Coco Ruiz *Visual Artist & Illustrator Specializing in Vintage Gothic Aesthetics* Email: cocosparadox.art@gmail.com | Phone: (870- 331-5493 Website: www.cocosparadox.art

Biographical Sketch

Born in the small southern town of historic Hope, Arkansas. Coco Ruiz was destined to view the world through a lens tinted with shades of the past. Raised in a family revered for their artistic talents and eclectic interests, Coco's childhood was a tapestry of ancient folklore, mythical beasts, and stories of cryptids. This unique upbringing not only cultivated her love for the arts but also deeply influenced her aesthetic vision, leading her to pursue a career where she could bring the haunting beauty of the gothic aesthetic blended with a touch of folk art. Coco's art is a reflection of herself, she has stated in interviews. Her creations definitely live up to the name of her studio/gallery Paradox Art

Education

- major focus Art Concepts, Illustrations Nevada state School, Nevada County Specialization: Gothic Art and Illustration Graduated , 2000
- Dallas College of Art Design Focus: Sculpture and acrylic to oil pastels Graduated , 2003

Major Accomplishments

- while in her junior year of Art Design school two of her creations were chosen by a panel of judges to be displayed in coffee shops during a time when student artists were being chosen to represent their individual schools.
- Commissioned by the historic Mt Moriah Church,to be the head artist in charge of illustrations etc. for the annual VBS festivities. Coco was honored with an ovation for her efforts put forth and outstanding performance

Awards and Recognitions

- **The Nevada Artistic Achievement Award**, for exceptional contributions to the revitalization of Gothic art in contemporary society, 2019
- **The edgar allan poe essay and portrait contest** for outstanding achievement in the illustration of Gothic literature, 2017.

Coco Ruiz continues to enchant and intrigue with her unique blend of vintage and gothic art, creating works that not only pay homage to the past but also bring a timeless aesthetic into the present. Through his art, he invites viewers into a world where the beauty of darkness is celebrated, and the mysteries of history are preserved.