November 2016

Gary Brewer - Dark Matter Series

Gary Brewer

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarship.claremont.edu/steam

Part of the Art Practice Commons, Fine Arts Commons, and the Life Sciences Commons

Recommended Citation

Available at: http://scholarship.claremont.edu/steam/vol2/iss2/16

© November 2016 by the author(s). This open access article is distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommerical-NoDerivatives License.

STEAM is a bi-annual journal published by the Claremont Colleges Library | ISSN 2327-2074 | http://scholarship.claremont.edu/steam
Abstract
In the Dark Matter series of paintings I am abstracting images from NASA's efforts to map dark matter using the Hubble Space Telescope. From these abstractions I create diaphanous veils of blue that convey a sense of movement; the movement suggests primal forces: wind, water air and fire.

The figure in the foreground is one of the elements: gold, copper, silver, which develop into a variety of fantastic shapes. The ‘elements’ which are the foundation of life on earth, are born in the heart of a star and explode out into the universe upon its death and collapse. The force of gravity brings them spiraling together to create planets, solar systems and life. My paintings are meant to convey a sublime feeling for these forces and to draw my audience into a meditation on the wonder of creation.

Natural forms communicate feelings and histories of the evolution of life. I am intuitively searching for forms that capture my imagination and launch a universe of meaning.

Author/Artist Bio
I was raised in Lancaster, California. My father was a test pilot and later became an engineer in the aerospace industry, working to land a man on the moon. As a young child we would walk to the end of our street, which dead-ended at the edge of the desert to watch the X-15 coming in for a landing after skirting the edge of the atmosphere. It was here that the first philosophical musings arose in my young mind. When I stood on the pavement of our street I was in ‘civilization’, but by simply stepping over the edge onto the desert sand I was back in ‘nature’ among the Road Runners, Jack Rabbits, Horny Toads and Kangaroo Rats that were my companions on my excursions into the wild. At the age of 6 we moved to Orange County and my love of the ocean grew out of a youth spent surfing from San Diego to Malibu. I began drawing at a young age and chronicled my friends and the neighborhood where I lived with a drawing pad and a pen always at my side. At the age of 21, after a brief stint trying out commercial illustration, I made a vow to spend the rest of my life pursuing my art. I am a self-taught artist, learning with deep passion the history of art from countless hours reading and visiting museums throughout the world. I have curated two major exhibitions, “Them; Artists, Scientists and Designers Concerned with the Entomological World” SOMARTS, San Francisco, CA in 1999 and “The Age of Wonder; Artist’s Engaged with the Natural World” Turtle Bay Museum, Redding, CA in 2011. Both of these exhibitions gave me an opportunity to explore contemporary artists who share my passion for nature and art. My works have been exhibited in New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco and are in private, corporate and museum collections throughout the United States.

Keywords
Science, Art, Dark Matter, Painting, Nature, Sublime

Cover Page Footnote
Gary Brewer/Paintings

Creative Commons License
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 4.0 License.

This artwork is available in The STEAM Journal: http://scholarship.claremont.edu/steam/vol2/iss2/16
Dark Matter Series

Gary Brewer
**Dark Matter Series**

*Gary Brewer*

In the Dark Matter series of paintings I am abstracting images from NASA’s efforts to map dark matter using the Hubble Space Telescope. From these abstractions I create diaphanous veils of blue that convey a sense of movement; the movement suggests primal forces: wind, water air and fire.

The figure in the foreground is one of the elements: gold, copper, silver, which develop into a variety of fantastic shapes. The ‘elements’ which are the foundation of life on earth, are born in the heart of a star and explode out into the universe upon its death and collapse. The force of gravity brings them spiraling together to create planets, solar systems and life. My paintings are meant to convey a sublime feeling for these forces and to draw my audience into a meditation on the wonder of creation.

Natural forms communicate feelings and histories of the evolution of life. I am intuitively searching for forms that capture my imagination and launch a universe of meaning.