





**Image 1**

**Duke Windsor**

***Pink Currents***

**2012**

**Acrylic and mixed media**

**36 x 36 inches**

### **I SEE / I THINK / I WONDER**

#### **Ask**

- *What do you see?*
- *What do you think about that?*
- *What does this make you wonder?*

#### **Artist Statement by Duke Windsor**

I was working (playing actually) on a new work in mid-2012 experimenting in my studio on applying my paints with various materials; pallet knife, rags, sponges, the like. I set the canvas aside and was pouring some paints into a container when I spilled the paints on the top edge of primed canvas. As luck would have it, spill pooled on top and a single, thin bead of liquid color began to flow down the vertical surface in a near perfect straight line. It made it almost to the bottom and stopped as gravity gave up on the flow. I was surprised and over joyed. (This is the kid in me enjoying the excitement of the moment of discovery). I was stunned. Angry. (Here's the adult in me getting in the way of the moment of discovery.) "Really?"

After a moment, or two, I finally looked at what had happen and how it happened. Now...how do I do this again? More line, more color, and where am I going with this? Discovery? Exploration? Fun! Now I'm just going with the flow. Letting the Artist-child in me explore with color and combination, while letting the Artist-adult work on the mature aspects of aesthetics in design.

Currents are everywhere in our lives. From water currents, electrical currents, sound waves, ocean waves. We live with the flowing energy in our body. If our current becomes stagnant, it decays; it stops flowing and becomes dead and lifeless. "Currents Series" is a playful journey in color, line, form, and flow. A visual journey of what "going with the flow" is to help make one aware of the playfulness of tapping into the child-adult artist in all of us.



Unrolled

C. L. ...



**Image 2**

**Catherine Ruane**  
***Unraveled***  
**2010**  
**Charcoal and graphite**  
**30 x 40 inches**

### **I SEE / I THINK / I WONDER**

#### **Ask**

- *What do you see?*
- *What do you think about that?*
- *What does this make you wonder?*

#### **About the Artist**

Catherine Ruane earned two Master of Fine Arts degrees, one from San Diego State University and the second from Otis Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles. The artist grew up in the Imperial Valley, a rich agricultural community in Southern California filled with tomato fields and date-palm farms. As a child Catherine traveled with her grandparents along the western coast of California, Oregon and Washington State. It was during this time of travel the artist learned to explore and record the unique vegetation that grew along the western coastline. Her grandmother kept a diary of daily events and taught her granddaughter to do the same. Catherine's early diary consisted of drawings of weeds and twigs she discovered on daily adventures. Bits of shells, rocks and weeds were all carefully recorded as a journal of her travels. There was nothing too insignificant not to include. Even the tiniest of leaves would be rendered and notated. The seemingly unimportant was indeed worth recording.

Ms. Ruane's work includes those same careful recordings of a day's discoveries. The attention to details in her drawings and paintings are there to reflect her careful observations of what she regards as saturated with wonder. Catherine Ruane attended Catholic school, moved on to San Diego State University where she studied painting and printmaking. She studied Renaissance painting in Florence, Italy returning to the states to continue her interest in painting and printmaking, earning her second master's degree in L.A. at Otis Institute of the Arts. She then started Acorn Studios where she printed limited edition prints as a master printer for local L.A. artists.

Catherine's work sold as well to collectors across the country and is included in many corporate collections including, Walt Disney Corp., Fox Studios, Citibank, BMW, Sony Corp., Wachovia, Turner Broadcast Network, and IBM.



London

1860



**Image 3**

**Catherine Ruane**  
***Invocation***  
**2011**  
**Charcoal and graphite**  
**30 x 40 inches**

## **CREATIVE QUESTIONS**

***A routine for creating thought-provoking questions.***

Brainstorm a list of at least 12 questions about the artwork or topic. Use these question-starts to help you think of interesting questions.

### **Ask**

*Why? What are the reasons? What if? What is the purpose of?*

*How would it be different if? Suppose that? What if we knew? What would change if?*

Review your brainstormed list and star the questions that seem most interesting.

Then, select one of the starred questions and discuss it for a few moments.

(If you have the time, you can discuss more then reflect:

What new ideas do you have about the artwork or topic that you didn't have before one question.)

### **WHY**

Use Creative Questions to expand and deepen students thinking, to encourage students curiosity and increase their motivation to inquire.

### **WHEN**

Use Creative Questions when you want students to develop good questions and think deeply works about of art or topics in the curriculum.

### **HOW**

Work as a whole class or in small groups. Or mix it up. For example, do Step 1 as a whole class, do Step 2 in pairs and Step 3 as a whole class again.





**Image 4**

**Gesa Cowell**  
***The Sentinel***  
**2011**  
**Digital media**  
**20 x 20 inches**

### **LOOKING: TEN TIMES TWO**

***A routine for observing and describing.***

#### **Steps**

- 1. Look at the image quietly for at least 30-seconds. Let your eyes wander.
- 2. List 10 words or phrases about any aspect of the picture.
- 3. Repeat Steps 1 and 2: Look at the image again and try to list 10 more words or phrases to your list.

#### **Artist Statement by Gesa Cowell**

Much of my artwork explores ideas about memories and how the past can be perceived and recalled, especially with the help of physical objects and spaces. I was born in Hamburg, Germany and many of the objects that appear in my photomontages are personal items from my childhood or family mementos. I am a fine art photographer but also immensely enjoy manipulating my images through digital photomontages. I feel that this process allows me to tell a story by combining objects, animals and landscapes that have some personal meaning for me in addition to any traditional symbolism they might possess.

I am currently working on a series of “family portraits”: photomontages which are not intended to be actual representations of any person but rather an amalgam of personal emotions, memories, and experiences resulting in a kind of archetypal, imagined, and slightly odd family member.

I received my MFA, Photography from the Academy of Art University, San Francisco in 2009 and currently live and work in San Diego, CA, Long Beach, CA and Germany.







**Image 5**

**Gesa Cowell**  
***The Explorer***  
**2012**  
**Digital media**  
**20 x 20 inches**

**LOOKING: TEN TIMES TWO**

***A routine for observing and describing.***

**Steps**

- 1. Look at the image quietly for at least 30-seconds. Let your eyes wander.
- 2. List 10 words or phrases about any aspect of the picture.
- 3. Repeat Steps 1 and 2: Look at the image again and try to list 10 more words or phrases to your list.