



MARILYN CHARLATT DIX

S T A T E M E N T

Personal roots, relationships and connections are important to me. Each time I introduce images to different surfaces, I focus first on the people. I imagine their lives and consider their dress, their posture and attitude – the shape and position of their bodies. I try to reveal their personalities through combining these characteristics with the attributes of the surface I apply them to, and the strokes and design I impose.

I look for ways to tell stories through them.

These stories become paintings. Canvas, paper or skins combine with filaments and images in ways that are solid and ethereal. These are snapshots of moments I've imagined. By manipulating and layering photographs of family members and friends, I delve into the ambiguity of our past and present lives, and mine the connections that influence and shape us.

To me, these messages and memories are private and at the same time universal.
I try to provoke both quiet introspection and noisy dialogue.

We have inner and outer lives. We have obvious and hidden stories. Life is simple. Life is complex.
Our lives, ultimately, become stories.

B I O G R A P H Y

When I moved to Seattle from the East Coast and continued to embark on my second career, that of becoming an artist. Essentially self taught I explored and developed my skills as I followed this childhood passion. My art had always focused on expressing aspects of the human experience...personality and relationships.

I started to expand from space and time aspects to memory and connectivity within and between individuals spurred on by my care taking experience for family members afflicted with Alzheimers. I began to revisit family photos.

These images started to appear my paintings.

In 2004 I was fortunate to become Artist in Residence at the McColl Center for Visual Art in Charlotte NC. My work took a leap as I continued to flourish and explore.

My paintings represent a split second in time.

My current work explores the complexity of human personality and form, generational relationships and human interaction. Stories are told.