

Justin Auld | Resume

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EDUCATION

2005 | Portland State University | MFA Studio Arts

1996 | Rhode Island School of Design | BFA Illustration

WORK EXPERIENCE

Self Employed | Artist - June 2017 - Present

Art Institute of Portland | Adjunct Instructor - October 2001 - July 2017

Portland State University | Painting/Drawing Instructor - September 2004 - May 2005 (MFA)

Via Training Inc. Portland, OR | Graphic Designer – November 1999 to November 2001

PrintPaks Portland, OR | Design Team Leader – March 1999 to July 1999

DreamLight Inc. Boston, MA | Digital Artist – June 1996 to February 1999

EXHIBITION HISTORY

Group

2023 | UVA Artworks Northwest Biennial

2023 | 10th Annual Abstract Sanctuary | Verum Ultimium Gallery (virtual exhibit)

2022 | MAGIX Group Exhibition

2022 | Portland Open Studio Tour

2022 | Faces and Figures | Las Laguna Art Gallery (virtual exhibit)

2022 | A Generous Kingdom 6 | Verum Ultimium Gallery (virtual exhibit)

2021 | Portland Open Studio Tour

2021 | UVA Artworks Northwest Biennial

2021 | March - Guardino Gallery with Kelly Neidig & Adrienne Eliades

2021 | A Generous Kingdom | Verum Ultimium Gallery

2020 | Portland Open Studio Tour Virtual Edition

2020 | 7th Annual Living Mark show | Verum Ultimium Gallery

2019 | KBOO First Friday Art Walk with Amy Kuttab

2018 | Ford Gallery | Wax Water Oil with Karl Kaiser

2017 | Portland Open Studio Tour

2015 | Big 500 Show | People's Gallery Pioneer Place

2015 | Portland Open Studio Tour

2014 | Portland Open Studio Tour

2013 | Portland Open Studio Tour

2009 | Autzen Gallery at PSU | "OUTLOOK" Currated by James Yood

2009 | Art Institute of Portland Art Gallery | Currated "It's the Little Things"

2008 | Grand Central Building | Video group show

2006 | Art Institute of Portland Art Gallery | Faculty show | Juror's choice award

2006 | Center Space Gallery | "Creatures" w/ Kelly Kallicoat

2005 | Dean's Gallery at PSU | Faculty and MFA sculpture

2004 | Autzen Gallery at PSU | "Dialogue" Joint show with South Korea

2004 | VU Gallery Western Washington University | "Monsters"
2004 | Art Institute of Portland Art Gallery | Faculty show
2004 | Autzen Gallery at PSU | "Slices" MFA 1st year group show
2003 | Art Institute of Portland Art Gallery | "The Winter Exhibit"

Solo

2019 | Beeswing Cafe | Quantum Paintings
2018 | Palio Cafe | Quantum Paintings
2018 | Beeswing Cafe | Quantum Paintings
2018 | Bridgeport Brewpub Heritage Room | Quantum Paintings
2017 | Gallery at the Jupiter | Quantum Paintings
2016 | Panacea Art Gallery | Quantum Paintings
2014 | East Side Exchange Art Gallery | Quantum Paintings
2013 | Water Avenue Commerce Center Gallery | Mixed Pastoral Work
2011 | Art Institute of Portland Art Gallery | Quantum Paintings
2011 | Bridgeport Brewery | Assorted Artwork
2010 | Vault Martini | Recent Quantum Paintings and Drawings (Jan-March 2010)
2009 | Bridgeport Brewery | Recent Quantum Paintings (Sept 10th - Oct 31st)
2009 | Common Grounds | Pastoral Paintings and Quantum Drawings
2009 | Vault Martini | Paint Chip Portraits
2007 | Art Institute of Portland Art Gallery | 144 Crayon Drawing show
2007 | Vault Martini | Recent Quantum Paintings and Drawings
2006 | Academy Theater | recent paintings and stills from video installation
2006 | City of Portland | Portland Collage project - citywide installation
2005 | MK Gallery at PSU | "choice" MFA Thesis show
2004 | Student Lounge, Art Building at PSU | "God project installation"
2001 | Stumptown coffee | recent paintings
2000 | Bitter End Pub | "Rusty Grommets & Abnormalities"

Justin Auld | Artist Statement

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In the world of Quantum mechanics the word Quantum is used to describe multiple states at once of a particle. In these Quantum works the goal is to present the viewer with simultaneous options of what in image can be. We all have the ability to question our line of perception only by opening up the mind to see beyond what is communicated between the brain and the eyes can we explore other worlds.

The theory of a multi-universe rings true when considering each person inhabits his or her own universe. It flows outwards from the individual to create their reality, only by seeing this truth and allowing your line of perception to be challenged can you see beyond your own universe and to see multiple ones.

In quantum physics a collapse model is used to describe the moment when a particle becomes a fixed object from its multiple states of potential. It exists as a multitude of possibilities and then "collapses" into one.

Quantum Paintings act as a window into the pre-collapsed state of observation. They present all the potential visual possibilities to the viewer and shift to become many options over multiple views.

My current body of work is called Quantum Works, they consist of paintings, drawings and videos.

Quantum mechanics describes how a particle has multiple concurrent states of being; these quantum works present simultaneous options of an image. They ask you to question your initial perceptions, to see beyond what is first communicated between the eyes and the brain. In this way, these works reflect how each person inhabits their own universe and sees their own reality. Challenging one's perceptions is a way to see beyond one's own universe. Quantum viewing shows multiple realities as one.

Each media in the Quantum Works series of art seek to accomplish the same thing which is to explore the phenomenon of how we experience reality by sorting what we see into recognizable images.

In the Quantum realm, it takes a viewer to create what exists. The viewer is presented with a wave field in which they are in charge of seeing what is real.

The Quantum quality that I enlist is to create marks that share the same suspended potentiality of what they will become. The Quantum works float in the in-between zone where multiple expressions of form exist. In this way I encourage the viewer to stand in the zone between looking and seeing.

PAINTINGS

Quantum Paintings represent the core of the works. I use cloud forms speak to how humans seek to form sense within chaos. The sky offers countless, ever-changing suggestions of images; early humans looked to the sky and saw gods, which helped them make sense of their world. Changing perception, faces, clouds: these quantum works use the same raw material that formed our minds, legends, and myths, and use them to present the inner workings of the universe.

They are oil paint on board. I use the qualities of oil paint's transparency and layering to build the surface from a black base to an atmospheric realm where cloud forms can be created. Using a randomized array of mark making tools I create compositions that mimic our catalogued ideal of the sky. Once the painting has been set compositionally I will then enhance the suggestion of faces within the marks to create a field of ambiguous forms that allow the viewer to let loose their perception within a field of potential choices.

DRAWINGS

The process for my Quantum Drawings is to create an array of randomized marks on a surface over time using a litany of media including, acrylics, water color, pastels, crayons, pencil, charcoal and ink.. Whether using leftover paint or just making scribbles on a piece. I allow the marks to saturate the surface in an unconscious manner.

Next utilizing time and observation I leave the pieces in view in the studio occasionally turning them to allow the marks to activate a connection. Then one day a scene will appear in the marks, either a single figure or entire scene will suggest itself out of the randomized marks. I will then go in and emphasize their presence while leaving enough randomized marks to show the process of how they emerged.

In this way I'm playing with the concept of the wave collapse model where a scientist will observe a particle only after they assume they will see one within a wave field. Reality is created by the observer. By allowing a narrative to emerge on its own is a melding of the observer (me) with what is being presented to create the reality of the piece.

This is what we all do everyday, project a narrative onto what we are perceiving from our own experience. The Quantum Drawing process is a micro example of how we use stories to sort reality.

VIDEOS

I have recently expanded the Quantum works into include a video component. These are short vignettes of shifting clouds that expose the viewer to a slightly different approach in perspective. The pace of a moving cloud is by nature dismissed by the viewer as it doesn't match our relationship with time passing. By focusing on this overlooked quality of our surroundings I attempt to expose that the reality we experience is created by both what we focus on and by what is not seen in the background. In this way I hope to open the viewer's mind to their potential of reconstructing reality with a simple shift in perspective.