

Artist Statement

I am concerned about the state of our world. Climate crisis, inequalities, rampant capitalism, species loss and the list goes on. Suffering for so many. We face enormous challenges. How to proceed as an artist? How to heal? My work has always been a response to my personal experience of being in relationship to my family, my community, the environment in which I live and the larger society. I look at what my practice can offer and find that my truth comes from releasing unconscious material from my autobiographical consciousness into the world. Much of this material attempts to unravel, and bring to consciousness the damage of the patriarchal paradigm in which I was raised. Through my practice I search for a new feminine that can give voice to this damage. And to pass on to younger woman and my daughter in particular a better and equal platform in which to speak. Awareness offers us a chance to shape each moment differently. The idea of awareness is central to my practice and all of my work both in self-reflection and in contextualizing the work for others.

My practice consists of painting, drawing, sculpture and most recently collage. I find drawing to be the common element in all of my work. The intimacy of the drawing process is the way in which I understand, and make personal my subject. My process is one of play and courting intuition. I work in response to visual information, responding to both two and three dimensional sources. I am drawn to images from a variety of sources but underworld mythology, natural history and art history are reoccurring interests. Images from these sources act like roadmaps to the unconscious.

Deborah Thompson 2021