

**Finalist, The Blake Prize 2022**

**Daniel Brinsmead**

***From Babylon To Zion, The Prophecy of Daniel 814 2022***

**Exhibition Statement**

Born into a devout religious family, I was given the biblical name Daniel and was birthed 8 pounds 14 ounces. Herald as a great sign, my name and weight confirmed in the book of Daniel, chapter 8, verse 14, the key prophecy we were on the right path directed by God and the kingdom of heaven to come. I do not follow any religion or belief systems anymore, but look from my own experience what is true and real. I do not need to find understanding through another, but can apply my own insights to such texts. Daniel, who was taken from his homeland, to live a new life with king Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon, remained committed to his inner light, his open heart and God within. The book of Daniel is a testament to the triumph of such a surrender to love, and has been of some fascination to me. Life can often seem like a den of lions, breaking down the walls of the heart, to discover everything is already in there, in the heart, love posing as fear, nothing to be afraid of, a freedom to revel in, a peace to rest in, the true return to Zion.