Beautiful Minds

50 People with mental illnesses

May 8 - June, 2021

Demystifying the stigma though the ARTs @ dA

Featured Artist:

Dan Joyce

Curator: Chloe Tang

Dan Joyce, Artist and Mental Health Advocate

BACKGROUND AND PHILOSOPHY

I started my career in a boarding home in Pasadena in 1996. I didn't have any money, and the owner encouraged me to sit on the corner and try and sell my art. I sold work that same day.

Here you'll find my watercolors. My oil paintings. My books. My music. My videos. I have a calendar for upcoming releases and events and don't forget to sign the guestbook!

I've have had an extraordinary life. One of my gifts is that I'm comfortable sharing the darkest places with others.

Take my hand and let's walk together.

I have an Associate of Arts Degree in Business, a certificate in Computer Graphics, and a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts, specializing in graphic design and illustration.

I also studied abroad in Florence, Italy. My paintings have been featured in galleries and museums all over Southern California: Green Door Gallery, McClain's Coffeehouse, West End Gallery, Bowers Museum, a studio/gallery I started with Bill Reid in the Spurgeon Building, AvantGarden Gallery, as well as several spaces in Magoski Arts Colony and Chinatown.

I've published eleven illustrated journals/poetry books and am currently working on screenplays for them. Bus Stop Talk is my most popular title.

This page is dedicated to my late father, whose love and support helped build my career.

I consider myself a transcendental painter, creating from my subconscious. All my work is about me. I know that sounds egotistical, but it isn't; an artist captures what he/she knows. I do well when I take my time, but I find it more challenging to paint rapidly, capturing a subject or image's raw emotional quality. I am also very prolific. Whether a painting, a poem, a song or a video, I do something creative everyday.

Inspirations: Mental health, sobriety, existentialism, and world religions.

Artistic Influences: Music. People. Color. Love. Modern Art History. Jackson Pollack's action painting. Rapid painting. Andy Warhol's mechanical drawings. Vincent Van Gogh. Marciano and Richard Martinez (teachers/mentors). Technology.

Musical Influences: Miles Davis. John Lennon. Tupac Shakur. Bob Dylan. Johnny Cash. Carlos Santana. The Ramones.

Writing Influences: James Joyce and stream of conscious. Oscar Wilde. Joseph Conrad. Ernest Hemingway. Maya Angelo. Charles Bukowski. Sylvia Plath. Walt Whitman. Allen Ginsberg. Tennessee Williams.

I am somewhere separate from the norm of the society, documenting what I am doing and going through, whether it is in a hospital, a boarding home, or homeless, anywhere where I am basically feeling alienated or isolated. I feel my philosophy is more dynamic that static: it is ever-changing as I grow. I am an advocate for Mental Health Awareness and a strong believer in medications and therapy. I believe the illness enhances talent in some people. Most artists have a cause they represent; this is mine.

Learn more about Dan at https://danjoyceart.com

Curator's Statement:

Beautiful Minds: 50 people with mental illness (2021) is a solo show of Dan Joyce. The works in this series celebrate many artists who have struggled with mental illnesses throughout their lives. The exhibit hopes to reduce the stigma of mental illnesses and let others understand how common these illnesses are. While the exhibit is mostly shown during May, the month of mental health awareness, it doesn't mean that this is the only month of the year that people should care about mental health. Rather, this should be a start up for raising awareness and be more understanding of one another. Chloe Tang

Artists





Fitness Guru Athlete



Writers Poets Journalists



Leo Tolstoy Clinical Depression; Hypochondriasis; Alcoholism; Substance Abuse 2014

Portrait of Leo Tolstoy, who suffered from clinical depression, hypochondriasis, alcoholism and substance abuse.



Sylvia Plath: Clinical Depression 2014

Watercolor on paper
22x33

Portrait of Sylvia Plath, who suffered from clinical depression.



Virginia Woolf: Bipolar Disorder 2014
Watercolor on paper
22x33
Portrait of Virginia Woolf, who suffered from bipolar disorder.





Hunter S. Thompson: Substance Abuse, Suicide 2014

Watercolor on paper
22x33

Portrait of Hunter S. Thompson, who suffered from substance abuse and suicidal.



Edgar Allan Poe: Clinical Depression, Alcoholism 2014

Watercolor on paper
22x33

Portrait of Edgar Allan Poe, who suffered from clinical depression and alcoholism (speculated).



Ernest Hemingway: Clinical Depression 2014
Watercolor on paper 22x33

Portrait of Ernest Hemingway, who suffered from clinical depression.

Performers



Audrey Hepburn: Clinical Depression, Eating Disorders 2014

Watercolor on paper 22x33

Portrait of Audrey Hepburn, who suffered from depression and eating disorders.



Adam Ant (Stuart Goddard): bipolar disorder 2014

Watercolor on paper
22x33

Portrait of Adam Ant, who suffered from bipolar disorder.



Axl Rose: Bipolar Disorder 2014
Watercolor on paper
22x33
Portrait of Axl Rose, who suffered from bipolar disorder.















Roseanne: Dissociative Identity Disorder, Obsessive-compulsive Disorder,, Clinical Depression, Agoraphobia 2014

Portrait of Roseanne, who suffered from dissociative identity disorder, of sessive-compulsive disorder, clinical depression and agoraphobia



Russell Brand: Bipolar Disorder 2014

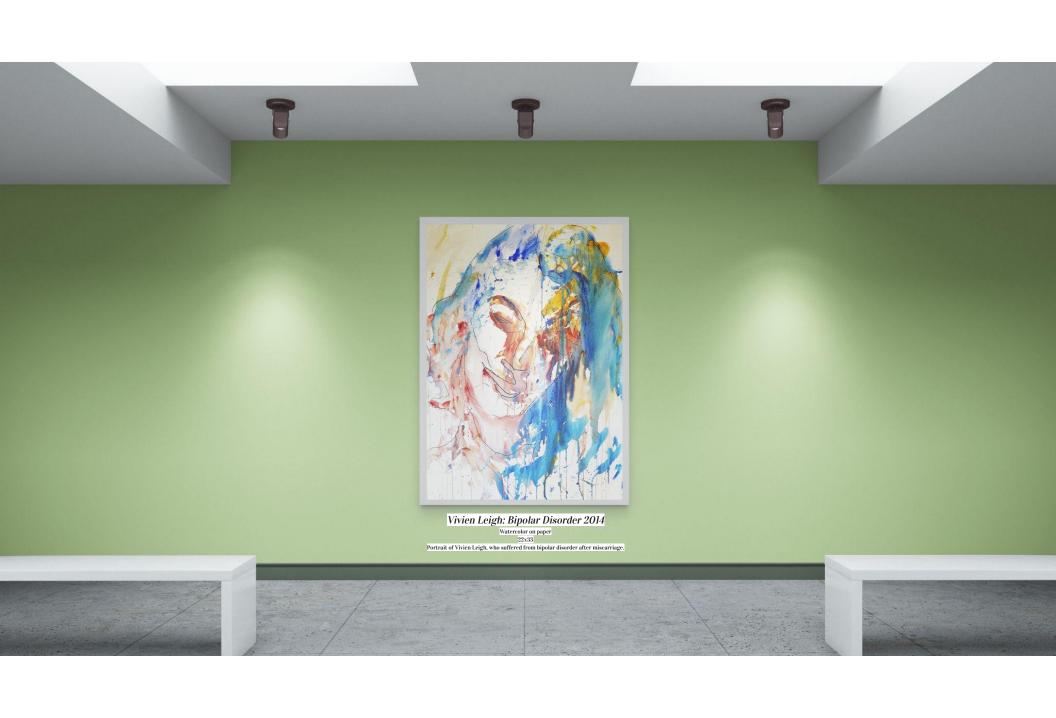
Watercolor on paper
22x33

Portrait of Russell Brand, who suffered from bipolar disorder.



Tennessee Williams: Clinical Depression 2014

Watercolor on paper 22.233 Portrait of Tennessee Williams, who suffered from clinical depression.



Other Public Figures





