

Reggie Mace
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Biography/Artist Statement

I was raised in Wenatchee, WA and received my BA in Fine Art from Walla Walla College in Winter 2006. I now live in Walla Walla with my wife, Heather, and our collection of cats, fish, literature, art, and music. After graduating, I directed my efforts toward developing a community for myself that was fluent in art and progressive in thought. I recently have been a founding member of a co-op gallery, ArtSpace1, and the Walla Walla Art Alliance. I also helped create the Art Committee of the Downtown Walla Walla Foundation, of which I am the chair, to pursue opportunities for artists in the area that make Walla Walla a more invigorating and inviting environment. I have been showing my work in wineries, coffee shops, restaurants, and small galleries for several years now and want to move my work into spaces devoted strictly to art.

My work is my personal quest for enlightenment. I am obsessed with sensual phenomena, psychology of personal identity, tapping the collective unconscious, movement, and dreams. This has sent me researching various mythologies, Jungian archetypal imagery, religion, alchemy, and iconography: essentially driving at the root of mysticism, searching the world and myself for understanding instead of answers. Answers are often too certain and cannot be trusted to stay put. Therefore, I hunt for the ambiguous, yet true, gut feeling, raw intuition, and reaction to an image that can cause one's insides to stir.

My imagery largely involves a form of portraiture, because I believe the face is the most genuine source of identity. However, we live in a world of mass media and communication that exposes us to countless representations of faces everyday. There is a science to the expressions used for every advertisement for every product. And now, with the progression and popularity of personal cameras, it is almost impossible to escape associating a specific individual with a face. This led me to develop a form of portraying a face that eliminates much of what is needed to recognize a person. I blur and twist an individual's features until the remnants are only vaguely the original. The result invokes a sense of intimate familiarity and mystery. Printmaking is also a love of mine, but resources for this medium prove scarce on my current budget. The only complete series I have had the opportunity to print, "Cycles of the Unconscious," is an example of how I enjoy using symbols and various obscure objects along with portraiture to create a narrative. In recent months I have been working toward incorporating this form of patchwork imagery into my paintings. While many contemporary artists often put emphasis on socio-political agendas and current movements in pop-culture, I try not to create work that can be easily dated. I believe that a painting can be universally valuable if fashions and trends are avoided, concentrating more on internal desires and tribulations of the psyche.

Aside from the image content, materials and process are also tremendously important to me. I primarily paint with oils on canvas, but I often introduce various fabrics, minerals, and other mixed media for both the texture and the source or history of its use. Much of

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my portraits are procured from my photography. I take many dozen photos per shoot and then pick and choose elements from each to combine into a rudimentary composition from which I create the final painting. I build my own canvases, so the shape of my work varies greatly depending on the composition and the weight of the image. Relationships between objects are determined by size, negative space, and proximity; I believe that utilizing these sculptural qualities in painting can make a far more effective piece.

I see myself as a constantly changing being, an artist, yes, but also a scientist, a mystic, and a visual activist. I have gone through many styles and mediums to arrive at my current aesthetic, but I feel the examples given in this portfolio are my most honest. However, my work will always change as I undergo personal evolution, as I build upon each experience. Mastery of any one skill would be useless if I did not hone a dozen others to use alongside.

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Resume as of June 2007

Education:

Fall 2001 – Spring 2003 Wenatchee Valley Community College
Fall 2003 – Winter 2006 Walla Walla College, Graduating with BFA

Solo Shows:

March 2005 – Coffee Perk, Walla Walla, WA
Aug. 2005 – *D & M Coffee, Wenatchee, WA
Jan./Feb. 2006 – (Senior Show) Harris Fine Art Gallery WWC, College Place, WA
March 2006 – Lemolo Café, Wenatchee, WA
May/June 2006 – Grapefields Wine Bar & Café, Walla Walla, WA
July 2006 – Coffee Perk, Walla Walla, WA
Sept./Oct. 2006 – Waterbrook Winery Art Gallery, Walla Walla, WA
Nov. 2006 – *Muddy Waters Art Salon, Walla Walla, WA
Dec./Jan 2006/07 – Luscious by Nature, Walla Walla, WA
March 2007 – Walla Walla Coffee Roastery, Walla Walla, WA
April 2007 – Lemolo Café, Wenatchee, WA
April/May 2007 – Preston Premium Wines, Walla Walla, WA
May/June 2007 - Verve Coffee and Art House, Walla Walla, WA

Group Shows:

Spring 2005 – Carnegie Art Center Juried Art Show, Walla Walla, WA
May 2005 – *Red Door Arte Gallery, Walla Walla, WA
October 2005 – *Red Door Arte Gallery, Walla Walla, WA
May 2007 – ArtSpace1 Co-op Art Gallery, Walla Walla, WA
May 2007 – First Annual Balloon Stampede Juried Art Show, Walla Walla, WA

Lectures:

Feb. 24, 2006 & Feb. 26, 2007– “Photography in Painting” for Aesthetics in
Photography, Prof. Martha Mason @ Walla Walla College
Jan. 19 & April 13, 2007 – “Portraits and Self-Portraits” for Research Writing, Prof.
Linda Andrews @ Walla Walla Community College

Publications:

2004 Gadfly Journal of Art and Literature at Walla Walla College, College Place, WA
2005 Gadfly
2006 Gadfly
2007 Gadfly
May 10, 2007 Union Bulletin Marquee Featured Artist

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Misc.:

2004 Art Director for Gadfly
2005 Art Director for Gadfly
2007 Editor in Chief for Phrenics Magazine[^]
2007 Chair of Downtown Walla Walla Foundation's Art Committee
2007 Founding Member of ArtSpace1 Co-op Art Gallery
2007 Founding Member of Walla Walla Art Alliance

References:

Squire Broel – broelsa@my180.net, 509.301.1310
Charly Bloomquist – bloomquistcm@whitman.edu, 509.629.0446
Martha Mason – masoma@wwc.edu, 509.527.2913
Linda Andrews – linda.andrews@wwcc.edu, 509.527.4641
Dan Lamberton – lambda@wwc.edu, 509.525.2363
Michael White – alchemicalvessels@gmail.com, 509.264.7638
Michelle Montgomery – michelle@waterbrook.com, 509.522.1262
Frank Janzen - fjanzen@crowshadow.org, 541.276.3954

More?

For a portfolio, please send an email with a street address and a short description of your gallery/organization to reggie@reggiemace.com.

*** = no longer in business**
^ = as yet to be published