

Artist Statement

John Dempcy

Pattern and process are the defining features of my work. In pattern I find rhythm and in process I find rhyme. I work with rhythms of repeating elements to define structure and composition, and rather than illustrating a vast array of patterns it is the color, shape, and texture of components that highlights the interconnectedness between elements. These connections pulse through the painting, a rhythm that points to a dynamic force.

My creative process is informed by processes in nature. In past work a drop of color would go into another color and a chemical action would result in new colors and shapes. Recent paintings are built from lines of color. I run my brush across the lines to blend the colors and depending on the direction of the brush stroke I achieve different, though rhyming, color schemes from the same lines. For me, the lines could represent a genetic sequence and when painted out a form, like a protein, is realized. Or, I think of strings on a guitar, each color a note, and when blended a chord or tune is played.

Rhythms and rhymes play out in the patterns of music and forms of nature. The act of painting is a process of discovery and realization.