Artist Statement for Flux: Wax in All Forms 2020

My interest is about redefining and expressing something important from within, rather than reproducing what is around me; to evoke a thoughtful response from viewers. It was the abstract expressionists like Jasper Johns that opened for me this different dimension of expression. The inner landscape of thoughts and emotions is the fodder for my creative work.

Inspiration often comes from working with materials and process, where I can take whatever ephemera are at hand and embed them in hot wax. Encaustic—an ancient hot wax medium being rediscovered by contemporary artists—is versatile and compatible with a variety of media and offers surface dimensionality. There is an atmospheric feel and a visual depth I find compelling—working with physical layers, as well as layers of meaning.

My current works comes from a visual and intellectual exploration of pairing and contrasting materials. It blends an interest in the decayed industrial age with the abstract, as expressed through mark making, found objects, mixed media and encaustic. As a contemporary artist, in an era of rapidly changing technology, I love the connection to a medium that dates back to Ancient Greece, replicating a process that has been the same over the centuries. This grounds me, even as I work in a more modern manner.

While often my work is more intuitive and free-flowing, I frequently return to a more formal organization that harkens back to my training in architectural illustration. Order and rhythm offer a calm spot in an increasingly chaotic world.