

I draw because I love to draw and always had a passion for drawings. Since the seventies, I have been working with the conviction that to gain power and beauty, drawing should become a pure mental activity, rather than a mere gestural skill. I have endeavored to make it so by banning the physical side of drawing.

Pursuing an ideal of beauty and ideal Platonic forms, inspired by my interests in patterns of geometry, mathematics, physics, nature (1), I create drawings by composing and writing down for each piece an original, defining code (2), or score. The aesthetic vision is expressed by the precise instructions and algorithmic processes necessary to release its potentiality. Stopping here would just be another form of conceptual art.

But this code can drive and precisely guide the chosen apparatus (3) to actually produce an observable proof of the concept on the chosen media (4) with the chosen marking tool (5).

The self-emergence of the drawing resulting from the translated mental vision is always a moment of truth, and a magically rewarding and fascinating performance, where one can be both witness and creator.

The digital prints in my recent show “Drawing with the Mind” are an outgrowth of my earlier works, literally drawn in the imagination, created in writing the proper software, and then realized with a large-format inkjet printer capable the greatest complexity and detail. Entirely based on lines, the very material of drawing, I call these pieces digital drawings, or works in code and pigment on paper.

My process is thus very much akin to composing or choreographing, or simply ... thinking. **Drawing is just a thought.**

(1) Concrete motifs, abstraction and simulation of light, wave, gravitation, mathematics, physics

(2) Programming languages (python, mathematica, scheme), some mechanical or electronics tinkering

(3) Computer, plotter, engraver, inkjet printer, controller, motor, magnet, pendulum, etching press, etc...

(4) Paper, copper plates, sand, water, display, wood, etc...

(5) Pen & ink, graphite lead, brush & watercolor, dry point, ball, sound, light, etc...

(6) This whole process is now sometime known as computational drawing