



## SARAH MCHUGH *THE BIRTHDAY ROSE*

This narrative painting, “The Birthday Rose” was inspired by the absorbing epic novel titled “Forever” written by Pete Hamill. Told through the fictional life of Cormac O’Connor as he and his white horse travel the decades taking the reader on a journey through a richly embroidered history of New York City from it’s early beginnings to the present. In this work, we see him tossing the annual “birthday” rose to his mother’s memory across the sea. I sought to paint with an old world feel, the bridge to other lands outside the city where he can no longer travel, along with sailing vessels of the past and then depicting on the upper left, into the future skyscrapers emerging from the mystical clouds.

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