

METAMORPHOSIS AND PLANETESIMAL SERIES

In these series, elements are combined to suggest a narrative that may reflect on a memory from childhood, my travels, ancient history or even fantasy. The common everyday objects in these paintings are metaphors for memories from my childhood of places and/or people. Imagined places become intertwined with experience. Found images are incorporated to suggest layers of memory in the way that disjointed associations color our recollections. Stencils replace natural elements and allow a dialog between artifice and naturalistic things, such as Tibetan cloud paintings, wooden sculptures and carved stone runes. The use of some elements also ridicules our attempts to imitate the natural world. Through suggestion, the viewer is invited to complete this process of visual association.

THE GARDEN OF NATURE

THE GARDEN OF NATURE series of oil on copper paintings is not meant to be portraits of actual plants but images beyond the physical – images of the consciousness that surrounds us in Nature. Influenced by the writing of Edward O. Wilson, the renowned scientist, these works reflect his ideas of the interconnection of natural laws in what he calls Consilience. The oval shape of some of the paintings reflects the shape of mandalas, stone circles and stain glass windows from ancient cultures. In contemporary culture, we try to control Nature by labeling it, categorizing it, dissecting it and even destroying it. Historically plants have had significant roles in the everyday lives of people. The plants in this work are offered as a palliative for the psychological conditions endemic in our time.