SANTA FE 1985-1990 MONOPRINTS AND MIXED MEDIA



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SANTA FE 1985-1990 MONO-PRINTS AND MIXED MEDIA

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SANTA FE 1985-1990 MONOPRINTS AND MIXED MEDIA

During a five year period, 1985-1990, I produced several bodies of mono-prints and mixed media works. At the time I had a large studio in the basement of a building adjacent to the Santa Fe Railroad Station. Upstairs was the Rettig y Martinez Gallery, Hand Graphics print studio, the Jean Cocteau Movie Theatre, and other artist studios. It was a small center of creative activity.

There were two things I wanted to focus on in these five years. One was the notion of belief. What did belief consist of, what did it mean to me, what were the values I believed in? The second was the Southwestern landscape, which has always filled me with wonder and awe. Within the land and natural light of the Southwest I have always been able to find my spiritual path.

The *Belief Pictures* consist of two distinct series. There are numerous monoprints, printed at Hand Graphics. Eventually I exhibited them at the Rettig y Martinez Gallery, along with an installation of pottery shards and text, and mixed media works on paper. The first *Belief Pictures* series are all monoprints, printed on black arches paper measuring 41" x 29." It is a small series of 13 prints that have never been exhibited and are now in the Robert Bell Collection in Santa Fe. I approached each mono-print the same way. To begin, I applied to the black backing paper white xerox prints with two different words - the word belief, and then what value or quality belief was referring to. Some of these value words were memory, dark, solitude, wisdom, sorrow, or desire. In the middle of each mono-print I also applied xerox copies of wood cut and engraved prints by 15th century artist Albrecht Durer. They included his stations of the cross, and several images that referred to morality. Durer has always been one of my favorite artists, and he was a major influence on my teacher Ernst Fuchs. For this series, I felt the words resonated with Durer's images.

I painted abstractly on a sheet of plexi-glass with printers ink, and then would run the plexi-glass and black collaged paper through the printing press. The result was always a surprise, as the inks would combine and overlap in unexpected ways. This element of chance is what I love about the mono-print process. While the ink was still damp on the paper, I pounced dry metallic pigment into the wet ink to color the shape of a cross with blue metallic pigment. The metallic pigment reflected light and gave another visual dimension to the final imagery.

When I made this first series, I had recently moved from New York City where I had worked with and been influenced by the mythologist Joseph Campbell. Looking at the concept of belief, with a Christian overlay, acknowledged my own Episcopalian upbringing. I was trying to uncover what was essential for me, and what I was feeling around me as new value systems and spiritual paths became of interest to me. For the second *Belief Pictures* series, I changed course and began working with photographs of ceramic vessels. I cut stencils that were the shape of the vessels, and then created colored gradients with an ink roller to give them form. The text and other effects were made by pouncing metallic pigments through various hand cut stencils. I felt that vessel shapes were archetypal, a container for spiritual possibility. In New Mexico I was aware of the amazing indigenous pottery. They were remarkable in their sizes and shapes, and for the paintings and decorative patterns on them. It all had meaning underneath, that I sensed even if I might not have understood it. This influenced the second set of *Belief Pictures*, monoprints and mixed media works on paper. It became a large body of work, as I continued experimenting with monoprinting, collage, effects with pigments, and image and text.

THE BELIEF PICTURES

FIRST SERIES

MONOPRINTS



MEMORY, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"



WISDOM, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"



DEMOCRATIC, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





BLISS, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





SORROW, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"



DESIRE, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"



PASSAGE, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





SOLITUDE, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"



ATMOSPHERE, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"



FEAR, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"

THE BELIEF PICTURES

SECOND SERIES

MONOPRINTS, MIXED MEDIA WORK ON PAPER, INSTALLATIONS



METANARRATIVE, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





BELIEF 1, MONOPRINT, 30" X 22"





HEALING MONOPRINT, 29" X 41"





SEXUAL, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





CHOSEN MONOPRINT, 22" X 30'





KARMIC, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





AFFIRMATIVE, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





MYTHIC, MONOPRINT, 22" X 30'





VESSEL 3, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"




WISDOM, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





REENCHANTMENT 3, MONOPRINT, 30" X 22"



POSITIVE, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"



HERO, MONOPRINT, 30" X 22"





DARK, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





SIGNIFICANT ATMOSPHERE, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





SHAMAN, MONOPRINT, 29" X 41"





EMPOWERED, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





TRANSCENDENT, MONOPRINT, 30' X 22'





GODDESS, MONOPRINT, 41" X 29"





SACRED 2, MONOPRINT, 29" X 41"





GENERATIVITY, OIL ON UNSTRETCHED CANVAS, 6 X 9



SACRED, OIL ON UNSTRETCHED CANVAS, 6 X 9







CHOSEN 2, MONOPRINT, 22" X 30"





SHAMAN 2 MONOPRINT, 22" X 30"





GODDESS, MIXED MEDIA, 22" X 30"









HEALING, MIXED MEDIA, 22" X 30"





POSITIVE, MIXED MEDIA, 22" X 30"








UNTITLED, MONOPRINT, 30' X 22''





REENCHANTMENT, MIXED MEDIA, 30' X 22''





SIGNIFICANT ATMOSPHERE 2, MIXED MEDIA, 30' X 22'





INSTALLATIONS PAGE 80, 81

THE BELIEF PICTURES, RETTIG Y MARTINEZ GALLERY, SANTA FE 1987

MIXED MEDIA, MONO-PRINTS, AND INSTALLATION OF POTTERY PAINTED BLACK, SILVER LETTERING, RED LIGHTING, LARGE PILE OF FINE GRAVEL









Southwest Icons

The landscape of the North American Southwest has always entranced me, filled me with awe, and a sense of my place in an unknowable Universe. There is a spiritual quality in the land and light that touched me the first moment I arrived in the Southwest. New Mexico especially does this to me, with its huge skies, impossibly colored storms and sunsets that cast their shadows on the warm adobe underneath. It blends into a deep night filled with stars, comets, planets, galaxies, and perhaps UFOs. Many artists in the past 100 years have come to this special part of the world for inspiration.

Over the course of two years, I made several hundred mixed media works on paper that focused on the landscape. I traveled widely throughout the Southwest to photograph different sites. These study and resource photographs included ancient ruins made of stone and adobe that rise up out of the earth and ultimately fall back into it. Doorways, roads, journeys, ladders, cliffs, streams, animals; all these intrigued me and became icons of the Southwestern landscape in this series. I photographed the Taos Pueblo; Monument Valley; the Anasazi ruins of Mountainair, Chaco Canyon, Bandelier, and Hovenweep; sacred spaces in the lands of the Hopi; and the miraculous churches of Chimayo and Rancho de Taos. Camping out at night under the stars in places like Monument Valley or Chaco Canyon was humbling and beautiful. It made me think of how all things are connected, how older wisdoms are still active and revelatory. From ancient times, the indigenous peoples in the Southwest have understood a profound connection between nature and spirit, between all species and their connection in the mysterious vastness of the landscape. This knowledge is still alive in New Mexico. I feel a kinship with these wisdoms, and I have learned from them.

All of the work in *Southwest Icons* are untitled. There are hundreds of mixed media works on rag paper, measuring in size from 22" x 30" to 38" x 50." My working process was as follows: I would make a black and white paper print from the thousands of field photographs I had taken. Next, using archival glue, I affixed the paper prints to a sheet of rag paper. I would then draw and paint with colored pastels over the paper. I used spray paint to texture the surface, and with hand cut stencils sprayed colored geometric patterns and designs on the piece. Finally, the finished artwork would receive several layers of spray fixative varnish to hold the pastel in place.

In addition to the works on paper, I made a number of monoprints, more than a dozen oil paintings on both canvas and wood, along with a number of painted ceramics. For the latter, I collaborated with my good friend and ceramicist Chris Spanovich. She lives in Chimayo, New Mexico, and we fired the ceramics in her hand built kiln..

Southwest Icons was my response to the power of the Southwestern landscape and history. The series could only have happened by living in Santa Fe and developing a lifelong connection to New Mexico. I feel the series evokes what I found in the landscape- the knowledge and wisdom nature gives so freely.









4. 30" X 22"













12,13. 30" x 22"







15,16. 30" x 22"









19,20. 30" x 22"













25,26,27,28. 22" x 30"

























42,43. 22" x 30"
















50,51. 22" X 30"









54,55. 22" X 30"









60,61. 30" X 22"







64. 42" X 30"







67,68. 30" X 22"



69. 30" X 22"





70,71. 30" X 22"









74,75,76,77. 30" X 22"











80,81,82,83. 22" X 30"















90. 41" X 29"













93,94,95,96. 22" X 30"







99,100. 30" X 22"





103. 22" X 30"













109. 22" X 30"











114,115,116,117. 22" X 30"















122,123,124,125. 22" X 30"


126,127. MONOPRINTS, 30" X 22"





128,129,130,131. Monoprints, 30" X 22"













134,135,136,137. Monoprints, 30" X 22"

























145,146,147,148. 22" X 30"













153,154. 22" X 30"













159,160. 22" X 30"







163,164. 30" X 22"



165,166,167,168. 30" X 22"







<image>



169,170.,171,172. 30" X 22"



























186. 38" X 50"





188. 44" X 30"




















































































230. 38" X 50"









234. 38" X 50"




236. 38" X 50"





238. 30" X 44"





RUIN 1, OIL ON WOOD, 4 X 6





RUIN 3, OIL ON WOOD, 4 X 6







VANISHING SPECIES 1 & 2, OIL ON CANVAS, 36" X 48"



DOORWAY AND CACTUS, OIL ON CANVAS, 48" X 36"









LANDSCAPE AND WINDOW 1, OIL ON CANVAS, 48" X 60"





RUIN 5, OIL ON CANVAS, 48" X 60"





VESSEL, 34" X 16", OIL, SPRAY PAINTER, METALLIC PIGMENT ON CERAMIC





DETAILS, VESSEL







GLOBE., OIL, GLAZES, SPRAY PAINT, METALLIC PIGMENT ON CERAMIC, 20 INCHES ROUND











VESSEL 2,, OIL, GLAZES, SPRAY PAINT, METALLIC PIGMENT ON CERAMIC, 18" X 12"











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