

Roberto J. Ramirez

Artist's Statement

On a perfect day, I paint outdoors, en plein air. I go to a site where I have previously scouted, a landscape, usually a public place like a park or an arboretum. I set down my easel, take out my paint box, brushes, and paint tubes. I like scenic places that include trees, plants, flowers, hidden paths. Its usually early morning or a couple of hours before the sunset. I also excel in portraiture.

As an artist one of my duties is to look at us as society in this world. I research our past, our present, our future. I see critical issues facing humanity. They are not pretty pictures.

My current labor is an expression of political and humanitarian empathy. I call attention to broad themes in art history such as war, industry, technology, religion, myth and a vision of the current human condition.

With awkward compositions, I explore a bizarre logic in personal understanding of events. With bold contours and rough context, the work intends to make collective human emotions real and living. Some of my work is graphic but not meant to offend or glorify the action and depiction of imminent mayhem, violence, death or destruction. Rather, the use of graphic subject matter is meant to draw the observer in and face the appearance of truthful realities that exist in our world and might take the viewer beyond their comfort zone.