

## MARK EANES / ARTIST STATEMENT

As a painter I've always enjoyed looking at the world in all its richness and complexity...then giving expression to those glimpses. My current work reflects a keen interest in the surface history of the ancient walls, portals and alleyways I witnessed while traveling throughout Europe, specifically Naples, Italy and Palermo, Sicily.

In recent years I have turned to photography as well - to exercise and strengthen another muscle for seeing. To capture a specific moment in time that no one else sees, or will ever see, is rewarding beyond words. Whenever I travel with the camera, I feel alert, awake, and aware of all that is before me.

My painting process consists of many layers...time and material. When I'm in the studio nothing else matters. Time is irrelevant. No plans for the future, no past regrets.

I'll put on some great tunes  
turn it up loud  
and break out the color,  
the tubes, brushes and rags.  
Then enter a new piece with ferocity and abandon.

After awhile....I'll sit back and just look.  
Turn the piece upside down, then dive in again.

I enjoy moving from knowing to not knowing.  
From reckless abandon  
to careful consideration.

It is never boring or tedious  
for I feel as though I am always betting the house on the final outcome.

My favorite moment is when the conversation is over.

And that can take days, weeks, even months. But to know there is nothing more to be done, that everything I could possibly say has been said, and at last I can step away and think to myself,

it works.