

ANNA KUO

Artist Statement

My art is created from a metaphysical and psychological context. I am concerned with integrating the paradoxical consciousness of the seen and unseen worlds. At times I use the vessel as a metaphor for the physical body as it goes through transformations. The multiplicity of energy and spirit abounds, takes shape and assembles into vibrational forms. To paint is "to write gods." It is an invocation of forces which inhabit multiple dimensions beyond our corporal conceptions of time and space.

Writer and Art Critic, John Yau writes: "Kuo's image of a towering human-like form is both incorporeal and physical, like a ghost who shuts the door after leaving a room. The viewer is both completely convinced and left full of unanswered questions. It is as if a swirling chaos has been transformed into traces of searing clarity."

I consider my art to be vehicles and vessels permeated with and expressive of purifying healing energy. They are transfigured microcosms of change. In my art I facilitate the recognition and extension of an unseen world into the physical dimension. My art is about a working process serving to integrate the essences of life into a unifying force of all things and ultimately no thing.

Through image processing, I access altered states of consciousness that serve to reveal the unconscious realm. Exploring the web of mind at this level, energy is excavated and utilized to expand the present. These openings are obscured to different degrees by veils of physicality imposed by the ego. Translucent dimensional warps build upon images exponentially. A polyphonic voicing of consciousness and sensation reverberates to the perception of the viewer. A resonance is set. Silence pulses and speaks of a palpable experience beyond that of mind.

The art work consists of small and large scale works on either paper, canvas or wood. A variety of mixed mediums are utilized. I freely experiment with art materials and visual issues in discovering more tangible and unique forms within an abstract context.

I combine the use of dry based drawing materials like charcoal, graphite, pastels, powdered pigments with various wet media such as watercolor, gouache and acrylic paints. At times I combine them with beeswax, encaustic paints and a plastering medium. The art works are multi-layered to different degrees with stratum of various materials and mediums showing through themselves.

My imagery involves an intuitive manipulation of space in abstracting and reconfiguring forms based from collective memory, biology, botany, eastern mystical thought and the human figure. One of my working issues is to imbue these forms with psychological meaning by grafting intuitive subconscious forms with recognizable form that merge into unique entities of their own. My intention is to evoke a mystical presence in viewers/participants through abstraction that they can experience without words or conventional rational understanding.