

Biomorphic garden party

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My work changed drastically in 2010 when I found myself creating surreal organic environments. Although I started from a place of abstraction, they became filled with strange hybrids of flowers, cells, and symbols that appeared like organisms from another planet. It was only later that I found out I had a disease crawling through my body at an alarming rate. When my oncologist showed me the MRI and close-ups of the cells under a microscope, it looked almost identical to what I had been painting—tentacles and all.

This series brings together my interests in botany, microbiology, monsters, space, disease, and the evolution of cells (*Figure 1*). Within those interests, I explore the particular roles that organisms, medicine, DNA, and hybrids play, all while creating from my own imagination

and instinct. Shaping aesthetic outcomes of these paintings doesn't come from research or re-creating what already exists; I create my own nature within these little worlds. If cells and viruses can look beautiful when magnified, I wonder what organisms on other planets look like? Is there something bigger we are a part of? What will these cells look like 10 days later—what about 10 million years later?

I'm mostly concerned with answering these questions for myself. I don't like to analyze or diagnose too much because creating something the viewer interprets with their own ideas is part of the experience. Intervertebrates, flowers, human organs all come from the same natural process at the core, and visualizing their fictional evolution at any given stage is the most enjoyable part of creating for me. This is my biomorphic garden party.

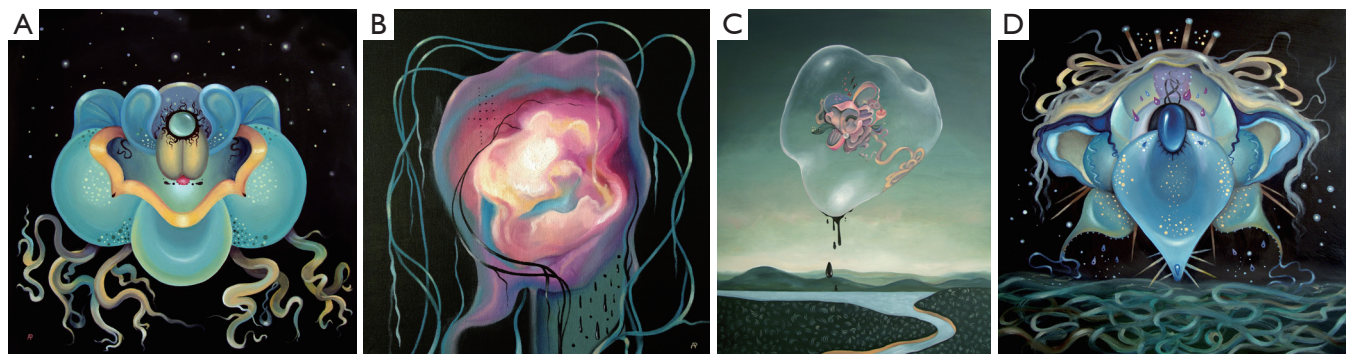


Figure 1 Biomorphic garden party. (A) Evolution; (B) heart breaker; (C) outcast; (D) dethroned.

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None.

Footnote

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