

Her Majesty The Queen
Buckingham Palace
London SW1A 1AA

Madam,

My name is Jennifer Hartley-Illanes, and I am an artist living in Calgary, Alberta Canada. I hold a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Sculpture from the Alberta College of Art + Design, and I write to you this day to introduce myself, my work and to humbly ask for your assistance in the matter of becoming knighted.

My art practice has been focused on the symbolism of the medieval age, architecture, chivalry, knights and royalty for some time now as I have explored my family ancestry which hails from England and Scotland, and the ideals of time gone by. I am interested in exploring the history of the medieval age, and comparing it to how we live our lives today. Through my work I have found that western understanding of luxury, chivalry and respect, while having a different face have not changed at heart.

Being on the Autistic spectrum, I have been passionately focused on these images and themes since I was a child, as medieval castles and knights in shining armour became my special interest. Through my art, I have returned to the desire to envelope myself in this excitement, reverence, and curiosity that once filled my soul.

I desire to be knighted if possible into the Order of the Blue Garter, which has long held my admiration for its history of knighting women. Being knighted would be a form of performance art, and would allow my art practice and ideals to become a whole part of who I am. In a sense, I would be remade, renamed and become resolved in my history, intentions, and future endeavours.

Should this request be accepted or not, I desire to show my appreciation to Your Majesty and your family by creating a work of art custom to your wishes. My work can be seen on my website at www.jenniferhartley.ca should you like to view my past art pieces

Thank you for your valuable time and consideration. I have the honour to be, Madam, Your Majesty's humble and obedient servant.

Sincerely

Jennifer Hartley-Illanes