

Dante Ventresca: Artist Statement

As the ninth child of eleven I grew up overwhelmed by the extraordinary richness of daily experience. Even the most straight-forward and seemingly simple events, like making toast or finding a sock, became complex webs of divergent, interconnected impulses coursing through my family. The demarcation between what was me and what was family existed as a permeable membrane through which intimacy constantly altered its dimensions. I learned to handle the heat of experience through the organizing principles inherent in drawing and writing. I created small retreats behind chairs, in room corners, in the wood lots outside back doors. Expressive, self-organizing practice remains at the core of my work today - in the studio as well as in Theater of Inclusion workshops. I am driven by the desire to articulate interior reflection in response to the endless complexity of personal experience.