

From the time I was a child, I felt that there was something, an “essence” to be found. The vehicle I chose for my quest was fine art. It is my yoga. My artistic expression has centered on painting and drawing and, over time I have included in my arsenal of media the following: oils, acrylics, watercolor, soft pastels, all drawing media and encaustics.

I am often asked about my images- my content. While I work I form narratives in my mind that tell the story of the piece, much like a novelist creates characters or a composer clusters notes. It is an integral part of my process. And titles are poetry for me. In fact, they also become a summation of the journey I take in the evolution of the piece. I work with images that resonate meaning for me and always view them in relationship to each other. In essence, I tell a story through my images, with or without incorporating text. It is my hope that the viewer responds to the totality of the piece, its visual energy, whether or not one can articulate the “story”.

My works have often employed recognizable content and are represented in ambiguous spaces, watery and atmospheric. My experimentation with images has evolved with an understanding that there is a kind of internal logic linking certain forms with each other, a logic that, perhaps, belongs to the world of archetypes, and definitely forms its own iconography of symbols. Pieces are layered and developed over an extended period. Sequence, chronology and time play a significant role in these works, regardless of the medium. There is often an intentional blurring of boundaries between the physical and the psychical- this is what sustains my interest and what, for me, continuously opens up future possibilities.

I am an artist who is also an art educator. World-wide circumstances have dictated that I develop my digital skills and am now teaching online courses in addition to on location classes and workshops. Teaching art became a significant aspect of my art practice very early- right out of graduate school. I have had the privilege of working with a great variety of students, and it is true that the instructor learns more from the student than does the student from the teacher. My orb of teaching has included artists ages 5-92, mostly in art centers and private studios. There is a careful balance required to maintain both a full teaching schedule and a professional art practice. I do not find it easy. I view the pendulum swing between the two as part of a perpetual continuum, sort of an eternal see-saw, in which I am continually striving for balance. I hold myself to very high standards and am not easily satisfied with my work- in any medium. It all seems a visual record of my journey toward a deeper understanding of *Why Am I Here?*

Mira M. White
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