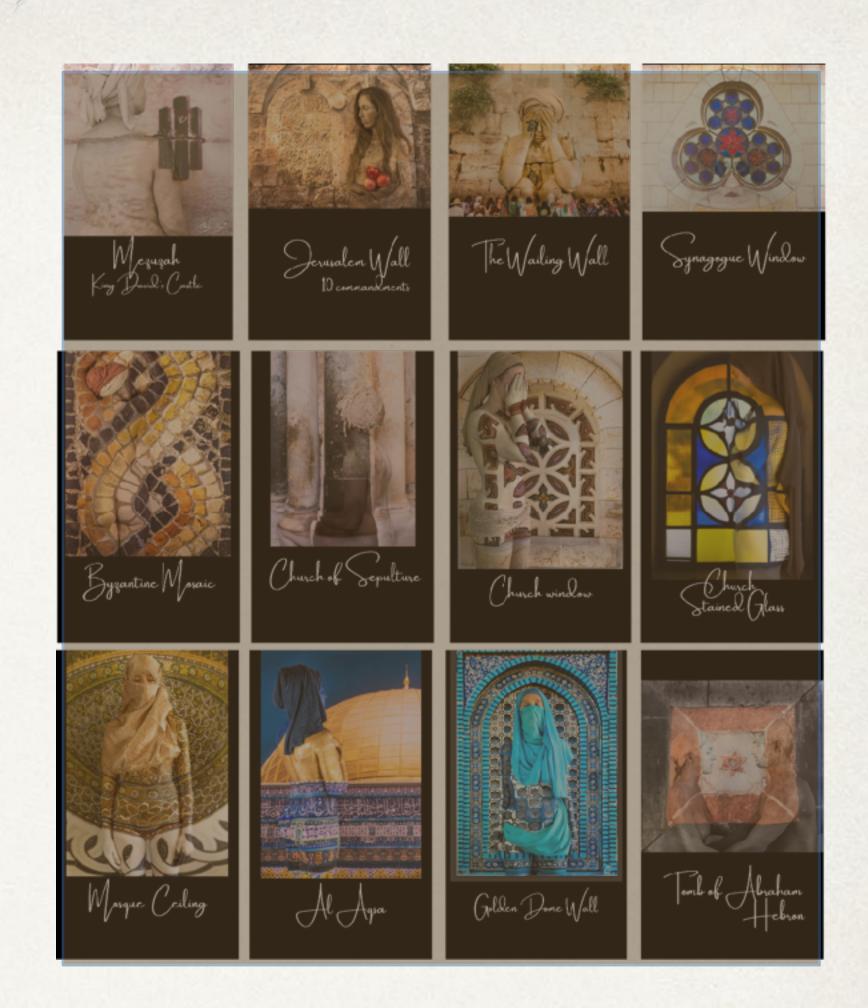
Single works
Available in 3 sizes
Limited Edition /(29)



Three Part Series
Available in 3 sizes
Limited Edition /(29)



9 piece Collection Available in 3 sizes Limited Edition /(11)



Entire Collection
Available in 3 sizes
Limited Edition /(3)



Collaboration: These works can be linked with activist organisations and individuals, to build up our relational, emotional, Spiritual development alongside women's empowerment.

Community: Being a part of the Sacred Series community is a statement of for the evolution of communication, awareness of our human experience (ontology), emotional intelligence, women's empowerment and education for all generations.

Intention: to disrupt the limiting framework of centralisation and introduce a new way of exploring relatedness, economics, and connection to the Sacred, the earth herself.

