

LYDIA BARTEL

BLIND JUSTICE

Acrylic \$600.00 20 x 39.5 inches

A bit of history first. Lady Justice was created by Hans Gieg, a Renaissance Sculptor in the 15th century. Lady Justice is an allegorical personification of the moral force in the judicial system. In Greek mythology, Themis was the Greek Goddess of wisdom and good counsel. This statue symbolizes fair and equal administration of the law without corruption, favor, greed, or prejudice. Lady Justice is adorned with a blindfold (black ribbon), a sword, scales, scrolls or books, and a snake at her foot. The sword and the scales reinforce justice while the scales imply fairness and balance. The blindfold represents the Theory in Law (Jurisprudence) fairness, impartiality as well as the gift of prophecy. The snake at the bottom of her foot represents evil and lies.

MY STORY

I worked for 22 years in healthcare in a busy Radiology Department. I was injured while at work in 2005. I was called in by my employer twice; once in 2010 and again in 2012 this time to be terminated 4 months prior to my approved and scheduled WCB surgery. I was 50 at the time and was not financially prepared to go through a difficult surgery and come out the other end to unemployment affecting my future earnings and pension. This journey caused me to seek for truth and justice for the past 9 years. I have received no reasonable explanations or responses to date. My painting is about Lady Justice because I am seeking the very ideals she stands for, fairness, balance, impartiality and for the system to be "corrected". I hope that my outcome will be favourable so that I can "celebrate" knowing that public faith has been restored.

Painting has become my solace and distraction as well as an outlet for me to revisit the creativity part that I have missed so much in my younger years. Painting allows one to free their mind and concentrate and gain insight into situations and explore. Once the mind is relaxed your thoughts become clearer and the possibilities are endless. Art throughout history has been utilized to paint about social injustices and to allow for conversation to flow freely as it is subjective and truly up to the interpretation of the viewer. We all "celebrate" milestones in our lifetimes in different ways.

