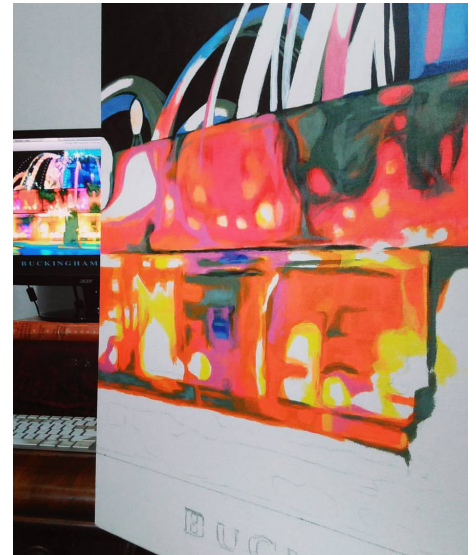


## The Making of "Buckingham Fountain"

When I first moved to Chicago to attend art school, I lived near Buckingham Fountain and often jogged around it at night. The fountain is significant to me and is an iconic landmark of my city. This painting was inspired by artist David Klein's 1956 TWA New York travel ad, which featured bright colors and a central image. I began the process by creating a rough digital collage, designing a font treatment similar to the ad, and combining it with a photo of the fountain and my loose interpretation of the city's skyline. Next, I drew my collage onto the canvas with charcoal pencil and then applied acrylic paints, adding neon colors to make the fountain glow. I hand-painted the shapes, including the typography, wanting the final canvas to appear both like a graphic advertisement and an expressive painting. This piece represents for me what I love about Chicago: the mystery and glow of night and its possibilities, and the sense of grandeur and history via this iconic fountain.



## About the Artist

Rani Young is a Chicago-based visual artist, designer, musician, and educator. She received a Post-Baccalaureate in Art & Technology Studies from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Colorado State University. The recipient of an Individual Artist Grant from the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, her work has been exhibited at the North Dakota Museum of Art, Oak Park Art League, and ArtPrize, among others. An enthusiastic promoter of Chicago art and music, Rani co-founded the gallery and event space Transistor and later launched her spinoff solo venture, Resistor. She has taught art and design classes to over 1,000 students. As lead singer in three bands, including Girl Detective, Rani brought in elements of video, costuming, and object design. When not in her studio painting, she works as a freelance graphic designer and motion graphics artist and creates music and video projects with various collaborators.



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