



Stephen Ferris : *The Illustrated Man*

The pictures were moving, each in its turn, each for a brief minute or two. There in the moonlight, with the tiny tinkling thoughts and distant sea voices , it seemed, each drama was enacted. Whether it took an hour or three hours for the dramas to finish, it would be hard to say. I only know that I lay fascinated and did not move while the stars wheeled in the sky.

~The Illustrated man By Ray Bradbury

My body of work explores the hidden mechanics of memory, time, spirit, and the inner workings of the visionary mind through an intricate examination of highly complex, abstract collages that merge graphic, geometric, and rhythmic elements.

My method of creativity is organic and exploratory, and it is a self-taught process. It continually reveals new visual languages, styles, and information as it progresses and grows. The body of work is intended for open-ended interpretations by the viewer and the raw juxtaposition of order and chaos of each piece can be meditated on and internalized by each viewer for their own personal experience.

Each of these surreal works of the inner mind has its own abstract universe of logic. This is due to the fact that everything I make starts with a strict set of minimalist guidelines that I will adhere to while I work. I investigate all the abstract laws visually through geometric abstraction. Procedures, ideas, and rhythms form and grow off of my initial conditions, one mark at a time, and eventually half-automatic drawing techniques navigate and guide. Through intense exploration and the repetition of patterns, I am able to utilize each piece as a basis for exploring the duality of my conscious and subconscious mind. This process could seem like a meditative, trance-like state to an outsider.

Fantasy, folklore, fairy tales, space, op art, kinetic art, literature, pareidolia, sound design, broken metronomes, psychology, silent film, pantomime comics, religion, nostalgia, textiles, and the observation and analysis of

recurring patterns in the natural world and in daily life are just a few of the myriad of influences I draw inspiration from daily.