

Mark Wiener – Artist Statement

"My diary speaks to heart of the matter, my creation... it is my reflection in the moment in between all the moments of my creation."

Place: Sitting by my studio door Date: 10.03..07 - Time: 01:35 pm Event: Contemplating grids

For some time now I have been creating Diptychs, Triptychs in as many configurations as possible. Exploring parallel structures, push and pull, gestures & strokes. The grids as marks have opened the opportunity to expand upon that in multiples, and find out more about "why and how". I need the structure of multiples against multiples.

Place: Studio Date: 03.9.08 - Time: 9:35 pm Event: Working against a lost hour. My subconscious never ceases to amaze me. Some 15yrs ago I worked with a young programmer who was forced to recreate my designs by rewriting them in computer Code. I watched him break down each graphic to numeric positions on the desktop. Then the two of us picked color values for those numbers and he mapped them to my design. I was always facinated by his capibility to abstract my forms into numbers. This idea, hidden somewhere in my subconscious, has been a major influence in my latest work.

Place: in the rain again Date: 08.10.07 - Time: 3:05 pm Event: enjoying the rain and taking pictures. These photographs were taken on the studio deck during a storm today - the marks of paint fell outside the canvas when I was working yesterday. More and more I am becoming aware of marks outside my canvas.

Place: A Museum Date: 04.6.08 - Time: 12:35 pm Event: Waiting for somebody

A neighbor bumped into me this afternoon at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He said to me, "**it looks like you are waiting for somebody**" my answer was '**for myself**' and he parted.

Place: 79th street Date: 09.10.08 - Time: 2:44:48 pm Event: thinking about my primary shapes, & relationships.

Where did I find my first primary shapes? As a photojournalist during demonstrations in the late 60's - early 70's there were many times that I found shelter lying on the ground, fending off the assaults of the police. The motor drive just ran, the un-focused camera

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capturing the shapes of both the police and the demonstrators...

Place: In my head Date: 01.26.07 Time: 6:49 pm Event: Looking inside and out There are days that we take the time to look inside and out . To explore those alpha moments. The past few moments (paintings) have been a clearing of my thoughts. Though I am still asking what it means to look inside and out.

Place: Park Avenue Armory Date: 05.08.08 - Time: 07:26 pm Event: Remembering a good friend Walking through the Findlay Booth, a friendly gentleman introduced himself as David Findlay. I wondered if this would be the Mr. Findlay whose gallery was so important to me as a child walking 57th st. He walked away after introducing himself, still curious I approached him. Asking if he knew a gentleman by the name of Dick Widel. He looked at me, paused and with a very sincere smile said "yes, he was such a wonderful man". I proceeded to tell him my favorite story of being a young artist and Dick Widel..

Place: Walking on Park Avenue Date: 07.03.08 - Time: 01:29 pm Event: Walking and thinking of what to say.

Thoughts have been bouncing around, what am I actually creating?

What has this work of the past year brought me? *The past year this has brought me the attention of those who like to think, who understand the idea of looking for the edge...*

How has my life experience changed over this past year of working only in black and white? This is all about communicating a different way, eliminating color, the filtering of distractions, minimalizing the surface so as to look closer at what has always been taken for granted, what lies in the shadows. Therefore seeing again.

Now taking the sensibilities of structure and turning them inside out. The gesture that is always free and spontaneous has become the backbone of my work acting like a hard grid, playing with symmetrical forms that I pour, drip or spatter - my surface the "grids" now add that spontaneity always found in the freedom of action painting.