

ELISA PALCHETTI

Multidisciplinary Artist · Fine Art · Fashion Design · Illustration

Folsom, California · elisapalchetti@beyond-the-surface.pplx.app · instagram: @living_beyondthesurface · beyond-the-surface.pplx.app

PROFILE

Multidisciplinary artist with over 25 years of professional experience across fine art, fashion design, and children's book illustration. Pioneer of merging fluid art with metamorphic portraiture — wearable art that bridges gallery and garment. Fluent in Italian, Spanish, and English. Currently developing the Beyond the Surface brand — an integrated art, fashion, and children's publishing project rooted in emotional healing and identity.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Beyond the Surface — Founder & Creative Director

2024 – Present

Folsom, California

- Fine art collection of 20 original paintings exploring emotional identity, trauma, and healing
 - Art Couture collection: 20 one-of-a-kind upcycled garments hand-painted with UV and glow-in-the-dark reactive inks, each named after and inspired by a painting in the collection
 - Children's book series: Beyond the Surface — Book 1: When Feelings Get Big (Ages 3–5), written and illustrated by Elisa Palchetti. Features hidden UV-reactive affirmations throughout — a second hidden book for children revealed under blacklight
 - Art show concept in development: multisensory immersive exhibition combining fine art, fashion, UV room, sensory table, and children's reading corner
 - Website: beyond-the-surface.pplx.app
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CHILDREN'S BOOK ILLUSTRATION

"Mrs. Main and Chloe Marie"

2025 · Illustrator

by Karen Miner

Created all character illustrations based on real-life portrait references, including a likeness of the author and her therapy dog Chloe Marie, digitally illustrated in Procreate from photographs. Handled complete book production including character design, typography, page layout, and print-ready files. Completed in 1 month. Available on Amazon.

"Little Glory and the WHAM-DEMIC!"

2022 · Illustrator

by Kimberly Austin

Digitally illustrated all characters as real portrait likenesses in Procreate from photo references, including the author as a child, her daughter, husband, and real neighbors. Digitally rendered the author's real garden with botanical accuracy after multiple visits to her home. Full book illustration from concept to print-ready files — front cover, back cover, and all interior pages. Completed in 3 months. Available on Amazon.

"I Am Me and You are You" & "Family Comes First"

2017 · Illustrator

by Peter Moulton — Self-published for local elementary school, Puerto Aventuras, Mexico

FINE ART

Solo Exhibition — "Ámame o Márame"

March 2020

Puerto Aventuras, Mexico

Inspired by the work of Frida Kahlo. Held just before Covid. Exhibition sold out.

Commissioned Portrait Painter

Ongoing

Private commissions for families and individuals. Specializes in expressive portraiture capturing emotional depth and personality. Also paints memorial portraits for families who have lost a loved one.

FASHION DESIGN

Senior Fashion Designer (Head Designer)

2004 – 2005

Arden B, Division of Wet Seal Inc. — Los Angeles, CA

- Head designer for Arden B casual wear line
- Seasonally evaluated key concepts and trends
- Responsible for full design, development, selection, and execution
- Participated in concept presentations for individual and full design department
- Researched market trends domestically and internationally
- Made seasonal presentations including swatches, illustrations, tears, runway photos

Senior Fashion Designer

2003 – 2004

GES Exportadores for Next UK — Porto, Portugal

- Full product development from technical flat sketches to fit sample
- Extensive commercial research (London, Paris, Milan, Florence) and major European trade fairs
- Sourcing and selection of fabrics and trims
- Developed and maintained key relationships with team members, suppliers, and clients in the UK
- Achieved tight deadlines based on client needs during factory visits

Senior Fashion Designer

1999 – 2002

Omicron SRL — Florence, Italy

- Designed, illustrated and selected for collections “Free Globe” men’s wear and women’s wear and “D.Belfort” prêt-à-porter woman
- Selected fabrics, patterns and trims to meet desired aesthetics and quality standards
- Supervised product development with patternmaker through final fit approval
- Managed 40% increase in annual turnover of sales during a 3-year period driven by the design team

Assistant Designer

1996 – 1998

Visual Art Studio — Florence, Italy

- Assisted in the design for the collection of “Mariano Del Sere” woman
- Illustrator of the collections
- Research of fabrics and participation in their selection

EDUCATION

Diploma in Fashion Design

1996

Accademia Italiana Moda e Design — Florence, Italy

Diploma in Fashion Illustration

1994

Istituto Professionale Caterina de'Medici — Florence, Italy

SKILLS

Fine art painting and portraiture · Fashion design and garment construction · Children’s book illustration and visual storytelling · Digital art (Procreate) · UV and glow-in-the-dark reactive art techniques · Brand identity and artist positioning · One-of-a-kind hand-painted wearable art · Able to work collaboratively with authors · Understanding of visual storytelling · Disciplined in delivery deadlines · Ability to meet tight deadlines and exceed client expectations · Website design and management

LANGUAGES

Italian — Native · Spanish — Fluent · English — Fluent