

## Artist Statement

Zumi Rash creates paintings on canvas using acrylic paint and modeling paste, working with pure colors without mixing them. Her palette primarily consists of dark shades like black red and gold with touches of white to emphasize the spiritual meaning of the artwork. Recently, she has started using modeling paste to create lenticular images.

Zumi Rash's paintings consistently position the main character at the center of the canvas, regardless of the technique used. The surreal surroundings are depicted in a minimalist style, sometimes featuring a few additional objects or none at all. This approach maintains the viewer's focus on the central figure rather than the background or secondary elements, avoiding visual overload.

Zumi Rash explores the subject "moribund" or "bardo," the moment between life and death, focusing on the transition of consciousness and the subconscious from one state of existence to another. Her work seeks to answer questions about what happens to the subconscious during death and whether anything exists beyond it. Butterflies serve as the central motif, symbolizing fragility and transformation, as their life cycle reflects themes of near-death and reincarnation, aligning closely with the subject matter.

Zumi Rash's artistic journey began with the *Seasons* series, featuring four abstract paintings representing the seasons. Initially exploring abstract landscapes, they later transitioned to depicting butterflies, leading to a deeper exploration of beauty and fragility. Through the *Papillon* series, they developed their artistic style, palette, and technique, evolving from abstract forms to surreal imagery and eventually incorporating kinetic art, with a current focus on blending lenticular and surreal elements.