

## Age of Elegance II

acrylic on canvas 20 by 20cm

Following on from Age of Elegance I, my first serious venture into still life, I chose a vintage cup and saucer (Royal Doulton 'Temple' design), a glass bottle, and a dragonfly Christmas decoration which I've kept for many years.

I set up the still life with side lighting from the left, using coloured mountboard sections to give me my table top and wall.

The 'horizon line' was drawn in, then I painted the two sections peachy pink and blue respectively, as flat coats of paint.

The objects were then drawn in pencil and I painted the textures of the table surface and wall to give a distressed look - to fit with the sense of time-passing decay.

Then the cup and saucer were painted in tonal whites and greys, with the pattern being carefully drawn on in pencil.

Now the objects are ready to paint and enjoy.



After painting the cup and saucer design, I moved to the dragonfly, which is sequined and beaded, followed by the glass bottle.

The dragonfly became a brooch with a safety chain looped around the neck of the bottle to properly locate it, and some detached sequins were painted in to suggest sad deterioration/wear and tear.

I love the way a simple object like an old decoration can become something of more significance in this painting.

