

## SHARON SHAPIRO

### Artist Statement

My images suggest hidden stories, playful or private moments that speak to vulnerability within strength, sensuality within power. Through my paintings I knit fragments of personal experience, shifting between what the world perceives and the myths we create. Drawn from a range of photographic sources, my subjects are composites, sharing traits that are both male and female, child and adult, animal and human.

Most recently, I have become obsessed with lather and its range of associations: how it conceals and reveals, is both sexual and childlike, fleeting against clean flesh.

### Bio

For over 15 years, Sharon Shapiro's compelling paintings have been exhibited in dozens of venues across the country, including shows in Atlanta, Chicago, Boston, New York, and Los Angeles. Her work has been the subject of two nonprofit solo exhibitions with catalogs, one at Second Street Gallery, Charlottesville, VA (2004) that presented over 100 works, and the other at Brenau University in Gainesville, GA (2007). Selected three times for the juried publication *New American Paintings* (including a cover image), her works have also appeared in numerous magazines, from *American Art Collector* and *Veranda* to *Oxford American*. Critical essays on her art include one by Jerry Cullum, Senior Editor to *Art Papers*. Shapiro is a past recipient of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Fellowship (2000), was recently awarded a residency at the Virginia Center for Creative Arts (2009), and was juried into the Mid-Atlantic New Painting 2010 biennial, with an exhibition at the University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA. Her work is in a number of important collections, including those of the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia and the Tullman Collection, Chicago, IL. Shapiro has a BFA from the Atlanta College of Art (now SCAD), and is currently based in Charlottesville, VA.



**BIOLOGY**  
Acrylic on canvas  
30" x 30"  
2009