Chris Meyer

"What is it? What does it mean?"

These are questions abstract artists hear all the time. They are particularly hard for me to answer, because I am rarely trying to abstract a person, place, or thing; my goal is to present a mood – and often one that cannot be summed up in a few simple words. A more appropriate analogy may be the feeling you have just as you wake from a dream, and are trying to recall that unnamed land you just returned from. Not just the who, what, why, where, and how, but the mood of that place and time.

I freely combine primitive art, photography, text, digital and nature printing, unusual papers, abstract acrylic paint, and a variety of organic and industrial materials. The way a piece gets started is that a particular source or experiment resonates strongly with me, and demands to be used. However, it is not yet a fully formed idea: The sources are giving me a clue, but are not telling me the whole story. They're leaving it to me to add more elements to make sense of it all... or at least enough sense until I am satisfied with the mood that they create. Even though I shape each piece into something that satisfies me personally, as a result I often wonder if I'm really just the messenger, rather than the writer of these messages.



So what is it? What does it mean? Honestly, I do not know. I am often left pondering my own pieces, soaking up the mood they create, still trying to discern the story the sources demanded I tell. I hope that they speak to you as well, and that you enjoy conjuring your own stories and dreams from the results.

—Chris Meyer

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