

# LOVE LETTERS TO MYSELF

A SOLO EXHIBITION BY  
CHELLE DIEDERICH '15

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Last October, I came out of a months-long season of anxiety - the worst I had experienced to date. At the time, I was startled to realize I had just 6 months left of being a twenty-something. I was left with this profound feeling like my life was nowhere like what I expected it to be, and yet somehow it was much more wonderful than I could have imagined.

There is so much room to grow and learn and explore. And at the same time, there is also so much beauty in my life just as it is right now. I have these big beautiful dreams for the life I'm creating. And I'm starting to realize that I need to slow down and smell the roses, enjoy this moment while I've got it.

I claimed my last six months of being a twentysomething as the season of me falling in love with myself, just as I am, in the life that I'm living, just as it is. I'm weird and wonderful and most of all I'm happy. These paintings are my love letters to myself during this season of healing and growth and acceptance. A celebration of my quest for joy and discovery of peace. A hope for a brighter future while relishing in the beauty (and sometimes hardship) of the current moment.

In these paintings you'll find repeating elements - sometimes explored in different ways. Polka dots, trails of dots, flowers, the juxtaposition of gloss and matte, mandala-esque line work. Playfulness, energy, freedom. Joy. I explored the idea of creating a lexicon of imagery used to tell the story of falling in love with my life. The titles are a fun mixture of texts I've sent or received, pop culture references, affirmations and acceptances of who I am, and a stupid joke that helped get me through one of the worst periods of my life. The collection is full of color and experimentation. It's somehow joyful and deep at the same time.



# CHELLE DIEDERICH

Chelle Diederich, an oil painter based in the Greater Green Bay, WI area, is interested in painting with bright colors, joyful aesthetics, and the big thoughts, feelings, & emotions that enter her mind. She graduated from Monmouth College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art, Business Administration, and French and later from St. Norbert College with a Master of Business Administration degree. A Philosophy of Art class in France fueled her interest in the way that gothic cathedrals use light and color to honor their faith and tell stories through the work in stained glass windows. While she no longer identifies as Catholic, the inspiration and memories of the stained glass windows remained and are featured in many of her works. Her signature style of oil painting is created by thinning out the oil paint and building up layers of color that are rich in intensity and intrigue. She has been experimenting recently with using more texture, mark making, and combining her sewing and crafting skills to add more depth to her work. Chelle's current works explore themes of growth, mental health, joy, and self-actualization.



# IMAGE LIST

## LOVE LETTERS TO MYSELF: A SOLO EXHIBITION BY CHELLE DIEDERICH

1 - What's the Worst that Could Happen?

14"x14" oil paint on canvas

\$215

2 - Don't Force a Story that Isn't Working

14"x14" oil paint on canvas

\$215

3 - Not the Vodka Cranberry Type

12"x12" oil paint on canvas

\$160

4 - Buy the Flowers

16"x13" oil paint on canvas

\$230

5 - You're the Art, Babe

22"x22" oil paint on canvas

\$530

6 - Rainbow Zebra

24"x36" oil paint on canvas

\$950

7 - Show Offy Artistry

22"x22" oil paint on canvas

\$530

8 - The Best Kind of Crazy

14"x14" oil paint on canvas

\$215

9 - Sunny & 75

16"x13" oil paint on canvas with beads

\$230

10 - Thirty, Flirty, and Thriving

12"x12" oil paint on canvas

\$160

11 - Good Revenge Plans Make me Wish I

Hated More People

14"x14" oil paint on canvas

\$215

12 - The Perpetual Discrepancy Between the

Soul & Its Envelope

8"x8" oil paint on canvas

\$90

13 - Enjoy the Journey

8"x8" oil paint on canvas

\$90

14 - Find me in the Middle of the Dance Floor

18"x13" oil paint on canvas

\$260

15 - The Good Side of Giving Up

8"x8" oil paint on canvas

\$90

16 - Questionable Karma

8"x8" oil paint on canvas

\$90

17 - The Wonderful Impracticality of Glass

Slippers

60"x36" oil paint on canvas

NFS

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large heart shape on the left and the name 'Chelle' written in a cursive script to the right.

# IMAGE LIST

## LOVE LETTERS TO MYSELF: A SOLO EXHIBITION BY CHELLE DIEDERICH

18 - Adapting to New Surroundings  
8"x8" oil paint on canvas  
\$90

19 - Being a Damsel in Distress Sounds  
Exhausting  
8"x8" oil paint on canvas  
\$90

20 - Always, Darling  
11"x14.25" oil paint on canvas  
\$170

21 - She's a 10  
10"x10" oil paint on canvas  
\$110

22 - Sometimes I Don't Want to Be the Better  
Person  
8"x8" oil paint on canvas  
\$90

23 - Have Courage  
6"x4" oil paint on canvas  
\$60

24 - Be Brave  
4"x6" oil paint on canvas  
\$60

25 - Amuse Bouche  
9"x3" oil paint on canvas  
\$60

26 - It's a Vibe  
11"x14" oil paint on canvas  
\$170

27 - I Don't Get Any Less Weird the More You  
Know Me  
20"x20" oil paint on canvas  
\$440

28 - Romanticize Reality  
12"x10" oil paint on canvas  
\$140

29 - The Difference Between a Crocodile & an  
Alligator  
20"x20" oil paint on canvas  
\$440

0 - With Sprinkles & a Cherry on Top  
11"x14" oil paint on canvas  
\$170

31 - I Like my Chai Double Dirty  
8"x8" oil paint on canvas  
\$90

32 - Je Ne Sais Quoi  
8"x8" oil paint on canvas  
\$90

33 - I Deserve a Gold Star  
8"x8" oil paint on canvas  
\$90

34 - Love Letter (#1-#24)  
4.25"x4.25" oil paint on cardstock  
\$25 each

35 - Love Seat  
Oil paint on canvas couch  
NFS



# SUGGESTED READING LIST

LOVE LETTERS TO MYSELF: A SOLO EXHIBITION BY CHELLE DIEDERICH

The French Art of Not Trying Too Hard - Ollivier Pourriol\*

The Rainbow Zebra cloth book\*

A Guide for Grownups: Essential Wisdom from the Collected Works of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry\*

That's Bold of You - Case Kenny\*

Joyful - Ingrid Fettell Lee\*

Art & Fear: Observations on the Perils and Rewards of Artmaking - David Bayles & Ted Orland\*

Essentialism: The Disciplined Pursuit of Less - Greg McKeown\*

The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F\*ck - Mark Manson

The Happiness Project - Gretchen Rubin

Everything is Figureoutable - Marie Forleo

Girl, Wash Your Face - Rachel Hollis

Designing Your Life: How to Build a Well-Lived, Joyful Life - Bill Burnett & Dave Evans

\*Books located in the exhibit

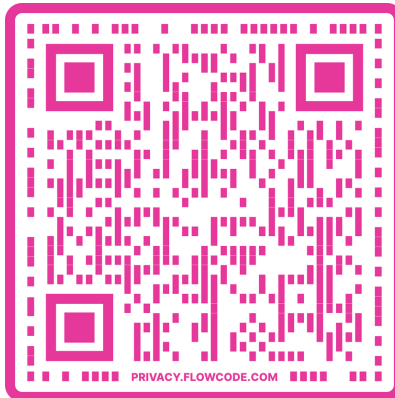
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chelle', with a large, stylized flourish on the left side.

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Scan the QR code below to access the webpage for the show. It includes links to read more about each piece, purchase pieces, listen to the Spotify playlist, and download the suggest reading list.

If you purchase a piece, there are options available to pick up the piece in person in Monmouth, IL or Green Bay, WI or have the piece shipped to you. Any pieces purchased will remain in the gallery for the duration of the show.



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