

Artist Numi Rehfield-Griffith – Queer Love



Whether in traditional media or digitally-rendered scenes, Numi Rehfield-Griffith’s artwork makes even the most mundane, everyday acts feel heroic. “As a transgender woman, it takes courage to go outside as yourself, go to the store, come out to coworkers, spend time with family, ride a bus, even to phone for pizza. I want people who view my work to see the mundanity of living and loving as your true self, and recognize that it shouldn’t need to be so hard. My art draws on the traditions of fantasy commercial art for science fiction book covers, and mass-produced art of American comics and Japanese Manga comics. Much of my work recasts the everyday using the heroic iconography of comic book covers, political posters, and fantasy art.”

“Together,” No. 1 and No. 2 are part of my “Coming Out” / Pride series, which draw on the pop art styles of Andy Warhol and Shepard Fairey. I have made multiple variations for most pieces in this series, to reflect the multiplicity of identities that exist even in a single individual. I start with a black line drawing that carries through all of the variations, and use the colors of a pride flag with the lightest color as the highlight and the darkest color as shading. These digital paintings were created using Procreate on the iPad Pro.

Bio

Numi Rehfield-Griffith is a lesbian, transgender, woman of color born and raised in Forest Grove, Oregon on the unceded land of the Atfalati. She has worked in visual art from a very young age, primarily in ink and acrylic media. Her recent work is mostly digital, although she also uses pen and ink. Numi operates the online store Oddvaark with her wife, Jessica Rehfield, and cat Reno, selling feminist, queer, and just plain silly art. Numi sings with Confluence Willamette Valley LGBTQ Chorus and works for the state of Oregon, and lives with her wife and cat on the unceded lands of the Kalapuya.