

Greg Letson: Artist Statement

Over the course of my artistic life, I have been engaged in a number of different forms of art practices, in a variety of different mediums. Starting from my earliest training as a musician and composer, I next moved into working with ceramics & glass. Then came an interest and involvement with photography, which led me to filmmaking. As I arrived in New York at the start of the '80s, I began moving fluidly between mediums and combining them as well.

My current art practice is an aggregate of all that I have acquired through the years. And while much of my current work involves painting, photography & assemblage/constructions, as my personal history would suggest, I am devoutly non-medium specific in my ambitions.

I am deeply interested in creating artworks which grow out of my evolving sense of "process", which has ranged from creating work which is pre-imagined to that which is completely improvisational. However, no matter what my working approach may be, my practice always embraces and considers the following concerns:

- the layering of the conceptual with both the emotional and the material.
- the cultivation of liminal phenomena that emerge through 'friction' between juxtaposed language (representational) systems.
- the balance between reason and order versus chance-defined and random procedures. In my work I am often exploring the limits of both.

I feel that the practice of art-making is a profoundly paradoxical quest. Rigor dances with the slack, the formless. My work is simply a diary of the ways in which the dichotomies danced.

"The order that our mind imagines is like a net, or like a ladder, built to attain something. But afterward you must throw the ladder away, because you discover that, even if it was useful, it was meaningless."

– Umberto Eco, *The Name of the Rose*