

ARTIST STATEMENT

Digital artist Jim Serbent's corpus displays a natural progression of works spanning decades. Experimentation, intuition, and imagination coalesced to create five the disparate series listed below. All of these archival pigment prints have a common theme — attainment of a higher level of consciousness. The artist's aim is that viewers experience, if even just for an instant, an expanded state of awareness that transcends the ego, self-interest, and mundane daily routine to connect with a deeper sense of reality, empathy, and unity.

Abstractions. Video feedback technology and electronic colorization of film images provided a new direction worthy of exploration.

Visual Koans. Digital collages of stream-of-consciousness photo compositions present insoluble puzzles that offer a visual alternative to traditional spoken word koans posed by Zen masters to trigger enlightenment in their students.

Bardos. Enhanced photographic backgrounds overlaid with original fractal images are the basis for this ethereal series. Are the compositions cosmic, sub-atomic, or both? They just might elevate your thought plane.

Ab Intra. (Latin for "from within") Inspired by centuries-old, trans-cultural motifs: rose windows, those stained glass circles of prismatic wonder that illuminate Gothic cathedrals; mandalas and yantras, symbolic visual aids to meditation found in Hinduism and Buddhism; disk-shaped Aztec sun stones and Mayan calendars, fuses crystalline symmetry with multi-mirror-imaged elements from diverse sources, photographic and digitally-realized.

Digital Paintings. Artists can "paint" on the virtual canvas of a PC screen using a USB-connected tablet and stylus; the results are every bit as expressive as pigments on canvas. Beginning with an inspirational photo, Serbent adds myriad layers of shapes, textures and colors that blend the recognizable with the imaginary.

BIO

In the late '60s during a USAF tour of duty in the Far East, Serbent learned the essentials of still photography as well as the fundamentals of sumi-e (Japanese ink painting), and the tenets of Zen. Following military service and subsequent studies for a degree in communications, he pursued a career in broadcast video production where composing and editing the moving image not only demanded extensive photographic expertise but practical knowledge of all aspects of TV production. Although much creative energy is tapped for producing, directing and scripting, his true artistic calling was not fully realized in the commercial video arena. He attained complete artistic freedom through independent video art projects and digital print making. Since retirement from broadcasting he now focuses on these endeavors daily, with maximum focus on the latter.