

### **Artist Statement:**

As an artist immersed in the dual worlds of Art & Design and Art History at the University of Michigan, my creative journey is deeply rooted in a dialogue with the past. The exploration of historical narratives serves not only as a reflection of my personal identity but also as a lens through which I gain profound insights into the dynamics of my community and the contemporary world. My artistic practice becomes a bridge between the past and the present, offering a glimpse into the profound beauty embedded in the artifacts that bear witness to the passage of time.

In this particular project, I explored the rich collection of the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology and curated objects that inspired me. Through a meticulous process, I translated these 3D objects into a 2D visual language. My artistic journey began with the curation of photos I took within the museum. From these photos, I created a collage using a variety of the objects' textures, patterns, and imagery. These images converged into a collage that served as the foundational blueprint for my oil painting. To create this, I transcribed my collage onto canvas using graphite. With oil paints as my medium, I sought to encapsulate not only the visual allure but also the tactile richness present in the archaeological artifacts.

This painting is a testament to my endeavor to capture the mesmerizing patterns and textures intrinsic to archaeological objects. It stands as a visual narrative, inviting the viewer to traverse through layers of time, contemplating the tangible and intangible threads that connect us to our collective history.

**Layers of Legacy:  
Found Objects in Archaeology**

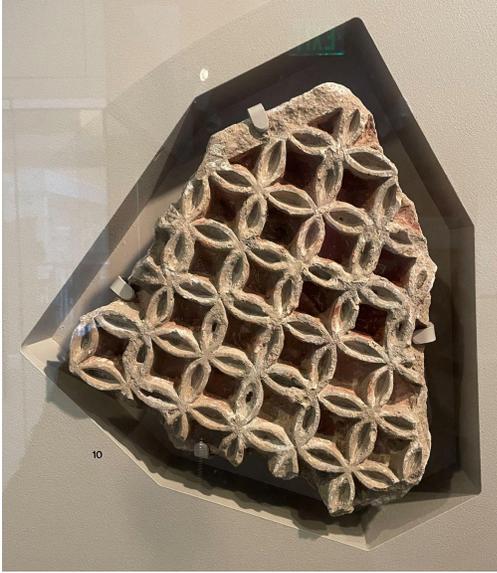
Nicole Persad

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## Reference Images and Objects used for my painting

List of objects I used for reference in my painting:

- All-Over Wall Pattern, KM 32330



- Statue of a Young Girl, Marble, Late 4th Century BC



- Personification of the Nile (Nilus), Travertine, Roman Period (late 2nd century AD)



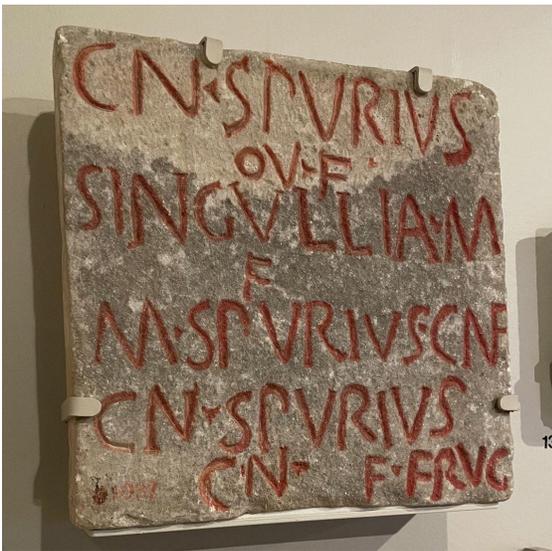
- Broad Collar Necklace, Faience, gold; reconstructed from ancient beads, Late Period-Ptolemaic (650-30 BC)



- The Coffin of Djehutymose, Wood/plaster/paint, Saite period (26th dynasty)



- Inscription of the Spurius Family, Marble, Roman Period (2nd century BC)



- Roman Lady, Possibly an Empress, Marble, First quarter of the 3rd century AD



- Image of the replica of the Village of Mysteries



\*Note: not pictured is the gold glass vase depicted in the top left of my painting. I lost the photo I had of it and I cannot locate it in the Kelsey anymore.

**Layers of Legacy: Found Objects in Archaeology**

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18in. x 24in.

