



JEN STARLING | Artist Statement

My work makes a personal statement that is an amalgamation of my experiences, and a desire for deep connection with others. It speaks to the search for meaning, peace, and spiritual connection that is inherently human. The subjects in my work are undeniably vulnerable. When people witness vulnerability in others, compassion ensues, and allows them to feel connected regardless of their differences. My hope is that in viewing my work, the viewer not only sees the emotional state of the subject, but feels seen by the subject. I wish for there to be an exchange that validates the viewer's humanity, and ignites self awareness. It is from this place of vulnerability that growth and change is possible.

The mixed media work included in Peripheral Contemplation originates from my oil paintings. I print and collage together various images of different paintings in order to create a new composition, and proceed to paint into the new image with oil and spray paint.