

LAURENCE MILLER

Laurence is a musician first and foremost. He began writing songs at age 14, shortly thereafter working in various bands playing original music; Sproton Layer, Empool, Destroy All Monsters, Non-Fiction, The Empty Set, Larynx Zillion's Novelty Shop, Velveteen Blue, Mister Laurence and his Play Money Band, etc. Multiple independent releases followed this trail of creativity for decades, both in the bands he led and co-led, as well as his various solo works on cassette, vinyl, and CD.

Laurence also dabbled with art in his youth. Raw, simple two-dimensional designs and abstract color drawings. His style developed initially from the act of hallucinating letter forms as plant life, as he wrote poetry, then outlined in abstract implications and landscape. These were of a surreal, lyrical style, based on natural form, often using a free-cursive structure as he drew. Some of this style, back then and in his new work today can't really be described as anything more than 'forms of energy in motion'.

Since 2007, long since sober & clean, Laurence has been recreating the most inspired of the unfinished sketches he kept, but on a larger format – usually 18" X 24". He soon began painting new works as well, some realistic, and is quick to admit though highly inspired, is an amateur with no formal training.

In 2010-11, Laurence filmed a number of his paintings "in the process" with an overhead aerial camcorder mount. These short little Art Films documented this creative process, later edited with sound design support by his twin brother, Benjamin Miller. Laurence continues to paint, today.

WHY I CREATE?

That's almost funny. I can't help it, actually. I've been creative ever since my early teen years, it's always been my major focus, and I am certain I will never stop. It's out of my hands. There isn't even a 'why' to it. I just seem to have to. It's one of the very few things I really know how to do, naturally. I have experienced serious mood swings since my early teens and have seen psychiatrists, therapists, and a couple hospitalizations.

Thankfully, my baseline is a high functioning state of hypo-mania, one which fuels my creative energy effortlessly. This is a good thing. I derive great pleasure in the act of having created something original, out of my imagination. Be it painting, songwriting, audio production, short films, doesn't matter. It validates my identity as a person of value and worth, and a life worth living.