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By

Beth Ann Hamilton

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Art

In

Master of Arts

Fine Arts

Drawing

Minnesota State University, Mankato

Mankato, Minnesota

May 2020

March 16th, 2020 Observation Beth Hamilton

This thesis, *Observation: A Thesis Exhibition*, has been examined and approved by the following members of the student's committee.

Advisor/Chair, Liz Miller

Committee Member, Curt Germundson

Committee Member, Robin Becker

Observation: A Thesis Exhibition

Beth Ann Hamilton

A THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF Master of Art: Drawing/Mixed Media

MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO MANKATO, MINNESOTA May 2020

ABSTRACT

We have been conditioned by past generations in our understanding of portrait importance. On the contemporary side of portraiture, most pictures are concealed within tech devices. Among common society, these personal phone portraits of oneself are considered tactless, and taboo. Most do not exist in a tangible context. It is my mission to display these portraits with a sense of grandeur and appreciation. My work is a retaliation to the boundaries of what was and what is portraiture.

My work consists of heavily decorated mixed media portraits set in a domestic realm, focusing on blissful sensuality. My art projects range from small to medium size and gravitate towards early 20th century ornate vintage patterns. I am taking a variety of 2D elements and pairing them with personally sourced figurative images to create new age metamodernism portraits. This thesis show is an entourage of mixed media portraits that pertain to my human existence, just as they pertain to yours.