



As the child of a family that moved all over the country, living in 8 cities before starting high school, I sometimes wonder if my affinity for collage came from piecing together all the disparate experiences of my youth. I still remember making my first collage as a second grade art project and feeling empowered that I could rearrange reality at will.

My uncle was a professional artist and often visited for extended periods. He always encouraged me and I've considered myself to be an artist for as long as I can remember. It was an identity that always helped me find my purpose and place as the "new kid."

I studied art and design in college in Oregon, then became a graphic designer, eventually owning my own design consultancy in Denver, Colorado. In the course of my graphic design training, and especially in art-directing photo shoots, the background imagery's importance in supporting the subject matter to advantage was intriguing. Studying the details in photos, I felt that some were so wonderful that they should be given a second life. My interest in collage was rekindled by those collected scraps and the advent of the computer in design: I wanted a way to continue working with my hands.

I began to seriously explore my interest in collage about 20 years ago. For several years, I spent one afternoon a week in an advanced abstract painting class where I was the only one not using paint. It was a tremendous learning experience. Meanwhile, I fumbled about trying different gluing methodologies. I did not have access to a collage community in those days so my wet working technique is the result of many influences and years of experimentation.

I feel strongly that my design work and my collage work feed each other. I'm serious and passionate about my creative practice and art/art history in general. Since 2010, I've been affiliated with Spark Gallery (Denver's oldest cooperative contemporary art gallery), where I am able to curate shows of my own work regularly.

Interested in all forms of collage, I'm a signature member of the National Collage Society and help moderate an online group for the International Museum of Collage, Assemblage, and Construction. I presented a workshop at KolajFest in 2018 and will present on "Working in a Series: Self-imposed Rules and their Creative Impact" at the 2019 event.

My work has been included in numerous solo and group shows, and in juried exhibitions around the US and throughout the world. My collages find homes with individual collectors, in site-specific commissions, and in corporate collections including those of the Adolph Coors Foundation, IMA Financial, CoBank, Beaver Run Resort, Castle Rock Adventist Hospital, Denver Health, Denver Seminary, Aspen Arbor Animal Hospital, and Boulder Community Hospital among others.

Here's to keeping things glued together...

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