Melissa Casanova

Contemporary Painter

Melissa Casanova is a Richmond-based contemporary painter whose layered abstractions explore memory, identity, color and place. Working in mixed media, her practice combines expressive mark-making with botanical and architectural forms.

Selected Solo & Collaborative Exhibitions

2026 — *Modern Twist*, River Views Gallery, Lynchburg, VA
2026 — *Fall of Freedom*, Antennae Gallery, Richmond, VA
2026 — *Color Becomes*, Main Street Station Gallery, Richmond, VA
2026 — Present, *Becoming*, Coalescence, Richmond, VA
2026 — *Becoming*, Black Iris Social Club, Richmond, VA
2025 — *Awakening*, Studio 120, Richmond, VA
2025 — *Awakening, The Art Brigade*, Health Brigade, Richmond, VA
2025 — Artist of the Month — Virginia Eye Institute, Richmond, VA

Selected Group Exhibitions & Installations

2026 — East Coast Design Expo, Currant House installation, Richmond, VA
2026 — Art for the Journey Gala, Virginia Museum of History & Culture, Richmond, VA
2026 — *Across the Universe*, Studio 120, Richmond, VA
2026 — *Field of Curiosity*, The Branch Museum of Design, Richmond, VA
2026 — All Media Exhibition, Crossroads Art Center, Richmond, VA — Second Place, 2D
2026 — *Renewal*, Raw Milk Mercantile, Dumfries, Scotland
2025 — *Deep Rest Winter Solstice*, Studio 120, Richmond, VA

Awards & Recognition

2026 — Best Local Artist, *Richmond Magazine*
2026 — Second Place, 2D, Crossroads Art Center All Media Exhibition
2025 — Best Local Artist, *Richmond Magazine*

Selected Press & Media

2026 — ABC 8News / Good Morning Richmond, *Color Becomes* interview
2026 — NBC12, St. Jude Dream Home tour, featured mural artist
2026 — CBS6 Virginia This Morning, Richmond Symphony Designer House, featured artist
2026 — RHome Magazine, Richmond Symphony Designer House, featured artist
2026 — Short Pump City Lifestyle, VEI Aesthetic Center, commissioned artwork feature

Education & Professional Development

2026 — Abstract painting study, Jodie King
2025 — Making Art Work, Emily Jeffords
2025 — Abstract painting study, ARIE
2023 — Year long Mastery Program, Milan Art Institute
2019–2021 — Continuing Studies in Painting and Ceramics, Visual Arts Center of Richmond