



BRIAN COMBER | Artist Statement

Watercolors

(Pose of Nature)

My newest work is a collection of dynamic watercolors, an outgrowth of my evolution as an artist into the most demanding – and for me, inspiring – medium.

Watercolor requires a sense of the immediate. Other media are more forgiving, but watercolor requires a discipline and confidence, a sense of decisiveness. But as intimidating as it is, the rewards of the work is more direct. Knowing that each brushstroke is a commitment provides me with a sense of progress.

Painting for me is a good way to employ my strong sense of color. I think of luminosity, of glow. I employ techniques to emphasize that aspect of the art form. The flow between colors informs the theme of the painting, and watercolor provides a distinct purity. Color in watercolors is the spine of the work.

These paintings introduce an increased use of black and gray to my pallet. I experimented with several variations of black before finding one that satisfied, then mixed in a gray with just enough lavender to compliment the black. The result provides what I think is a sense of controlled chaos to the paintings; something the viewer senses rather than directly observes.

All of the work in this show is influenced by plants and nature. I want to inspire a sense of movement, of flowers and branches in the wind. That provides a sense of dynamism to the work.