## Jasmine Raskas

Chasing Chaos is the final stage of my search for order in natural form. To step outside the human perspective, these paintings occupy a space which could theoretically be located at any time or any scale of existence. Patterns of light gradation construct form as the color spectrum is used to represent the root building blocks to dimensionality.

Through an exploratory process of deconstructing natural order, I discovered several root elements to the structures of nature. I studied these "bits" of truth and sought to use them as the building blocks from which my own creations could emerge. Through this work, I inevitably became an obsessive collector of "universal code".

From atoms to entire galaxies there is an inherent sense of visual familiarity in both the description of root elements and the processes by which these root elements combine and change over time. Information appears to organize itself in a predictive rhythmical manner. There is an oscillatory quality to the transformation and growth of structure over time. The probabilistic yet predictive aspects to these algorithms underlie all types of natural formative processes. The system can be described as the simultaneous pushing and pulling of these root elements through known algorithms of information processing.

The consistency of form implies that there is a strong sense of purpose and directionality in nature. However, for as long as there is uncertainty about whether or not the code actually represents information external to the observer or if it is just a reflection of the system through which it is being observed by, no specific meaning can be derived out of its study.

Discovery begins where the predictable patterns break down. Only a creator can play at the boundary of chaos and order. The extraordinary complexity and interactions of systems yields the appearance of chaos within consensus reality, but is this true randomness or is it simply an ignorance to the full set of facts. In all of the known universe, the human mind seems to be the most accurate portrayal of a "chaos generator".

By pushing my collection of universal root elements through the "chaos generator" that is my mind I can choose to follow the universal codes for pattern formation or to break the pattern. Within this choice, new worlds are born. Yet even within this attempt to push complexity to the limits of meaning, there is still a reinstatement of the quality of sameness and a calling for me to reach even closer to the chasing of chaos. For if there is no absolute chaos, therein lies a great threat to the will. Even if all information could be known, I refuse to believe that the "I" is just another quantity. Wisdom calls for harmony between the seeking of order and the respect for the magic of chaos.