

THE BIGGER PICTURE



All art has the ability to create meaning for the viewer; to alter their perceptions in some way. There are as many innovative ways art can be made as there are roads an artist can take. Some will choose to address the contemplative aspects as I do, while others will produce work that challenges or confronts. All art, by whatever means it is made, is valuable as it documents the bigger picture, the environment, our time period, and the events that occur within our society.

In my quest to find the hidden dimensions within the many layers an artwork offers, I explored many avenues. Some concepts I looked at are not necessarily based in fact, or scientifically proven. Yet in my attempt to make sense of the world, they had some meaning for me. I don't mean to imply this is a way everyone would walk, nor present my comments as the only way. You will find I often use collective ideas for words, 'brilliance' and 'goals' for instance, as I like to think of other meanings and take a little artistic licence as I do. In art making, my ideas don't always need to make sense to me at the time of inception. They often have more meaning in hindsight. This has been the way of this book. It becomes a snapshot in time. The ideas are not always logical or sequential, but rather meant to reflect my attempts to open my mind to possibilities and in turn inspire others to also think outside the square.

I know that in creating I am taking something from my external world and internalising it, to bring forth something new and challenging. Within the many dimensions that make up an artwork, is there one then, that is imperceptible to most observers? Is there a place where the artist stands, unseen, yet fully exposing their core values and beliefs? All art has layers that are visible to the naked eye but why doesn't all art whisper the artist's native tongue, hidden within these other dimensions, and reach out to the heart of the viewer?

What will continue to inform the work is the emotional and physiological processes within the artist's brain and internal strategies for resolving ideas. I feel, however, the level of energy and emotional content needed for creating art that can speak and touch others will require a level of commitment far beyond the very ordinary.

While imagination can help form a bridge to the inner world of the artist, the creative journey remains complex. The artist has to consider the reality of not only this world continually changing around them, but their own perception of truth.



Right : Aerial view over sand flats near Atlin township in British Columbia, Canada.
Left : Into the Wilderness, 122 cm x 122 cm, acrylic on canvas 2009 Artist's collection