Artist Statement

Ray Ray Mitrano http://rayraymitrano.com 2017

Community engagement through interactive situations are an integral part of my audiencesourced practice. Whether it be "all ages" creative spaces at public events or the interpretation of ink marks in a book, inducing imagery out of people and cultivating imagination together is often where my work is directed. I take impulsive drawing and performance interviewing to an environment where folks can comfortably explore ideas contextually. A farmer's market with live music, the grand opening of a grocery store, or a monthly radio show can all be settings to form my integrative work. I strive to weave my pursuits throughout communally minded institutions, businesses and ongoing events that I want cultivated in society. My making is informed by them and we grow mutually beneficial to each other.

I aim to foster the growth of art in a community so that all find it accessible. My creative activities pursue the notion for anyone to utilize my approaches in their everyday. How can we use art concepts together? Let's make rhythm through repetition and line our chaos with texture. We play!

Exploring ways to merge art and commerce anchors my various investigations. How can people who don't make art for a living feel comfortable drawing? I get rid of the artist as a job and bring out the artist as an approach. When I put up a clothesline and set-out a table with paper and crayons, the audience sits down, draws, and pins their pictures up together. They usually leave it all behind.

My work deals with art as experience. Poetry expanded beyond hand written moments, into a dance amongst routine priorities, alongside others who may not recognize art making daily. I engage with people creatively in part to fulfill my own need for social connection.

We can create without paper and crayons. Our work is made through interaction.

If my art is without society, then it is without me.