

REBEKAH WEST – ARTIST STATEMENT

I consider play, magic, perception, human relationships, and public ecstasy as threatening subjects long suppressed because they lead to the terrifying process of individual expression and uncontrollable creativity. I risk making work with these taboos.

I am drawn to a sense of symbol and meaning, internal structure and motion. As I work, I become aware of movement toward a tender place. I follow this and so lead my viewers, readers, and participants to it; I call this place wonder.

I feel an affinity with light, time, and space so I use them to manifest in some public way internal human issues.

How do I even tell you how moved I am by light? ...by passing reflections of emotion across a person's face or in the timbre of their voice? ...or by combinations of private moments and witnessed change?

These days, my tools include filmmaking, photography, choreography, television, performance, community events, design, and writing. I've never felt constrained to remain within one medium. If I'm trying to communicate something to you, I will use or learn to use any tool I can imagine I need.

I burn to make this work. I value the creative force in an intense way: art is where and when I live. Because of the trajectory of my work, I consider myself a cultural artist; in fact, I am a (privately) reluctant but (publicly) compelling creative leader.

My life has often played out in the sacred spaces of theatre and community where I learned to be awake to the moment, to tune into the rhythm of place and time, and to connect my inner world directly with the outer world of audience and society.

I look around and see many who have forgotten they are creators...who experience a profound relationship with their world but who have cut off their connection to creativity.

I rebel!