Artist Statement Christine Palamidessi

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I like to tell stories, particularly about humanity, divinity, and violence. I am always interweaving memory and the formation and perception of time. Recently I've been making life-sized 'vessels' in order to experience the emptying of self, the release of past baggage, and the invitation to love. I've explored the torso--where the heart resides and where we hold our lovers and children close to comfort them; and the face as it relates to a mask and a word. Mediterranean and Old Europe history, mythology and graphic patterns inspire my art. My preferred medium is paper; I continue to work in the cartapesta technique that I studied in Italy. Additionally, I use plaster and often fold and mold paper and plaster into human shapes. Sometimes I paint the shapes; other times allow the shapes to resemble stone and artifacts. Always I strive to embrace a particular essence of spiritual steadiness.