

## Nicole J. Aulicino, Artist Bio

Nicole Aulicino is an Ulster County resident, and currently works out of her home-studio on Abeel Street. Nicole studied art at SUNY New Paltz, and SUNY Empire. She began publically displaying art at the Bistro, New Paltz, in 1993, and has shown work at Varga Gallery, Woodstock, and Far Fetched Gallery in Kingston. She has been involved in the performing arts, and has worked at local sound stage venues with Taconic Records, and Metro Sound. Nicole offers an array of talents to the community, including song-writing, and has performed original music both independently, as well as with a band. She made her first recording in 2004. Nicole Has volunteered at music festivals including Clearwater, and Falcon Ridge. She has volunteered her skills with Free Style Frolic for 25 years, as well as local theater, and art galleries.

Nicole works in a variety of mediums. She utilizes oil, water color, and acrylic paints, collage, and plaster sculpture to create portraits, masks, body castes, and images of the human form. She designs restorative furniture motifs.

Nicole has brought her skills to many populations in the community. She operated a child care facility in her home, where she explored color, paper, and objects with children ages 9 months, to 7 years. She has shown and sold her work in Rockland, and Ulster Counties. Nicole was employed as a recreation specialist for agencies serving developmentally disabled adults. Nicole was employed as an artist's model for over a decade with the New Paltz Guild, Woodstock Photography, and private local artists.

Nicole also received a Master's degree in Social Work from Adelphi University, and incorporates her creative talents with her clinical expertise in order to merge the therapeutic with the creative process. Nicole specializes in facilitating corrective experiences through creative expression, and shared experience in both individual and small female group forums. Nicole utilizes meditative art forms, plaster masks and body casting to reduce stress, and correct body image perception discord. Nicole facilitates healing of loss and trauma during pregnancy through plaster body casting, and life-size body contour process. Nicole utilized meditative art forms, and self-portraits with substance-dependent women to incorporate self-identity schema, and stress reduction in both individual, and small group settings.

Nicole began her career as an artist at Junior High School, in Wappinger Falls, in the late 1980's, when she grew beyond her Zen notebook doodles, and began to explore oil paint. Being the first American-born generation of her Russian family, she looked first to her own personal history for inspiration. She drew on the experience of her Maternal Grandmother, who restored Russian Icons, and began developing her interpretation of iconographic work. Nicole work focuses almost exclusively on the human form. Experimentation in skin color is her signature, but her Madonna's are often depicted as having wings, tails, and babies that resemble bat-creatures. Nicole seeks to heal the generational trauma of her family's immigration, and cultural loss through this work.

Nicole is currently exploring and further developing styles in the meditative art forms specific to the reduction of stress, and the transformation of self, through spiritual seeking. Towards the healing of body-image perception interruptions she is developing a program to recreating the human form in both two, and three dimensions, and will offer week-day workshops in Ulster County making this healing accessible to other women in the tristate area.