



Modified Recovery
Oil on canvas
9/2007
approx. 4.5' x 5'



Exploited
Oil on canvas
11/2007
approx. 3' x 6.5'



Toxic
Oil on canvas
10/2007
approx. 3' x 5'



Sedated Regrowth
Oil on canvas
9/2007
approx. 2' x 3'

Amelia Schroeder

These four pieces are part of a larger series being created for my senior capstone. Although other aspects of my life are very green, art is my guilty pleasure. The one thing I do to help the impact of my art is leaving my paintings frameless, even though wood is a renewable resource.

Artist Statement

Maybe the temperature of our hearts is inversely proportional to the temperature of our climate. As keepers of the earth, we humans have done a lousy job of playing caretaker to its natural cycles. This large misuse of our environment and a much smaller (but growing) attempt at recovery is what my paintings represent. Ellipses, both organic and cellular, show the essence of life and nature at its most basic level. All of nature is a self-rejuvenating circle-or should be. The differing sizes and movement from painting to painting show the natural ebb and flow of life, the circles of death and re-growth.

Contemporary abstract artists such as Terry Winters, Pat Steir, Sarah Lutz and Janaina Tschape have strongly inspired my paintings through their own pieces. Creating art that concerns the environment allows me to mix painting with the issues I care about most. Nature is the best piece of art I have ever seen. From grapevines and bubbles to rain and microscopic tissues, I am influenced and inspired by the patterns, luminosity, colors and shadows of our planet. Seeing the abuse such beauty is enduring makes me yearn to instill people with the same awe and respect I hold for nature. Working in oils lets me layer structures and color. I urge people to think in spite of the aesthetically pleasing and to mentally work through their initial repulsion from the unaesthetic. If one sees and feels my hope for change struggling through the busy movement and my sometimes unsettling color choices, and better yet, becomes personally involved, maybe I've accomplished something worthwhile.

“They are imbeciles who call my work abstract;
that which they call abstract is the most realist,
because –what is real is not the exterior form
but the idea, the essence of things.”

–Constantin Brancusi