

Julie Goergen

**FICTIONAL ARTISTS IN AMERICAN TV SHOWS**

## CHARACTERS OVERVIEW

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- FELIX DAWKINS, "*Orphan Black*" (2013)
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- NINA WEST, "*Seinfeld*" (1992)



# SAM AUERBACH

\*Character from "Queer as Folk" (2000)  
S04E06 - S04E11

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter. Bauhaus inspiration

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

*The Penn Plaza Mural*, Pittsburgh  
Exhibition at Sidney Bloom Gallery, Pittsburgh

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

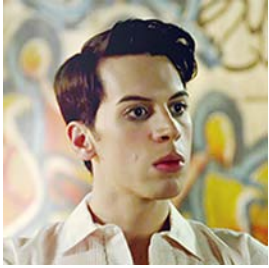
S04E06: Lindsay discovers that artist Sam Auerbach is in town mounting a large-scale mural in Penn Plaza. Although the chances are unlikely, she decides to try to get him to do a show of his work at the gallery in conjunction with the mural's unveiling. When she goes Penn Plaza to talk to him directly, she's surprised to find he's very rude, perverted, and crass, causing her much anger and disappointment. Melanie suggests that if she wants something from him she'll have to play his game.

S04E08: Auerbach decides to allow Lindsay to assemble a show of his sketches for the gallery. As they become better acquainted, he convinces Lindsay to show him her work. She admits that she thinks her work is uninspired. He challenges her to find her inspiration as he removes his clothes and poses for her.

S04E10: Conflicted over her feelings for Sam Auerbach, Lindsay tries to resolve her feelings by ignoring him, in spite of the fact that he's still in her thoughts as she and Melanie make love. In another effort to avoid him, she decides not to attend the opening of the show. Melanie tries to convince her to go but she relents, finally arriving at the gallery as the last guests are leaving. She's surprised to find Sam still there. Alone in the gallery, he pulls her close and passionately kisses her.



*The Penn Plaza Mural*, 2000  
© Sam Auerbach



# FELIX DAWKINS

\*Character from "Orphan Black" (2013)  
Season 1

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter.

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Felix Dawkins is Sarah Manning's sarcastic foster brother and the one true confidante she can be honest and open with.

Felix is a struggling artist, worldly beyond his 23 years. Like Sarah, Felix is a stray cat and hustler, keeping more than one sugar daddy to pay his rent. Even though he is usually willing to go along with Sarah's many illegal and immoral ideas like stealing money from people and selling stolen cocaine, he is still often the voice of some restraint and reason. Often he operates as Sarah's conscience.

Felix currently lives in a loft that also partly doubles as his workspace and a nabe, Gallerie Rimbaud, named after Felix's favorite poet.



*Gallerie Rimbaud: Felix's Studio, 2013*



# SUSAN DELFINO

\*Character from "Desperate Housewives"(2011)  
S08E04 - S08E08

ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Illustrator, Painter

RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition at Bergman Gallery, 2011

BIOGRAPHY /

Susan Delfino (born December 1966)

EPISODE RECAPS:

Season 8: Susan begins taking an art class with renowned painter, Andre Zeller, and discovers that her guilt has given her a renewed artistic ability. In a series of paintings, Susan depicts the scene of Alejandro's death and subsequent burial, arousing the suspicion of Detective Chuck Vance, Bree's embittered ex-boyfriend assigned to investigate Alejandro's disappearance

S08E05: «The Art of Making Art» - Susan is mortified but tries her best to comply when her art teacher, Andre Zeller, asks the students to show up to class in the nude in order to help them create from a point of honesty.

S08E07: Susan desperately searches her inner self to find what inspires her in order to better her art and impress her hard-to-please art teacher, Andre

S08E08: After using the murder of Gaby's stepfather as inspiration for her art school projects, Susan must find a way to graciously decline art school teacher Andre's invitation to display and sell her paintings at a gallery showing.

«Painting a Picture of Guilt» - Andre sets up all of Susan's incriminating pieces on a wall at an art gallery opening. Chuck follows Bree to the gallery. He's no art connoisseur, but that doesn't stop him from formulating a theory about Susan's work.



*Untitled Serie*, Oil on canvas, 2011  
At Bergman Gallery © Susan Delfino



# MARIA DIEGA REYES

\*Character from "Sex and the City" (2001)  
S04E03 - S04E05

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter. Screen printing.  
Bold colors and motifs

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition at Charlotte's gallery

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Maria Diega Reyes is a Brazilian sensual lesbian artist that Samantha meets at a solo exhibit while admiring her work. Maria is immediately attracted to her, but since Samantha doesn't believe in relationships they try to maintain a friendship. The chemistry proves to be too strong and it isn't too long before Samantha is introducing her lesbian lover to her stunned friends. At first, Samantha has a great time «getting an education» as Maria teaches her about lesbian sex and how to make an emotional connection while making love. Unfortunately, Samantha begins to grow uncomfortable when the relationship talk starts to replace the sexual activity and Maria is equally uncomfortable with Samantha's sexual history, and they separate.

S04E03: At Charlotte's gallery opening, Samantha meets Brazilian artist and lesbian, Maria.

Maria, a «relationship person» is attracted to Samantha, but Samantha says they should stick to being friends as she's NOT a relationship person.

S04E04: Samantha has some news: she is in a real «relationship» -- with Maria. She tells the girls that Maria has opened her eyes to the joys of «making love» with an emotional connection.



*Maria the artist with Samantha at Charlotte's gallery opening, 2001*



# CLAIRE FISHER

\*Character from "Six Feet Under" (2002)  
Season 2, 3, 4

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Photographer

## SPECIFICITIES:

She comes from a dysfunctional California family that runs an independent funeral home.

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

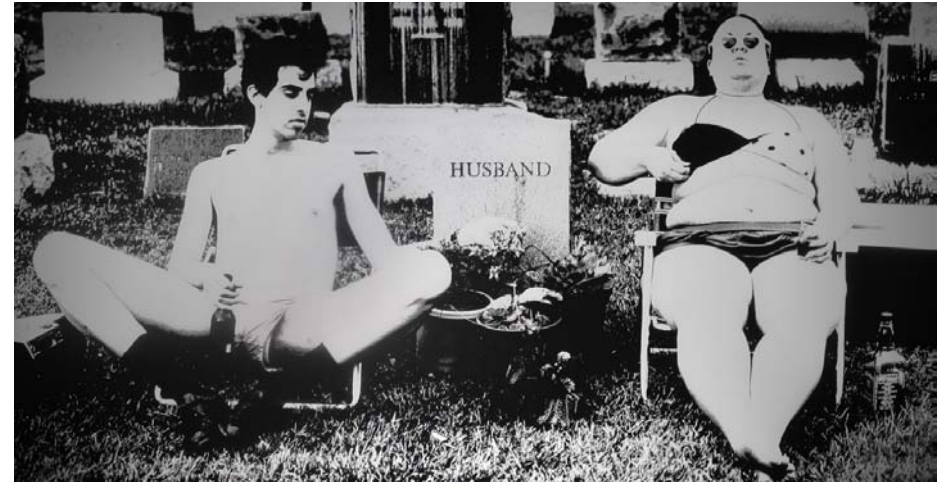
Exhibition at LAC Art School, 2003  
Exhibition at Bellandi Gallery, 2004

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Claire Simone Fisher (1983–2085), is a rebellious young adult, who falls into drugs, bad relationships and a general search for 'meaning in life'. She is the most creative in the family, being inspired by those closest to her (such as her family, Aunt Sarah, Billy). The series covers her high school and early art college years at LAC-Arts College. For many she is the favorite and most beloved character in the series.

S03E09: Claire is one of the very few first-year students to get a piece in the alumni art show in the Rothman Gallery. A lot of the other pieces are selling and nobody's buying her piece and finally, it sells. Then she discovers it was actually Russell who bought it to make her happy.

S04E12: Jimmy shows the pictures of Claire to a dealer and she is invited to expose in the Bellandi Gallery. Claire is excited and invites her friends, using cocaine in the vernissage. She argues with the selfish Russell, Billy defends her and later they have sex.



*Duratrans, 2003*



# LASZLO GREGORIAN

\*Character from "The Golden Girls" (1987)  
S03E13

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Sculptor

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

« "Women can be so silly. They think because you are an artist, you must also be a great lover," says Laszlo Gregorian, the Hungarian artist. In fact, that's what Blanche, Dorothy and Rose are all counting on when they begin competing for his attention. Laszlo invites the three ladies to pose nude for him in his studio in preparation for a new sculpture commissioned by a local museum. However, each of them believes she is his only muse, and conflict arises when the truth comes out.

Though no sex actually takes place between Laszlo and his subjects, the experience is clearly a very sexual one for the three friends. The women are spellbound by his worldliness and sophistication (he's from Europe), and his adoration of their physiques appeals to their vanity and makes them feel desirable.

He also flatters them with his words, praising Dorothy's strength and character, Blanche's sensuality and Rose's softness. He even goes so far as to give each of them a key to his studio. Through Laszlo, not only do they see the chance to be immortalized in a "classic work of art," but also the possibility of romance with a "world famous artist."

Laszlo is so involved with his creative process (and himself) that he is either unaware of their advances or doesn't care. And unfortunately for them, he cannot return their affections because he is gay, a detail he fails to make clear until his sculpture is finished and he no longer needs them.»

Jim Gaylord



*Blanche, Rose, and Dorothy with Laszlo at his gallery opening, 1987*





# AFSOUN HAMIDI

\*Character from "Dr. House" (2004)  
S07E23

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Performance artist.  
Her work explores gender politics and self-image.  
She exploits her illness for its artistic potential.

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

- McArthur Genius Grant.
- Retrospective at the Tate Modern.
- Exhibition at the New Museum (N.Y)

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Afsoun Hamidi is the performance artist patient in the episode Moving On (S07E23). She saw her mom commit suicide and was abused by her stepfather for years; she took that pain and transformed it into art. Afsoun believes that explaining her work limits its potential. Hamidi collapsed during a performance piece after being doused in paint thinner and threatened with a match. Her assistant, Luca intervened against her directions. Luca was blaming himself for not ensuring that the gallery was well ventilated. Dr. Foreman asked Hamidi if she was going to let the man set her on fire, but she dodged the question. Hamidi had made the doctors her latest performance piece. She exploited her illness for its artistic potential. She did blood doping, injecting her own red blood cells, to intrigue Dr. House even if she was really ill. It was a game, a puzzle made for House. "You don't know witch symptoms are real, which are fake and which ones I'm not even telling you about"



*72 objects Performance, 2004*  
© Afsoun Hamidi



# MATT HARTLEY

\*Character from "Ugly Betty" (2010)  
S04E09

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter.  
Psychological penetration  
Artist / model relationship  
He only paints his muse, Betty.

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Emerging Artists at Axelles FINE ART GALLERY

## BIOGRAPHY /

## EPISODE RECAPS:

The Passion of the Betty

Betty goes to an art gallery to talk to its curator, Frances, about having Matt's paintings displayed. Frances sees Matt's paintings, but refuses to showcase them, saying that there is not enough «energy» in them. When Matt appears, Betty tells him to go to lunch, so she can continue her meeting with Frances. Frances finds some artworks good enough to showcase and Betty agrees without having seen them. Betty and Matt arrive at the art gallery, despite Matt insisting that they go home; Betty goes in with him and is shocked to see the paintings are all of her. Matt tells Betty that he painted them when they were broken up. Matt is furious that Betty publicized his personal paintings and he leaves, saying that Betty is not passionate enough for him.



*Medusa*, 2010  
© Matt Hartley



# MARY JENKINS

\*Character from "227" (1990)  
S05E20

ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Conceptual artist, ready-mades

RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Solo exhibition at Gallery Moderne

BIOGRAPHY /

EPISODE RECAPS:

You Gotta Have Art

« Mary agrees to help her friend Eva set up for a reception at the art gallery where she works after their regular assistant dies. During the opening, "world famous" art critic Barclay Hayward arrives, he systematically undermines everything in the exhibition. The gallery patrons applaud as he jeers, "They should take down the painting and hang the artist," for example.

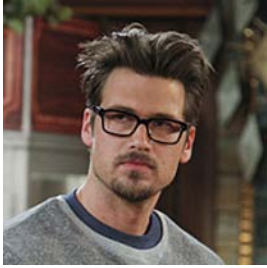
He cuts down everything in his path, until he sees a bottle of glass cleaner and a paper towel Mary accidentally left on a pedestal while cleaning up. Mistaking this for a sculpture, he pronounces that it "captures the frustration of the modern housewife," dropping to his knees in admiration.

The day after the opening, a local arts publication compares Mary to Andy Warhol and hails her as the "Diva of the Dustpan." Demonstrating how effortless modern art can be, Mary throws together some impromptu readymade sculptures at the dinner table with a ketchup bottle and some cornbread. Her family reacts with skepticism, but her subsequent solo exhibition at Gallery Moderne is such a success that she is invited to appear on "The Joan Rivers Show". »

Jim Gaylord



*Art critic Barclay Hayward discovering Mary's ready-made, 1990*



# JOHNNY

\*Character from "2 Broke Girls" (2011)  
S01E09

ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Street Art, Graffiti

RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition at Space Blast Art Attack, 2011

BIOGRAPHY /  
EPISODE RECAPS:

Johnny is a bar tender and artist, Johnny often draws on napkins at the diner which Max keeps. He was Max's friend and crush for a number of episodes.

Johnny graffiti's billboards in the early hours of the morning. On at least one occasion Max has stepped in as his 'look out guy' while he sprayed. At Johnny's girlfriend's gallery opening, Johnny has a painting in the show which looks like him and Max kissing. Even though he is dating Cashandra, him and Max spend most of the evening kissing each other. In the end, although Johnny's love for Max is obvious, he decides to stay with Cashandra, whom he later breaks up with for a different girl. Between then and the opening of Max and Caroline's cupcake store, Johnny was engaged to be married - though the engagement was broken off. At the cupcake store opening, Johnny and Max end up kissing in the back room of Candy Andy's, and it is clear they then have sex. The next morning they have pancakes with Caroline and Andy back at the apartment. They date for a short while but they both realize it doesn't feel right, and that they only want each other when they can't have each other. They break up but agree that they'll see each other again.



*Caroline holding Johnny's painting, 2011*



# THE JOKER

\*Character from "Batman" (1967)  
S02E57 - S02E58

ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Political graffiti, Abstract Expressionism

RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Gotham City International Art Contest

BIOGRAPHY /  
EPISODE RECAPS:

"Pop Goes the Joker"

The Joker appears in an art gallery and defaces the paintings with paint-spraying guns. But instead of being horrified at his alterations, the Joker's work is praised as «art». After more success at an international art competition, the Joker founds his own art school. But Batman and Robin suspect he has a more sinister purpose in mind when he enrolls only wealthy millionaires.

"Flop Goes the Joker"

The Joker persuades wealthy heiress Baby Jane Towner to join him in his artistic capers. Aided by his new accomplice, the Joker easily clears out a wing of the Gotham City Museum to make room for his latest «masterpiece» - pieces of a broken table. But the laughing criminal has plans for the priceless collection of paintings that once filled the room.



*The Joker spraying everything with paint guns at Oliver Muzzy's gallery opening, 1967*



## BOOTH JONATHAN

\*Character from "Girls" (2013)  
S01E03, S02E03, S02E06

### ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Conceptual artist, video installation

### BIOGRAPHY /

### EPISODE RECAPS:

The conceptual artist that Marnie meets at her art gallery job. When Booth and Marnie first meet, he promises her that they will eventually have sex and says «I might scare you a little. Because I am a man, and I know how to do things.» Marnie runs into Booth in Season 2 at her new job as a hostess; he takes her back to his studio/apartment to show her his artwork and the two have sex. In the episode «Boys,» Booth asks Marnie to host a party he is having for a fellow artist. Booth tries to pay Marnie \$500; Marnie turns down the money because she assumes the two are dating. Booth tells Marnie that he doesn't have a girlfriend. Marnie is embarrassed and leaves Booth's house after a tense conversation.



*Marnie locked inside one of Booth's video-sculptures against her will, 2013*



# LUC LAURENT

\*Character from "Brothers & Sisters" (2006)  
S04E04, S05E19

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter.  
Color Field / Abstract Expressionism  
Large scale vivid paintings

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition "Un nouveau départ"  
The Times want to do a profile on him.

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Luc Laurent, husband of Sarah Walker; painter and former underwear model.

Sarah is briefly seen in the premiere explaining she has endured a terrible summer of online dating and retreated to France for a much-needed vacation. She lands back in California with a new French beau, Luc, who helps her question her view on men and relationships. After living together for a short time, he decides to leave again after realizing his free-spirited attitude and her corporate and family lifestyle do not work together. Sarah then meets a single dad at Paige's science fair and the two hit it off. Just as their romance heats up, Sarah is contacted by Luc and realizes she still has feelings for him. After ending things with Roy, she and Luc resume their relationship, which hits yet another obstacle as Luc finds it difficult to renew his visa and faces being deported. In the episode 'Where There's Smoke', Luc wins the lottery to get a green card, however now that their lives have become real the couple begins to have problems, especially concerning Cooper who has been acting out. Luc tells Sarah he needs to define his own relationship with the kids.



*Luc Laurent's Pasadena Studio, 2010*



# JODI LERNER

\*Character from "the L Word" (2004)  
Season 4, S04E04

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Sculptor and Art teacher at Columbia

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Installation at the Hammer Museum

## PERSONALITY TYPE:

Outgoing, free, independent spirit, feisty, fun, emotionally healthy.

## BIOGRAPHY /

## EPISODE RECAPS:

Jodi and Bette fall deeply in love. She is totally committed to Bette. Jodi continues to check Bette's type A personality. Since Jodi is not an insecure and jealous woman, she doesn't see that Tina is trying very hard to dig her claws back into Bette. Will Bette give up the best thing that ever happened to her to go back to someone who offers her nothing in the way of personal growth and maturity? Watch the beautiful and talented Jodi Lerner as season 5 unfolds.



*Installation, 2004*  
© Jodi Lerner





# SEYMORE LITTLE

\*Character from "Ally McBeal" (1998)  
S01E15

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter. Impressionism inspiration  
He just paints pictures of his dead wife

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

The firm takes on a case for a famous 80-year old artist who is battling his heirs for control of his estate. Ally and Billy co-council the case and find that the artist's relationship with his recently deceased wife mirrors their own.

Ally and Billy are talking to Seymore and his girlfriend Paula. Seymore is frustrated that his son won't consent to the marriage. All Seymore wants to do is marry Paula, and open a small art gallery. There is a huge age difference between Seymore and Paula, about 60 years.

Afterwards, Ally takes Paula into her office, and demands the truth. Paula admits that it's about the art gallery, and that she's marrying Seymore so that in time, she can be named his legal guardian, and let he can then open the art gallery he dreams of. Ally then says she can't let the sham of a marriage happen, and heads off to talk to Seymore's son.

Sam, says he still won't allow his dad to open an art gallery. He would paint pictures of Gail all day, and he's afraid that some of the pictures would make it into society. Sam knows that they aren't nearly as good as his dad's earlier ones, and is afraid his dad would be ridiculed. Then the legacy of Seymore Little would be ruined, and he won't let that happen. He won't let his dad's reputation in the art world be destroyed.



*Seymore Little standing in his studio, looking at his paintings of Gail, 1998*



## ROXIE LYON

\*Character from "Bones" (2008)  
S04E08

### ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter.

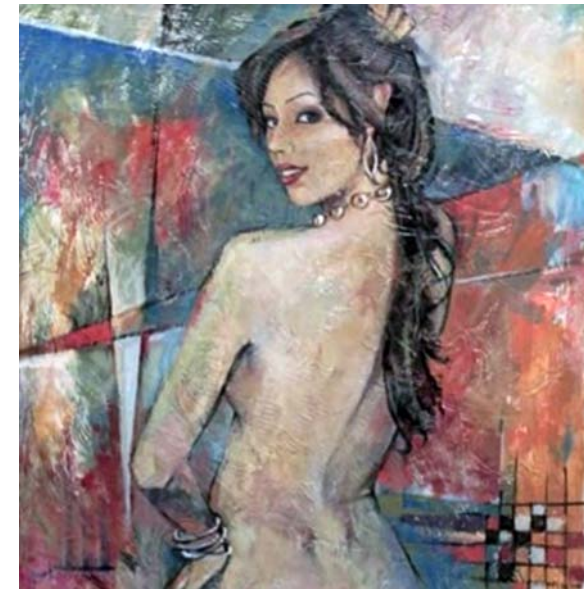
### BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

A skull is found in a crushed car. The investigation leads to an artist who used crushed vehicles in his artwork, leaving the team to wonder if he made himself part of his art.

Roxie Lyon is romantically involved with Angela Montenegro, whom she had known since they attended art school together. She is introduced in «*The Skull in the Sculpture*» after her boss was found dead in one of his artworks.

Roxie shows Angela around Thorne's studio. Angela finds an old painting of herself, a nude, in Roxie's section of the studio. Helen wanted to buy the painting from Roxie but Roxie wouldn't sell. The moment is broken when Angela leaves hurriedly with an idea to prove Roxie's innocence.

They start dating again and continue doing so until «*The Salt in the Wounds*», when Roxie broke up with Angela because of her way of only living in the moment.



*Angela's Portrait*, 2008 ©Roxie Lyon



# ISAAC MENDEZ

\*Character from "Heroes" (2006)  
Season 1

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter, Comic book author

## SPECIFICITIES:

Isaac Mendez has the ability to paint the future.

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Isaac has the power of precognition, which allows him to depict images of the future, usually while in a trance-like state. While in this state, his pupils and irises fade into light white color and he becomes unresponsively focused on painting the images in his mind. Very little context comes to Isaac when he sees the future. He can't tell anything about the people, places, or events involved beyond what he specifically sees at that moment. Thus, he is often surprised to find out weeks later what his work is actually depicting.

Isaac Mendez was an artist and comic book author living in Manhattan. He had a loft studio in Lower Manhattan. He is best known for creating the 9th Wonder Comics. He was also a heroine addict, which caused him to lose his girlfriend / art dealer, Simone Deveaux, to his rival Peter Petrelli. Isaac later received help in fighting his addiction but this wasn't enough to bring Simone back to him. Their rivalry eventually led to Isaac betraying Peter to Primotech which ended with a confrontation between the two men, which had devastating consequences. In the end, Isaac was murdered by the serial killer Sylar for his power but not before ensuring that Hiro Nakamura knew how to save the world. Isaac Mendez died a Hero.



*Isaac Mendez painting in a trance state, 2006*



## SYLVIA MOON

\*Character from "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" (2001)  
S01E02

### ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter and Art forger, who used to restore paintings for the Met

### BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Anne Ellis and Bernard Jackson, two art authenticators, are found dead; one has been hanged and the other shot in the chest. Initial evidence indicates a murder-suicide, and the investigation leads Goren and Eames to a forged Claude Monet painting. The detectives suspect German art gallery owner Rudy Langer, who implicates a female forger but will not name her. Goren discovers that the forger is Sylvia Moon, a former student of Jackson's, whose art-school roommate committed suicide by hanging herself. After confronting Moon and Langer at the murder scene, Moon reveals that Langer killed Jackson, and confesses to helping him kill Ellis.



*Detectives Goren and Eames investigating at Sylvia Moon's studio, 2001*



## NICK MOORE

\*Character from "Family Ties" (1986)  
S04E20

### ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Sculptor, Mixed Media

### BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Steven accepts works of art for WKS's 1986 auction, reluctantly even Alex's 'fiscal-surrealist' bank yard eviction drawing (at age 5) and an abstract welded sculpture by Nick, which only gets a bid from filthy rich, glamorous art lover Victoria Hurstenberg, who calls him an irresistible hidden talent. Nick brings more of his works for a private show at the Keaton house, and becomes her protégé. Only Mallory and naive Nick need weeks to realize the airhead didn't get to see Nick since miss (!) Victoria offered her patronage not for his 'art' but for his company. Just when Nick sweetly told off Victoria's private attentions with a gentlemanly hug at a gallery, idiotic Mallory is there and dumps her true love...



*Nick Moore and Victoria Hurstenberg at his gallery opening, 1986*



# NEVILLE MORGAN

\*Character from "Sex and the City" (1998)  
S01E05

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter.  
COURBET look-alike (The Origin of the World)  
Series of vagina-portraits,  
«Portraits of women who touched my life»  
Uses bold colors and female models

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition at Charlottes' Gallery

## BIOGRAPHY /

## EPISODE RECAPS:

Charlotte is invited at famous painter Neville Morgan's Connecticut home, finds his 'ultimate series' are vagina-portraits, is invited to sit for one and makes this good move to get his work to the gallery.



*Untitled, 1998*  
© Neville Morgan



# LEIGH OSTIN

\*Character from "L Word" (2005)  
S02E07

ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Sculptor, Painter

RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition at Michael Collin Gallery, 2005

BIOGRAPHY /  
EPISODE RECAPS:

The studio visit — Curator Bette Porter thinks Leigh Ostin's work is «exquisite.» Bette wants to know why she hasn't seen Leigh's work before, and Leigh says Michael (gallery owner dude) has been «trying to get you in here for ages.» At her studio, Leigh shows Bette some copies she's done of Renaissance paintings. Bette is delighted.



*Curator Bette Porter looking at a Catalog from artist Leigh Ostin, 2005*



# MONICA PENNY

\*Character from "The Carrie Diaries" (2013)  
S01E03

ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Performance Artist

RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition at Franklin Furnace, 1984

BIOGRAPHY /  
EPISODE RECAPS:

Carrie goes to a trendy New York City art exhibition where a former porn star, Monica Penny, is the featured artist in a performance piece entitled "*Monica Penny: Take Back the vagina*". At first, Carrie is enamored by Monica Penny and her empowered attitude but turns timid when she is pressured into putting a penny into the jar next to Monica's throne, which means that Monica will open her legs to reveal her vagina. After Carrie places the penny in the jar and gets a good look, Monica calls Carrie on stage, comments on Carrie's youth, and says "Never let a man, any man, make your decisions!" in which Carrie fervently responds, "I won't!". After this exchange, Monica and the crowd try to get Carrie to "Take the thrown"—in other words, open her legs and reveal her vagina to the world. Instead of succumbing to the hip New York City crowds' cheers, she politely declines and runs out of the room.



"Monica Penny: Take Back the vagina" Performance at Franklin Furnace , 1984





# ALEKSANDR PETROVSKY

\*Character from "Sex and the City" (2003)  
S06E12 - S06E20

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Light Installation, Minimalist artist

## SPECIFICITIES:

He is Russian  
We never get to see his work  
He has assistants

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Exhibition at Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, 2003  
Solo Exhibition at Galerie Nationale du Jeu de Paume, 2004

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Aleksandr Petrovsky, referred to by Carrie occasionally as «The Russian» or «My Lover» is a famous artist who becomes Carrie's lover in the final season. He sweeps her off her feet with huge romantic gestures and shows her the foreign pockets of New York that she has never seen before. Her relationship with him brings up all sorts of questions in Carrie's mind about finding love past «a certain age» and whether or not she wants children. When he's preparing to return to Paris for a solo exhibit he invites Carrie to come live with him, which, after several deliberations (and one fight) with her friends, she does. After spending some time with him in Paris, she realizes that he will never reciprocate the level of emotional involvement that she offers because his life and career will always come first.



*Aleksandr Petrovsky having some doubts in his studio, 2004*



# PHILLIP SEMENKO

\*Character from "Cheers" (1984)  
S02E21 - S02E22

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

I'll Be Seeing You: Part 1

A jealous Diane agrees to have her portrait taken by an arrogant, eccentric artist, even though Sam can't stand the guy and forbids her to do it.

I'll Be Seeing You: Part 2

Diane follows through with getting her portrait painted behind Sam's back. But the artist predicts that if she shows it to Sam, she will never see him again.



*Diane's Portrait*, 1984 ©Phillip Semenko



# HOMER SIMPSON

\*Character from "The Simpsons" (1999)  
S10E19

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Sculptor, Mixed Media  
Outsider Art

## RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

«Inside outsider Art»  
«Solo Show: Homer's Odyssey» at Louvre: American Style, 1999

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

«Mom and Pop Art»: Homer inadvertently becomes a well-praised outsider artist after his failed attempts to build a barbecue pit. His exhibit goes to the Louvre, and after Mr. Burns buys his artwork, Homer becomes a success. However, after his new art appears in the «Art in America» show, Homer's artwork is criticized for being too repetitive of his first piece. After his recent failure, Homer tries to devise something groundbreaking, after hearing of Christo's art.



Untitled, 1999 ©Homer Simpson



# SPONGEBOB

\*Character from "SpongeBob SquarePants" (2001)  
S02E18

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Sculptor

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

«Artist Unknown»: Squidward is teaching an art class at the adult learning center in Bikini Bottom and SpongeBob turns up as his only student. SpongeBob is a natural and Squidward crushes his spirit with all his criticism. SpongeBob leaves the class convinced he has no talent. When an art collector arrives moments later and commissions Squidward to make a statue for the park, Squidward realizes he needs SpongeBob's help and begs him to come back and try again. But SpongeBob can no longer perform like he did and his art now comes out as bad as Squidward's. Frustrated with SpongeBob, Squidward destroys all of the supplies and the land in a heap behind him. When the art collector arrives he asks if the heap is his statue and Squidward denies he has anything to do with it. We reveal the heap and it is an amazing statue that gets erected in the park with the plaque underneath reading «artist unknown». Squidward is never recognized as an artist at all.



*Art collector Monty P. Moneybags discovering SpongeBob's statue , 2001*



# LILA TOURNAY

\*Character from "Dexter" (2006)  
Season 2

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Sculptor, Mixed Media  
Theme of predilection: Cannibalism.

## PERSONALITY TYPE:

Lila appears to be a fun-loving, compassionate person. However, as the season drags on, it is revealed that Lila is in fact a sociopath who frequents support groups in an attempt to feel emotions she is otherwise incapable of. Lila was a compulsive arsonist, and was responsible for at least four fires.

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Lila West, who goes by the pseudonym of Lila Tournay, is Dexter's former Narcotics Anonymous sponsor and the main antagonist in Season 2. She works as an artist, often using stolen items in her work. Dexter has an affair with her, leading to his breakup with Rita. She confesses to Dexter that she went sober after unintentionally killing her ex-boyfriend while intoxicated. This is later revealed to be a lie; she is in fact a sociopath who hangs out in support groups as an attempt to feel emotions she is otherwise incapable of. She immediately sees through Dexter's «mask» and becomes obsessed with him, believing him to be her soul mate.

S02E04: She welds metal and mannequins into sculptures, and takes Dexter out on a trip for «art supplies» (she steals different metal objects for her «found art»). She asks him why he «uses», and he says it's part of who he is. Lila asks him who he is and he can't really answer - so she decides that her mission will be to get him to discover himself, and says he will tell her his «deepest, darkest secrets».



*Anthropophagy N°9, 2006*  
© Lila Tournay



# MAXEEN VANDERLEST

\*Character from "Weeds" (2005)  
S07E03 - S07E05

ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Mixed Media, Performance Artist

SPECIFICITIES:

Polygamy, Dying husband

RECENT EXHIBITIONS:

Performance at CAUDILLO - MORRIS ART GALLERY

BIOGRAPHY /

EPISODE RECAPS:

Charles and Maxeen are in a 16-year long polyamorous marriage. He is a retired English professor suffering with terminal pancreatic cancer. She is an artist who hires Silas for an underwear-modeling gig. For a performance art piece, she slid a Popsicle up her vagina and posted video of the performance on the Internet. She builds Charles a special bedroom in an effort to fight his illness.

Andy meets Maxeen at Silas's performance art show. When Andy saves Silas from suffocation, Maxeen falls for him. «I want ... to probe your higher self.» Andy and Maxeen have a sexual fling.



*The Room of Danger, 2005*  
© Maxeen Vanderlest



# NINA WEST

\*Character from "Seinfeld" (1992)  
S03E21

## ARTISTIC PRACTICE:

Painter

## BIOGRAPHY / EPISODE RECAPS:

Nina is the girlfriend of Jerry Seinfeld in Season Three's "The Letter". She is an artist and uses Kramer as a subject for her painting, which an elderly, art-loving couple admire. («He is a loathsome, offensive brute, and yet I can't look away»)

George feels obligated to buy something when he accompanies Jerry to Nina's art studio, especially when she offers George her father's tickets to the Owners Box at Yankee Stadium. George then reluctantly purchases a \$500 painting, which he tries to sell to Jerry for \$10 at the end of the episode.

Jerry mentions to George, «She's got like a jealousy thing. I mean, she doesn't like me having fun with anyone but her.» She and Jerry break up after an argument about an incident involving Elaine at a Yankee game, after which she sends Jerry a poetic letter that caused Jerry to get back with her again. Later, Jerry finds out that the letter was taken from a Neil Simon play. Jerry tries to confront her later on in the episode, and breaks up with her again.



*Kramer posing for Nina in her studio, 1992*

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