BETHANIE PACK COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



B. Pack, *My Pietà*, 2013 Oil, collage, wood putty, and gold leaf on wood panel; 30" x 48"



B. Pack, His Affliction, 2013 Oil on canvas; 36" x 48"

My current work investigates narrative identity and how I define myself in relation to others.

His Affliction is about the hardship that someone very close to me has been fighting through for four years. I painted this piece in a very loose and expressive style so that it would evoke the feelings of pain, anger, and frustration that he and I feel. This affliction that he endures consumes his identity and his perception of the world, so I created a very chaotic atmosphere around him.

My Pietà parallels and complements the themes at play in the first piece, because it is about how my identity in relation to him is defined by trying to be his savior. I lament over him the way Mary lamented over Jesus after he died, which is what Michelangelo's Pietà depicts. The line drawings surrounding the figures are police officers and judges, which relate to his afflictions. However, I have utilized sanding techniques which fade the drawings, therefore bringing emphasis to the intimate lamenting figures.