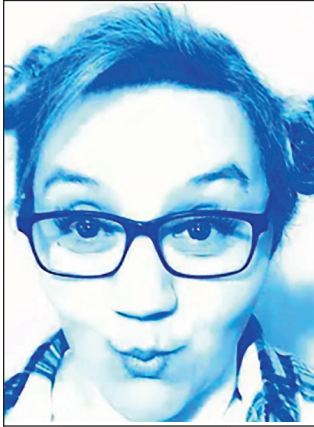


# Raulaniesa Aranda

Mixed Media & Encaustic Artist  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI



Art became a way for me to reconnect with my authentic self.

It was a way to find myself again.

Raulaniesa is an Encaustic and Mixed Media artist living in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. A transplant to the U.P., she's made the area home for over 30 years.

Raulaniesa is a self-taught artist, who fell in love with the process of creating and using colors to express

oneself at a very young age. As a young student, she regularly doodled in the margins of notebooks, and progressed to drawing florals, hotrod cars and other objects on text book covers and scrap paper. As an adult, Raulaniesa decided she wanted to explore her creative side more and began learning various brush strokes and techniques using resources such as television painting programs, library reference books, and free worksheets and videos from the internet. She continued painting as a hobby, producing many a tole painted holiday decor and simple landscapes for friends and family.

In 2015, Raulaniesa stumbled across an article that referenced the ancient technique of encaustic painting. Intrigued by the idea of the quick 'drying' time and layered approach, she purchased her first pigments, a bag each of beeswax and damar resin, an inexpensive heat gun, and a few chip brushes and set out to explore the world of encaustic.

Several years later, Raulaniesa continues to enjoy the process of creating with pigmented beeswax and fire. Because the artist is a firm believer in supporting fellow creatives and small town entrepreneurs, she opts to source her beeswax and substrates from local U.P. sources as often as possible. Doing so, also allows her to create art that goes beyond the visual. Each piece indulges the senses with the cinnamon-honey aroma of local beeswax, the smokey scent of freshly laser cut wood, and the textured surface of layers of built up wax.

"I adore that the experience I have while creating these art pieces can be shared with others through the scents and textures each piece offers," says Raulaniesa.

For more information, visit Raulaniesa's website,  
[www.raulaniesa.art](http://www.raulaniesa.art)



*Untitled*



*Almost Hunting Season*



*Northern Lights*