

Elena Rousseau is a multidisciplinary artist from Appalachia. She describes her work as a materialized longing for union with the native self and calls on themes of vanitas, the sublimity of nature, and devotion to mystery to lead herself and her audience closer to this integration. Her work aims to alchemize estranged mediums into transcendent works of art which defy limits and border on the fantastic.

For Rousseau, every creative act is a rebellious impulse that re-enchants the world. A maximalist at heart, she often explores multiple bodies of work simultaneously, from theatrical Neo-Baroque wall sculptures made of gesso, canvas, and 24 karat gold leaf to provocative, fully three dimensional compositions made of minerals, bones, and Italian giltwood fragments to abstract and traditional oil paintings. She is also a poet, self-portrait photographer, student at The Florence Academy of Art, and mother of four children.