

Statement  
**Melissa Sims**

“I am always trying to overshadow my negativity. As a child I worried all the time and saw the negative in almost everything. With my paintings I do the opposite. I see the beauty in the old, mundane and maybe overlooked.

My paintings have changed over time, like me. Years ago when I was younger and single, my paintings were more seductive. When I fell in love and got married, my paintings were more romantic and sweet. I had a kid and my paintings were cute and fun and full of toys.

Now I am happily living. I love who I am, I love my life. I still worry, but now I try and see the bright side of everything. My paintings now make me laugh and happy. Some have double meanings. Funny and shiny at first glance and an underlying commentary on what is going on around me.

My current obsession of vintage paint by numbers came from my grandmother. She had several in her house that I got when she died. I love them, I love how they take me back to a simpler time, quiet, colorful and then I add my new experiences. Photos of signs and things I have come across on road trips. I bring it all together to create a new world.”

- **Melissa Sims**