Bruce's Studio News

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Out of the Doldrums... back in the Studio

It has taken seven weeks to return to my studio from knee surgery in February... but I'm B-a-a-a-c-k!! Although a few months from full recovery, I'm working hard on my physical therapy. The knees feel good, but the muscles are weak and need strengthing. It's great to be able to begin again whith the advent of warmer spring weather after so much winter cold.

I probably won't be able to start any big or heavy projects right away, but I had already started a small scale collage series before February anyway. Another long term project in process that I have been working on for years, is my ongoing composite poetry and book project (top picture). I am hoping to finish 10 to 12 more individual collage poems in much the same way the original concept began...one per week throughout the coming months. Since my project began in 1999 using Newsweek® magazine as my source for words and phrases, I will have to resort to some hoarded editions, now that the magazine has gone digital.

The second project was outlined in my February newsletter. Utilizing a large resumé of uncatalogued figure drawings and photographs from my last 40 years, I will be trying to find ways to deveop new approaches to expression and meaning though abstraction, representation, and the medium of collage. (bottom picture) This is a challenging concept that will require new ways of working as well as conceptual flexibility. Review of new materials, and research will undoubtedly lead me to look at more work by collage artists who's work speaks to me at an existential level.

Additionally, my friend Randy Merchant and I will be starting up life drawing sessions at our respective studios starting April 24th. A large group of our artist friends enjoy the opportunity to work on their drawing skills and/or explore new approaches. The chance to get together with other artists from the area is also an important secondary "draw".

    www.bruceblanchette.com