## Finding One's Voice through Visual Arts Research & Journal Development

**Excerpted from Chapters 7 and 14 of** 

Global Consciousness through the Arts: A Passport for Students and Teachers

Steve Willis, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO, USA stevewillis@missouristate.edu
Allan Richards, University of Kentucky allan.richards@uky.edu

"This book is a necessary addition to the libraries of all educators who wish to raise their students' global consciousness and have access to many excellent resources to quide them."

—Dr. Enid Zimmerman (USA)

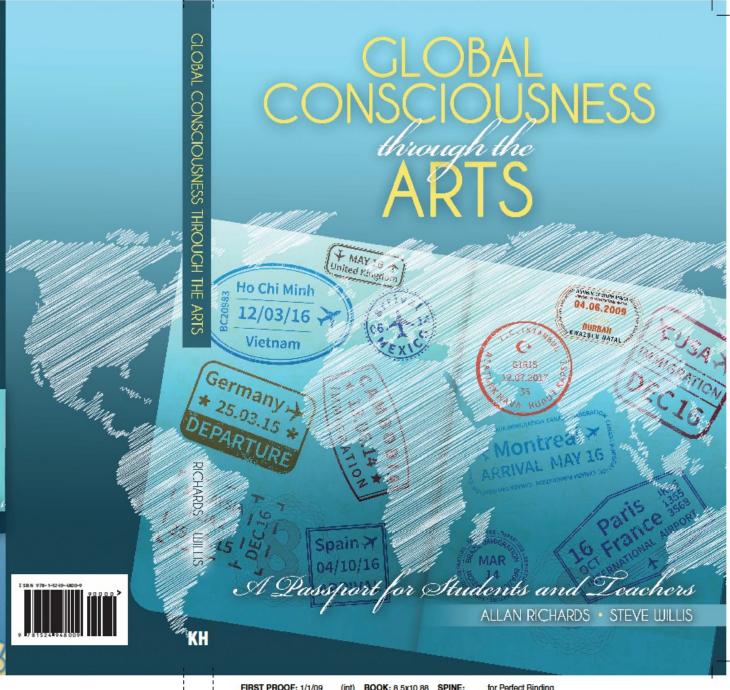
"Its strength is in the deep understanding of what art education is and in what it should be in the modern and complex world we live in."

-Susan M. Coles (UK)

"This timely book presents the future of art education in a society where people with diverse backgrounds coexist."

-Dr. Sunah Kim (South Korea)





COLORS: cyan magenta

## STEM

STEAM

STREAM

#### <u>Journal Work – Visual Research</u>

You are responsible for maintaining an active journal with daily entries. Each entry should be dated. Entries should include, but not be limited to: class notes, directions, assignments, outside sketches, drawing, compositional explorations, color studies, and visual and textual research.

The journal is your opportunity to explore any concept, direction, or technique. To maximize the benefits, journal entries should be exploratory, focused, personal and frequent.

#### **Anais Nin reminds us:**

# we don't see things as they are; we see them as we are.

We discover ourselves through extended research leading to a series of images

# Visual storytelling is created in a personal context for a particular purpose.

The purpose is revealed through the research

**As Gustav Klimt said:** 

Art is a line around your thoughts.

#### Strategies for educators to consider

- > A linear curricular sequence that embraces holistic investigation.
- Images created from a specific plan of action.
- Authentic experiential, open-ended curriculum with authentic assessment.
- Consistent critical and analytical dialog.
- Out of class activities comparable to other courses.
- Sustained, journal investigation of images in relationship to culture and identity.
- Visual literacy as a formal course of study.

# Journal Development

Carly Anderson
Willard High School. Willard, MO,
USA

#### Journal Development

- Journaling Practices Through:
  - Perceptual Shift in Art-making Practices
  - Professional Development
  - Life Experiences
  - Connection of Personal Interests, Experiences, and Art-making

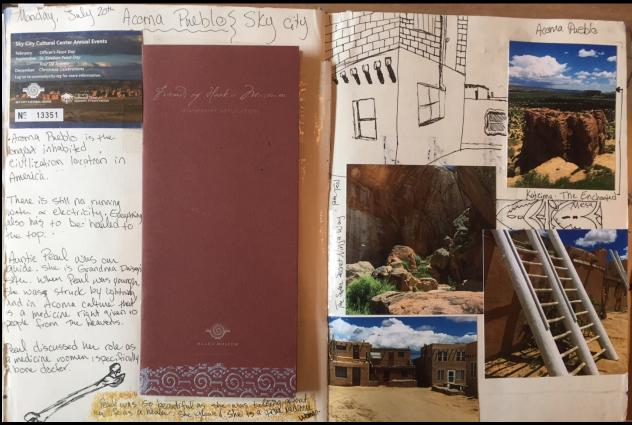
# Journal Development

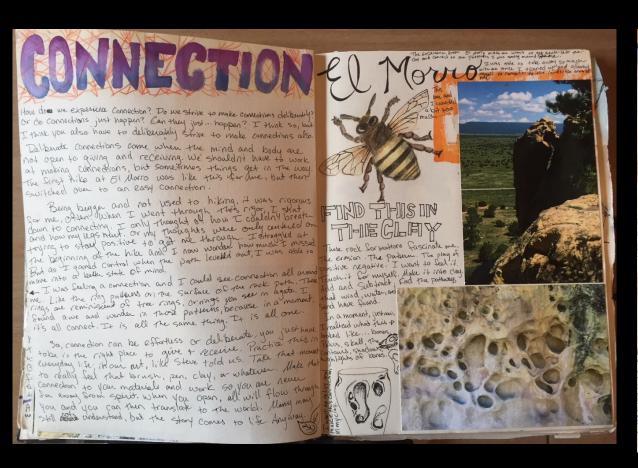
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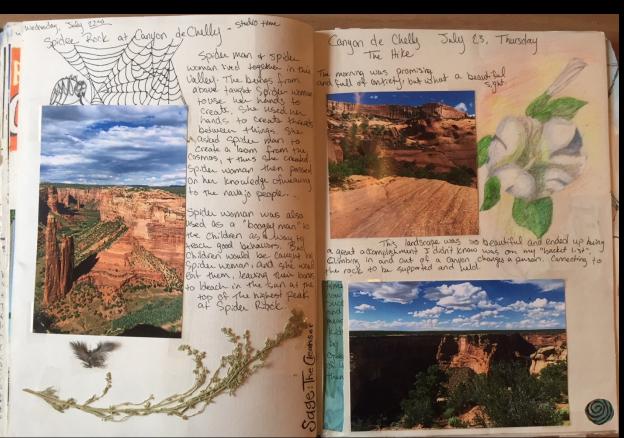
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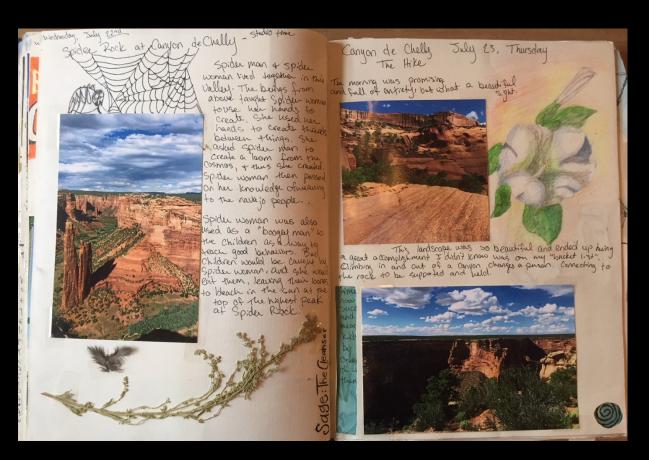
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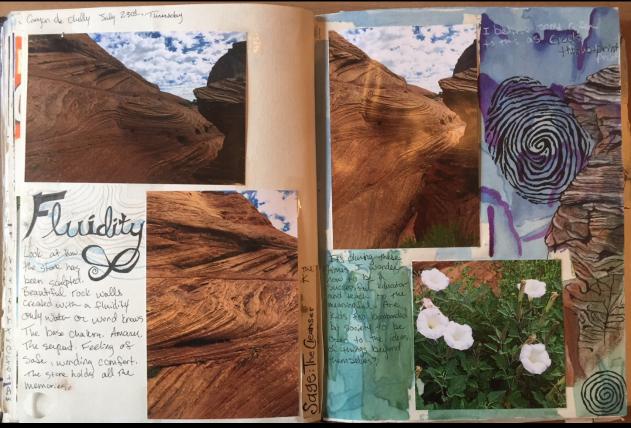






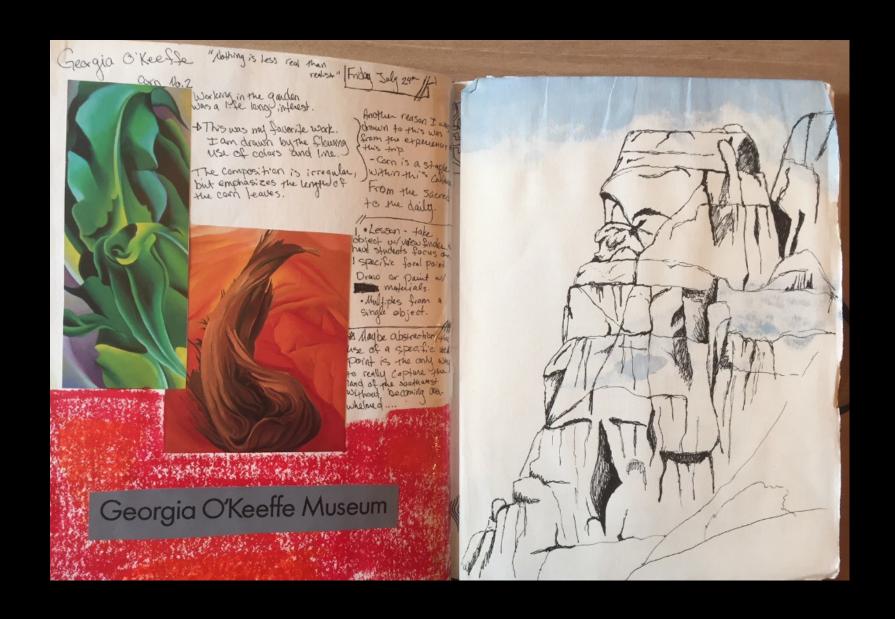










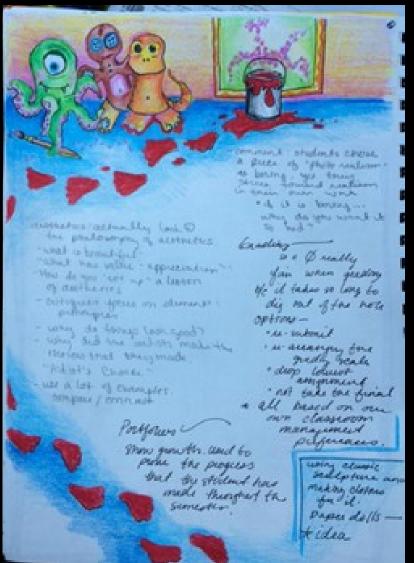


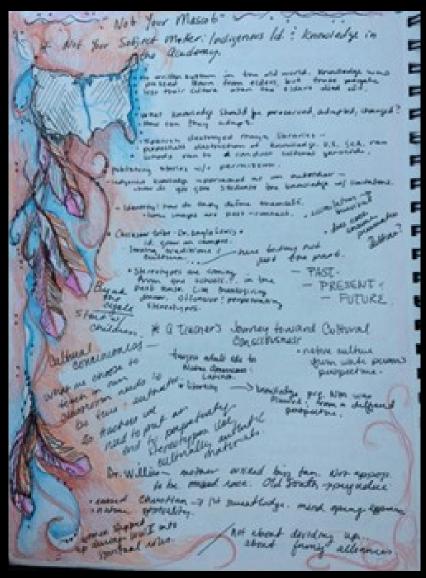


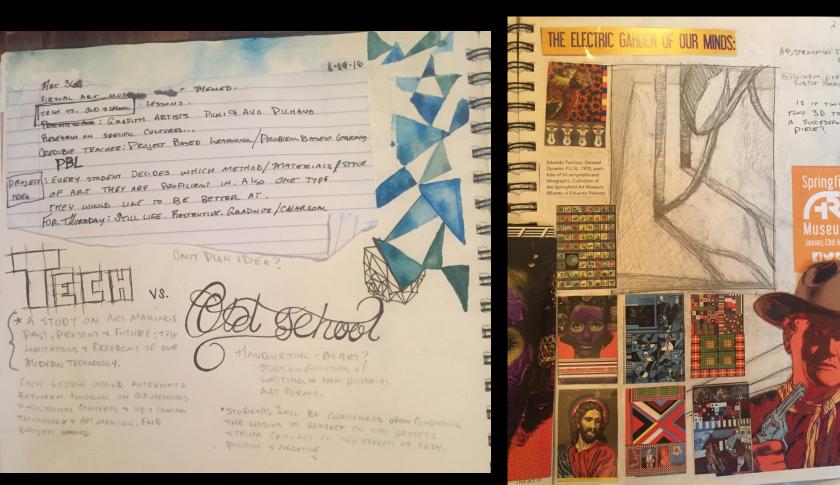


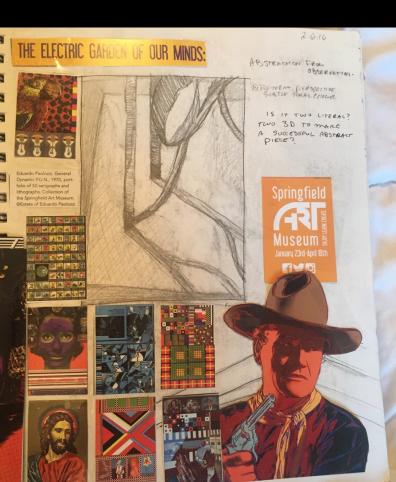








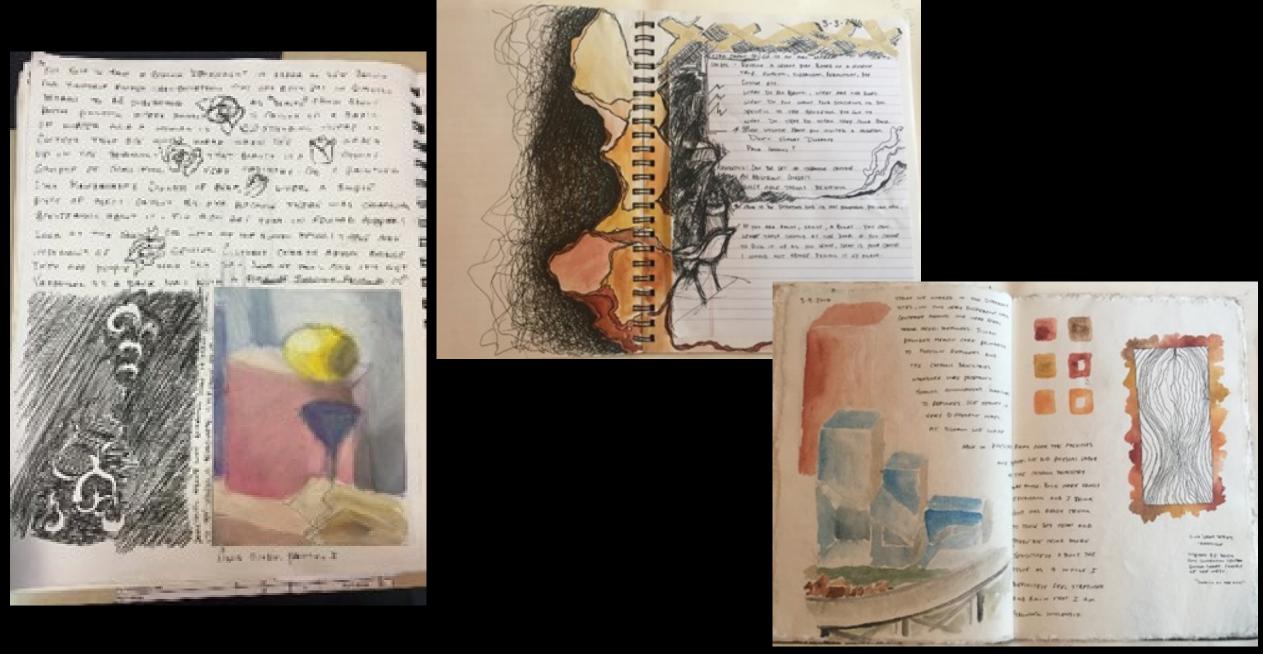




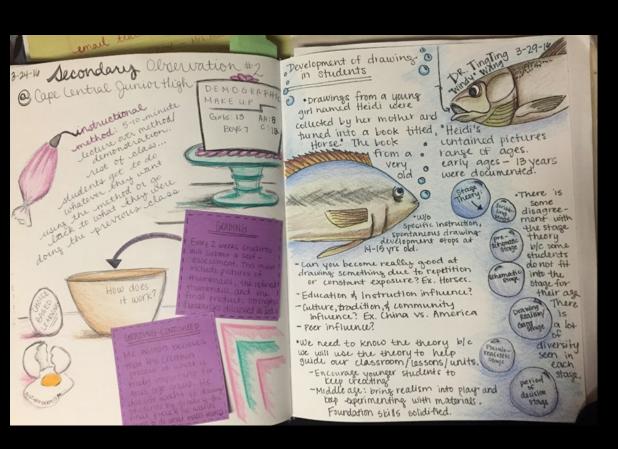


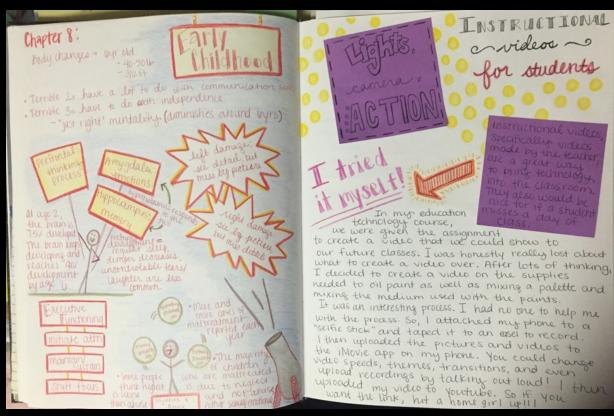


Erin O'Sullivan, Missouri State University, ART 360, Spring, 2016

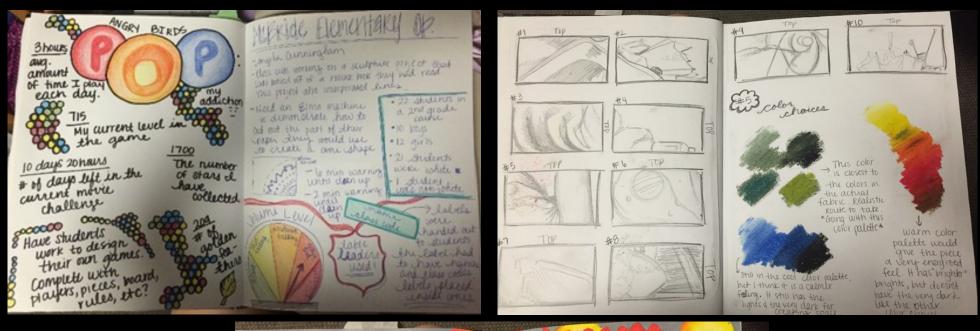


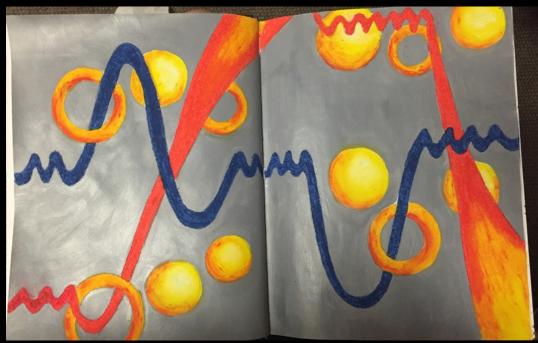
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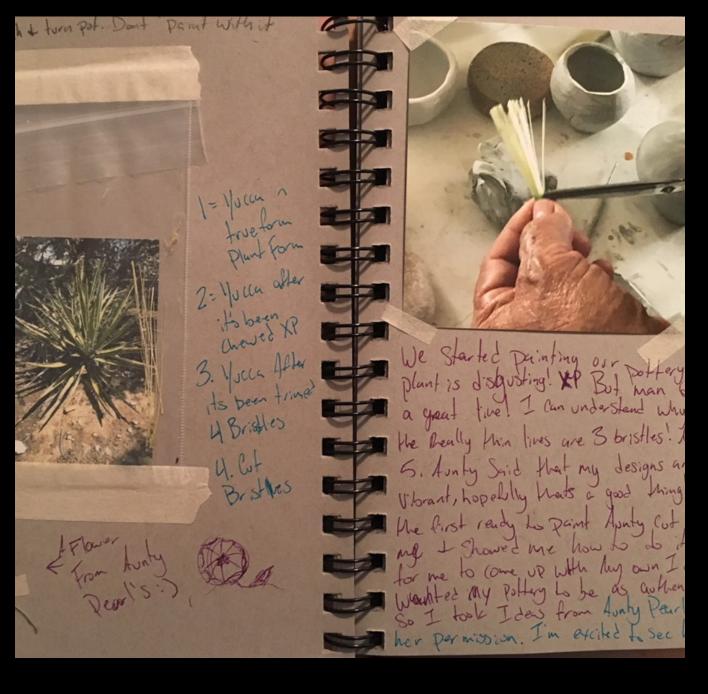


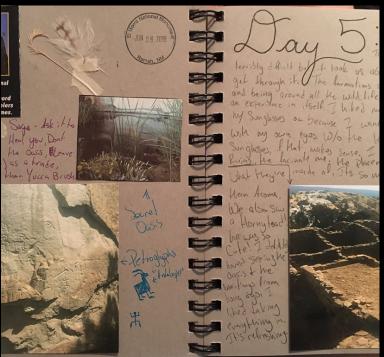
Sydney Messerli, Missouri State University, ART 360, Spring, 2016





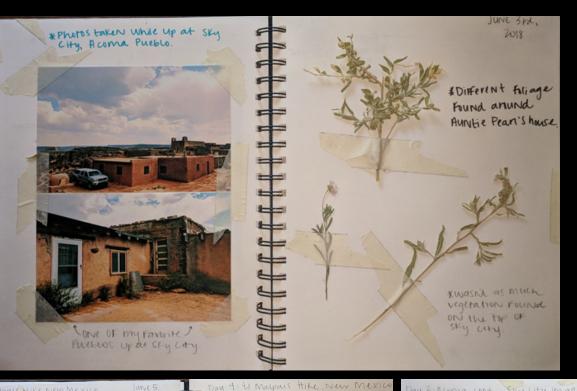
Sydney Messerli, Missouri State University, ART 360, Spring, 2016







Shayna Cowan-McDonald EDC 345 – SU 18



\*La ventana Natural Arch.

Grants, Nm... New Mexico's Second taurest Naturally-Formed arch.

\*The gang and I hiked up to the end of the paved trail where we encountered a Wooden Fence. AFter some

waxing and encouragement

to craw under the Ferrie Sow, could hike higher up towards arch. The view was worth

Bonnie's house, where we took our Kini Shed Ceramic pots to Low get Fired. She was also celling multiple types of molds For People to purchase and make their own. I decided Not to buy any or the premade moids because I relt like I was Stealing Someone else's work and then changing it without consent.

\* Acoma pottery is traditionally hand-built and hand-painted

> \* Traditional colors include black, red, White

XAUNTIE FEAR Makes hand-built pottery. as well as many Acoma Native Americans

Acoma Day 1: Pots, cont ...

- Pot techniques + historical, cultural backgrounds of Acoma pottery

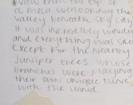
> \* Smoothing + carring tool home-made With gourds.

YUCCA PLANT, used to outline traditional Pottery and create Fine

**Darby Murdock** EDC 345. SU 18

- El Malpais is a National monume > I will Forever remember the recting Present in the Cibola County, in new Mexic When I was at SKy city. > \* view from the top of

valley beneath Ky city and everything was silent except for the Nearby branches were playing their own unique ture



Wed by the Aroma people.



Arch in Grants, New Mexico.



flieblos at Sky city

ECON SCHIELT

Senke horners with her life hand in her Main

Penicl with Crowner



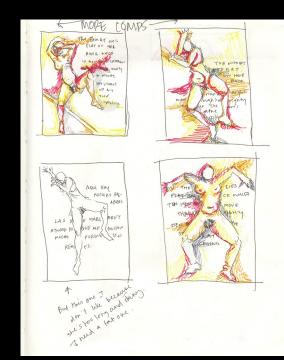
This remainds me of My women with my Atward poems. I think that I is important to look at it because I heed some ideas for correspositions for marge Those. But your I need like to do them asparety really big on canvasus.
But I don't have such control over paint asI do other medium. I think Though that most peopledory see you as a validated artist unter you can paint. Well, I would never argue with someone that I am an artist as a second But the point is that you shill "could do it" it you can't paint. But I can draw. It just doesn't round. So, for these next compositional sketches, they

mill be big and or canvas in parist. I just have to first practice paintings for times before I can be up a canvas.



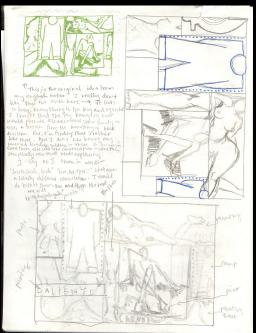
a fat roll.

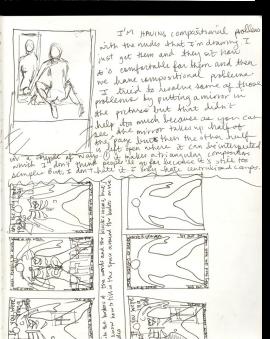
Then from this same index, I can do a penand ink drawing. It's a pretty behavior composition on it would make ance cross-backned drawing. Just like the orang one except different only because it would be calvit langer well. I don't know it's pretty nice small. It will food sometiment in the live of the bigger or farfier apart. That's what notes it as a drawing— The compact ness versus the open white ites. And The lives that show you how to see form in the shapes. The pear shape becomes a breast and the sideways V brownes

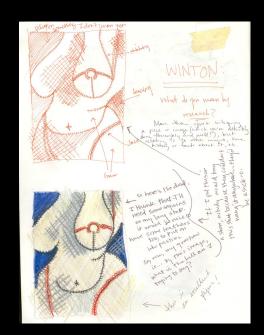




This pince is a for. First of all, it's holy book than it's active. I worder as of what I go for. First of all, it's holy book than the trive. They all have it's the pince would be successful about in the trive. They all have contracted composition of Executing on the body. The two courses images are both to p format and the trive is bothom body which have not food your land was inc. But, my precess were yeth death and have not food your land when the said food your land when the trive is a picture of act to it may a published the trive is made in the pince with the trive is a picture in the said to be in a gradely when the pince we have the pince with the pince of the make them to be make man little printing the pince of the indifferent heavy or your way. I have him the property of the actually in the himself the three pince in order to will be made of the three pince in order to with the pince of the three pince in order to with the pince of the three pince or order to work them but, but for a problem that is the first pince of the three pince or a pince of the three pince of the three pince or a pince of the pince of the three pince or a pince of the pince of









center being the womb, swirl where the comes from

Our identity, security, and confidence in our knowingness grapple with the consistent variations of our perceptions.

These are our challenges that provide personal transformations as an individual, artist and educator.

What is missing in our pedagogy and curricula that our 21st century learners seek?

How can we teach artists to be courageous in their identity

- their visual story
- their research in times of challenge and transformation?

As artists and teachers, our students would have a better educational experience if we created a sensitive and sensuous learning environment and provided time for authentic and creative visual storytelling transformations.

We must expect that our students do have stories to tell – their stories. To support their storytelling, we must be willing to move beyond dictatorial pedagogy and prescriptive curricula.

#### Elizabeth Gilbert pointed out in Big Magic,

"The essential ingredients for creativity remain exactly the same for everybody: courage, enchantment, permission, persistence, trust - and those elements are universally accessible."

Since we are sensory beings, we must grapple with the challenging experiences we bring to the act of creation, the act of transforming, the act of finding our voice.

During the act of creation, the artist who is a product of accumulated experiences, determines the story.

Educational understanding must be comprehensive and concise, not superficial or anemic, not redundant and repetitive;

knowledge, histories, and cultures must be rethought to determine and define contemporary values. We are all composites of our complex histories -it's the only lens we have to view the world.

Not only are we the woven colors and patterns, but as well, the tensions that move throughout the tapestry. Those challenges of acceptances or rejections, successes or failures, understandings or misunderstandings are consciously and subconsciously entangled in our personal identities — in our transformations - in our storytelling.

In our investigation of self, environment, identity, family, community, language, and culture, we can discover their contributions to our tapestry.

We cannot un-ring our experiential bells. We cannot outrun ourselves.

# How former students reacted to the deep research that created their visual narrative – their story

These high school artists who represent theme-based, open-ended, experiential studio practices are:

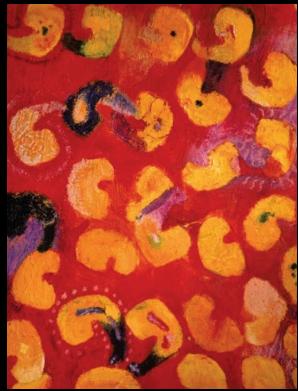
Peter Keaney, Emily Huffman and Eric Forsthoefel

#### Peter Keaney received his BFA at The Museum School of Boston (1999). After graduation, Peter found his love for flying and is a Captain for a commercial airline.

"I am searching for a connection through Native American imagery and spiritual practices to understand how the ancient Irish saw the world, how they made sense of chaos and joy."



Heart of Croagh Patrick, mixed media, 12" X 3" X 2".



Layers of intuition, mixed media, 24" X 12"



Guides from the fire, acrylic, 52" X 36"

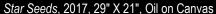
#### **Emily Huffman** attended Tulane University to earn a BFA in 2005.

Emily continues to have a successful artistic career and a practice as a licensed Massage Therapist with an energy healing specialty.

She manages her massage practice on a limited basis while she and her husband raise their young son.

"I paint intuitively, bringing visual expression to personal and collective experiences of Spirit, consciousness, relationship, and the emotions within the human body."







Phoenix, 2017, 51" X 58", Acrylic on Raw Canvas



Boat Magic, 2008, 60" X 60", Oil on Canvas

## **Eric Forsthoefel** attended Florida State University for a degree in Religious Studies. Afterwards, he completed a medical degree at the University of Louisville. Eric is now practicing Emergency Medicine.

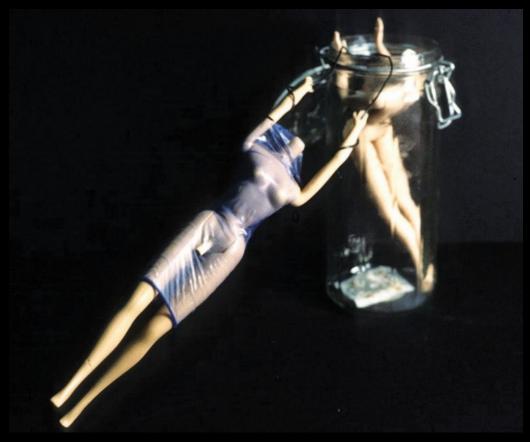
"My work explores the idea of passion and its association with the origin and consequences of that passion."







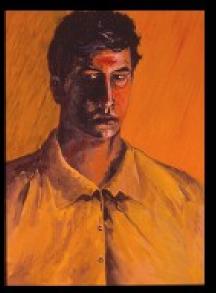
Undermined, 8 X 10 X 22", mixed media



Blue and the Dim, 8 X 15 X 4"















Portraits of societal self

















Concentration: Contradictions in physics

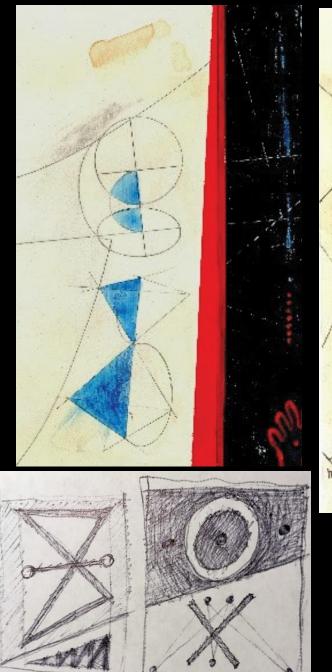


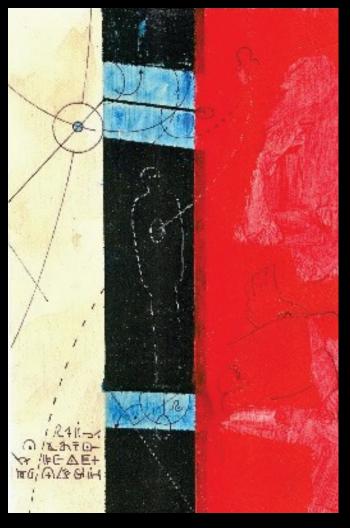












## Questions?

Thank You!