My body of work can be divided into three main activities: portrait paintings, still life paintings of toys, and three-dimensional toy objects. Although each is a separate endeavor, they are connected through my interest in figuration and playthings.

The head portraits I have painted do not attempt to render a particular subject, rather their features are invented from my imagination. They are explorations of the subtleties and complexities of painting flesh. They are also psychological studies, illustrating the moods and states of mind of everyday people. The portraits are tightly cropped to the face and have simplified backgrounds, referencing religious icons or even photographic headshots.

The composition of the still life paintings are more varied, but show my continuing interest in portraiture, this time portraits of found toys. I find the seductive natures of toys and their simplified shapes and colors intriguing. I am also interested in the emotional attachment that is formed with such inanimate objects, and how children give them personality and life through imaginative play.

In the search to find unusual toys to paint—specifically those without preexisting commercial appeal—I began to make my own. I carve, sand, and paint them to look similar to manufactured or machine-made objects, while retaining a certain hand-made quality. They appear somewhat familiar, reminiscent of cartoons or comic books from childhood, yet they are entirely new forms.