

Robert Mace Bent

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

b. 1945, Worcester, Massachusetts

I am invested in and directed by the act of painting and mark making/creation. My sense is that the act of painting records the practitioners placement in the world and community all the while leaving behind residuals of intellect and emotion. Putting color and line on canvas becomes a form of verse with each painter's dialect revealing the artist's development and the experience of knowing.

I consider my painting and drawing as aiming for non-fictional expression, essentially uncalculated, revealing the immediate decisions of my mark-making and responses to color and line. I would like the moments of my work-process to be captured in the outcome while at the same time creating a cohesive expression.

At the end of the work I hope to sense what I can only describe as balance, rhythm, symmetrical and asymmetrical tensions in color and line.

Some suggest that painters paint themselves over and over again. I am fully subscribed to that theory, embrace it and hope I'm not static! What is in my consciousness, as well as what is just beyond its reach, finds its way into all expression, whether spoken, written or visual; if painting can bring to consciousness what was obscure or lacked a form of expression, i.e. begged for a form of language, this is a wonderful result, an achievement worth working toward.

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