

Megan Roniger  
*Artist's Statement*

My work is about storytelling and the city of New Orleans. This body of work can be divided into themes such as cartography, illustration, and object portraiture, all of which I consider as genres of visual storytelling. Maps, for example, have a long tradition of embedding myth and the maker's subjective portrayal into a product that is accepted as truth. I am interested in each genre's potential as storyteller, in its ability to both convey and distort the truth in a narrative. In my visual stories and vignettes, the city plays the role of subject. I try to portray the city in a playful yet sober way, drawing on my surroundings and a sense of New Orleans' self-endowed magic and mythology. There is a tradition here of allowing mythology to create culture, fill in the gaps of history and manipulate reality. I find the city's relationship to myth ripe with inspiration and material. In short, these drawings reflect my own perception of, and relationship with the city.