

NAPLES MARTY

LATEST WORK

2024-2025

Artist Statement

I am a sculptor and painter whose practice revolves around the human body as a primary vessel for ideas. I create figures that blur the line between reality and fiction using wood, plaster, clay and oil. My work possesses a wide range of aesthetics from classical to modernist, embodying raw, distorted, gestural corporeality. Often disconcerting and grotesque, these forms reflect society's power dynamics and vulnerability.

Central to my work are figures that act as spiritual protectors or guardians, evolving into conversations around memory, myth, cultural practices, and space. These narrative containers oscillate between ghostly apparitions and creatures, drawing from classical forms and artists of the 20th and 21st centuries, channeling my dreams and experiences. Themes of life, death, and transformation—flesh to bones—resonate throughout my work, mirroring the human condition.

Engaging with varying wooden logs, I furiously carve their surfaces with chainsaws, torching and charring to breathe life into these figures. Though approached differently, my paintings carry similar energy, with color struggling to shape and refine each form. The attacking, removing, and refining process imbues my work with a sense of formation while exploring connections to my cultural roots to understand and spiritually engage with these traditions.



Warrior, 2024, Charred beech wood, 108 x 24 x 24 in





Untitled, 2025, Charred wood, 19 1/2 x 10 x 9 in





Talulah, 2024, Charred basswood and pine, 90 x 40 x 32 in





The idealist, 2024, Charred basswood and pine, 74 x 21 x 21 in





Little spirit, 2024, Charred walnut, 27 x 15 x 10 in





Custom-made, 2024, Charred basswood and pine, 105 x 32 x 32 in





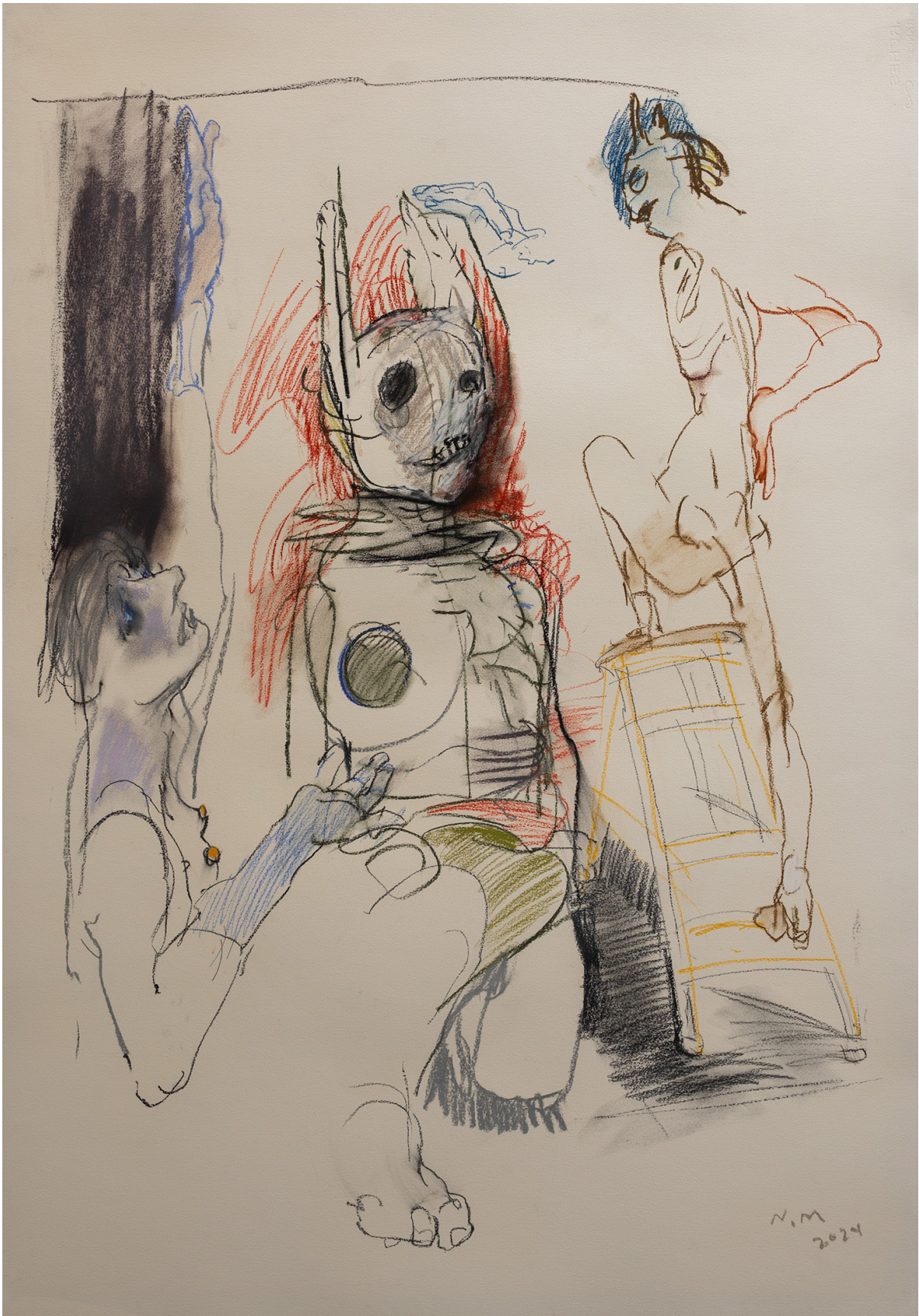
Alive XI, 2025, Oil stick on canvas, 102 1/4 x 68 1/2 in



Alive VII, 2024, Oil stick on canvas, 95 x 79 in



Alive VIII, 2024, Oil stick on canvas, 20 x 16 in



Alive IV, 2024, Dry pastel on paper, 27 5/8 x 39 1/2 in



Studio view at NXTHVN