

Rebekah Merlino, *Light Technician*, via email to Bryan Ricupero, 9.14.15

Process

I took pictures of 5 different people sitting in the same (light technician) posture. I then chose different elements from each of the models to make up this fictional stage hand. I didn't want to use just one model and it turn into a portrait of someone that I knew to represent different people that inspired the painting series.

So the red shoes were from one person, the back is someone else, arms, face ect.

Content

I like to focus on the beautiful side of humanity in most of my work. I believe that many artist are and have been exposing how dark/evil humans can be with their work. The news on television and on the internet is full of examples of just how ugly we can be. So I chose to show the goodness that is too often overshadowed by all the bad guys. The people that do good everyday are never celebrated. I want to celebrate the "uncelebrated".

Inspiration

"Light Technician" was inspired by the people that I have had in my life that taught me a lesson by their actions. Two specific people that I worked with would bend over backwards at our job but never do it for the recognition, award, or personal gain. I only know this trait by the Hebrew word Hesed. In short, it means that quality that moves a person to act for the benefit of another without respect to the advantage it might bring to the one who expresses it.

To show this amazing humanistic quality, I chose to use stage hands to represent it. They work so hard to make everyone else look good on stage and the light technician was part of that series.