



Transcript

Maria Manhattan - Faith, Hope & Charity

Manhattan: I consider myself to be a painter and, uh, the computer world came to me after I started painting—many years later. Um, and the computer world I still keep as sort of my commercial art job, and I love that. And one world feeds another. The fine art and the computer art really do play off each other. Uh, but, in my heart, I guess I still basically consider myself to be a painter.

And this is some of my work. This is a series I call “Faith, Hope, and Charity.” And, uh, this is my friend Nancy, who is a survivor of the World Trade Center disaster. She was greatly injured and she really is a symbol of faith to me. So she became that. She’s a very, very upbeat person.

This is a friend who I took a picture of, who was kind of a clown so the under-lighting was a nice dramatic effect.

And this is Kathy Weiss, a dancer and choreographer, who is Charity. And I feel like she’s looking at us and going...saying something like, “You better be charitable.” She’s a tough gal.

Oh, but anyway, I did these all at the same time. I didn’t expect them to go together or want to keep them together, but I kind of like them as this triptych, I guess. They just became that. I didn’t plan, plan on that.

Um, this one here is a self-portrait I did a while ago. It was a hot summer day, and I wanted to, in some way, respond to the heat of the sun.

And, uh, I also started fooling around with a, a looser brush. I think I started with that with these, this apple series. And I’m trying to continually loosen my brushwork. Um, I feel that that’s a difference between computers and painting that, uh, is difficult because, in computers, you naturally are a little tighter and, with painting, you kind of want to be looser. So there’s a...there’s a conflict there.

A lot of times, with painting especially, it’s what you have on your mind. It’s what you have in your heart at the moment. The commercial work is really to satisfy a client, to satisfy a project. But the personal work, the fine art, is really an opportunity to stretch out and just say what’s on your mind. So a lot of times you let it come out, and you don’t think about it. It’s best not to think about it. [Laughs.]

End of video.