

Victoria Selbach is a contemporary New York painter best known for her life size nude depictions of women enveloped in light and shadow. Selbach's 2015 series 'Goddesses' explores the significance of the diverse feminine through powerful images of contemporary women. Selbach focuses her gaze as a celebration of the individual and captures a glimpse of their singular complexity and strength. Framing contemporary women through the prism of celebrated deities challenges the viewer to reconsider established perceptions and acknowledge the inherent magnificence of each individual and the immense potential of embracing and maximizing the universal feminine.

THE GODDESS SERIES

Durga Parvati Chandi Daivika Apsara Laukika Apsara Vajrayoginī Golden Taras Yemayah Shekhinah Jestia

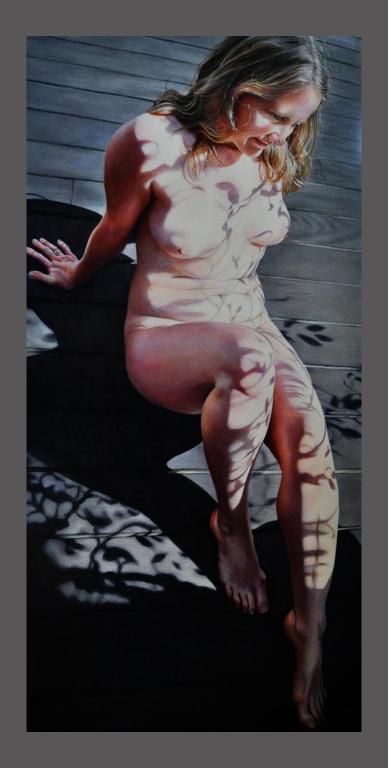


The Goddess Durga, the invincible, is the principle form of the goddess, the form and formless and the root cause of creation. Durga represents the empowering and protective nature of motherhood.





The Goddess Parvati, goddess of love, fertility and devotion, is recreative energy and the bond that connects all beings. She is the voice of encouragement, reason, and freedom, as well as of resistance, power, action and retributive justice. This paradox symbolizes her willingness to adapt as the universal mother. Parvati's numerous aspects reflect the belief that the feminine has universal range and her gender is not a limiting condition.





The Goddess Chandi, holds the force of overwhelming omnipotence, the most spectacular of all personifications of cosmic energy. This supernova was created when the male gods became impotent during a long battle with the asuras and so combined their remaining energies to create Chandi, who went on to slay the demons. Chandi is the angry, terrible and passionate one, violent and impetuous. Yet she cures disease and bestows joy, riches and children as well as disaster.





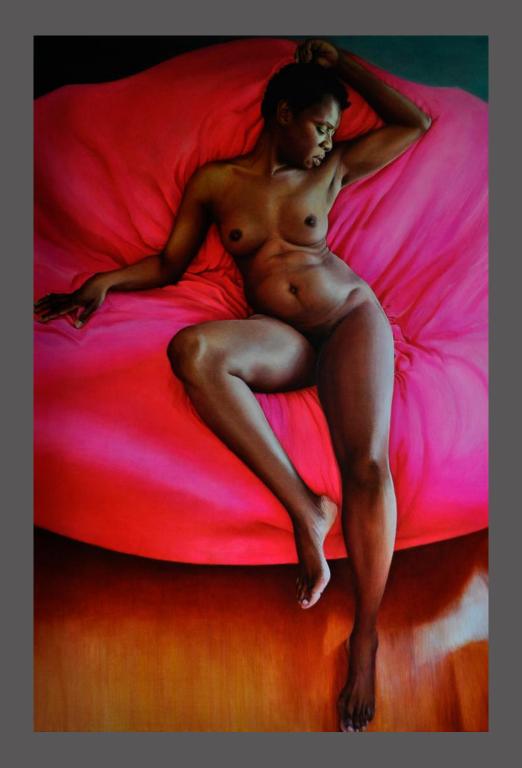
Apsaras are sometimes compared to the muses of ancient Greece or seen as sent to distract a sage or spiritual master from his ascetic practices. Laukika Apsara are worldly feminine spirits, youthful, elegant, and superb in the art of dancing. Daivika Apsara are divine ethereal female beings who inhabit the skies and are often depicted as taking flight.







The Goddess Vajrayoginī is the supreme deity of the Tantric pantheon. No male Buddha approaches her in metaphysical or practical import. She can transform mundane daily experiences into higher spiritual paths. Vajrayoginī's practice is well-suited to those with strong desirous attachment.





The Goddess Tara, the goddess of universal compassion and the mother of liberation represents enlightened action. Tara was born of Avalokiteshvara's tears of compassion as he looked upon the world of suffering and wept. One Tara was born from the tears of his left eye and the other from those of the right. Together they symbolize unending compassion, laboring day and night to relieve suffering.







The Goddess Yemayah, the very source of all life, is strong and nurturing yet furiously protective and destructive. She has been venerated for centuries as Protectress during the middle passage of slavery. Yemayah exemplifies active feminine energy, the power of the ocean, the fury of destruction and is the agent of all change.





The Goddess Shekhinah, the 'dweller within', is the mystical embodiment of the feminine and the earth-centered presence of god. Although Shekhinah embodies joy she is a symbol of shared suffering and empathy for all the hurts of the world especially of those in exile. Shekhinah is a reminder that there is no division between us or between creation and divinity.





The Goddess Hestia is the goddess of the hearth and the right ordering of domesticity, the family and the state. The community and state are sacred to Hestia. She was served by the most powerful state officials. Her presence is essential for warmth. She watches over the ember that connects all hearth fires, binding together even those distant within a form of extended family.





Prepared by MagCloud for Victoria Selbach. Get more at goss183.magcloud.com.