

# Body Painting Art



# Inpired by artist Alexa Meade

“Your body is my canvas”

Alexa Meade is an American Instalation Artist best known for her paintings of objects and people that make her three dimentional subjects appear two dimentional when photographed.

She takes the concept of taking two dimentional artwork look like three dimentional space, and she does the complete opposite, making people look like paintings.



The artist combines performance art, art instalations, and photography to create her art work. She typically uses acrylic on her subjects skin and leave the eyes and hair unpainted to give the opticle illusion to whether it looks three dimentional or two dimentional.

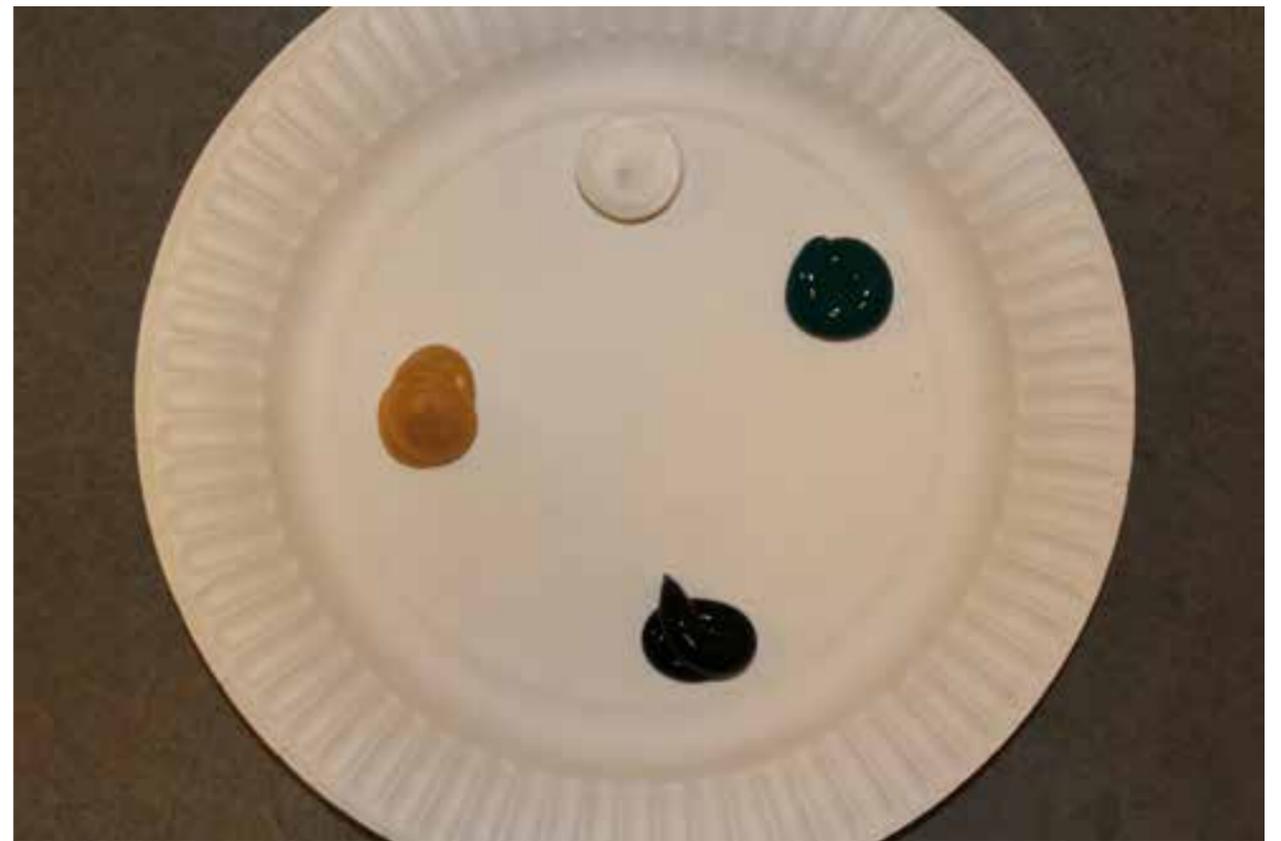
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How she came up with the idea: Originally it started with shadows. she was fascinated by the absense of light. She would paint shadows in the grass and on different things but then was curious of other things she could put shadows on, perhaps humans she thought.

She first painting her friend, she painting shadows and highlights and up close it didn't really look like anything. However, when she took a step back was when the magic happened, she had painted her friend to look like a painting and look two dimensional.

My whole life I have always painted on canvas and nothing else so when I saw imaged of Alexa Meade's work I was inspired.

I decided, like Meade, to start taking my paints to one of my friend's faces and record every stroke that made it happen.



I only used solid colors to create the painting because i wanted to make more of a pop-art feel to it. solid white, gold, black, and green paint were the only colors that were used.



Started out with my blank “canvas”, I focused on having her right side be more of a shadow side and her left side be where the highlights would catch.

I started with white and light green. Once I finished a color I didn't go back to that color because I wanted the process of painting her face to be very set in stone.



I chose gold to be the color that pops on the dark side of her face.

When making the video I took short zoomed in clips of the paint brush hitting the skin. I didn't want the viewer to know what part of the face I was painted for the most part and I didn't want the viewer to know what the picture was that I was painting.

Towards the end I flipped from videos to zoomed in stills of the final project which finally led to the final picture of my friend's face painting.

Through the process of painting the face I struggled with some issues. It was harder than it seemed to map out exactly where the highlights and shadows would go when looking at a three dimensional object from different angles. Also, it was difficult getting near some parts of the face like the eyes and lips because I didn't want to get too close incase it got in her eye or mouth.

Overall, I experienced something new that i'm not used to. This is probably something that i'll continue with for future projects and I'm learning that going out of my comfort zone can produce interesting things.

