

Deborah Thompson  
Artist Statement  
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My work explores psychological territory as it appears in outward manifestations, primarily those of the plant, animal and human body as they present themselves around me. In this regard, I think of painting being a process of sublimation, the moving of primary material held in a mind/body form into an outer material such as a painting. The process is then one of working with this emergent material into a form that has artistic merit. The studio then is a place of incubation, of coming to know the unfamiliar and birthing it into something perhaps knowable. My processes vary and also repeat themselves; automatic drawing, colour association, layering of light, all serving the emergent image.

The completion of working with a cycle of psychological and symbolic material can take many years. Often needing to be put away for a long time and then perhaps to be revisited in new light and garnered objectivity from the emotional and psychological content it once held. It then can be shared or even destroyed.

As I bring more awareness to my practice and way of working I have become more interested in listening - of creating an opportunity for a contemplative dialogue that is the matrix of my creative process. Through this engagement a mercurial energy is at play that bridges the personal the universal.

Lastly, my practice over the past 20 years has been primarily one of working two dimensionally, recently, I have become interested in moving my imagery and ideas into the third dimension. Exploring differing materials such as clay, wax, metals, polymer gypsum and so forth. I am very interesting in creating a dialogue between the two dimensions.