

Cheselyn Amato – Artist's Statement
July 17, 2020

Everything I make is designed as a trigger or context for the experience of enchantment, wonderment, awe, and delight in the face of ever-present uncertainty. And, I work across dimensions with whatever media – including drawing, painting, collage, montage, photographic and digital media, sculpture, installation, sound, performance, video and other visual effects – that most strongly hold and carry my intentions as I go along.

My work reflects my lifelong spiritual, aesthetic and humanitarian journey in celebration of the power of positive thinking and feeling to create the change we seek as individuals and as global citizens. At the moment, humanity is experiencing a very specific uncertainty, COVID 19, that has invited everyone at the same time into direct connection with one another. Our planet has been calling out to us for some time now and it seems that we have now been, in effect, mandated, to take pause, listen, and hear how we can and must partner with each other, our planet and the whole cosmos to discern the balance we need and re-calibrate to actualize that balance. I taught art students for decades and have recently added spiritual care and bereavement counseling to my toolkit accompanying people at end-of-life, supporting their loved ones through the journey of loss and grief, and serving as light worker for the personal and global triumph of justice, love, beauty and abundance.

Currently, I am deeply appreciating the ideas and images of quantum physics – including quantum entanglement, superposition, tunneling and energy medicine – as applied to human evolution and healing, and justice and social transformation. And, I am adding this quantum vision to the poetics of what has been my evolving and expanding theory of everything. As awareness that a pandemic was emerging and as it has been unfolding, I have been creating light and color works that I call effluxes, pouring forth/outpouring that I am submitting in response to this call for work. The images in these include: the COVID-19 coronavirus, beehive pattern, people dancing in a circle and sacred geometry.

These works are made as embodiments of the brilliant, radiant light of greatest good, truth and beauty; of courage, resilience and persistence; of love, compassion, and healing. There are times when I have been struggling to see the forest through the trees and when I also see others and/or conditions in the world struggling and suffering too. At those times, I seek to overcome those conditions with love, light and whatever effort necessary to overwhelm those forces that draw us into an inconsolable and irreconcilable broken-heartedness. When there is rupture/disruption/eruption, then open broken-heartedness is a path that can re-awaken the memory and image of goodness and justice; it becomes a portal to taking action and striving for positive transformation. Via the humility of making space for transformation and by inviting exquisite radiant light to flood us, we can assist in the triumph of beauty and goodness. Healing light is always ignited, always with us, always available; we have to discern it and say yes.

May we re-shape ourselves so that we may persist and thrive in humility and harmony with all that is!