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North of the Heart East of Victory

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North of the Heart East of the Victory

By

Joel Hansen

A thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements for the Degree of

Masters of Arts

In

Art

Printmaking

Minnesota State University, Mankato

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Joel Hansen, MA
Minnesota State University, Mankato
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Just as music can be described as colorful and text can provide texture, art has a voice. That voice can scream, whisper or babble incoherently. It can also sing. Making art sing is the overarching goal of all my work. There are no formulas or templates, of which I am aware, on how to accomplish this but if I think of individual pieces as songs, a series as an album and exhibits as concerts art can become sonorous. Shadows and highlights act as rhythm. Color and composition behave as melodies and arrangements. If I've done my job correctly the art will transcend mere ink on paper and become broader than visual. It should resonate without making a sound.

The overlooked spaces and mundane objects of everyday life are the subjects that capture my attention. A brief glimpse gives way to pause, pause gives way to contemplation, and soon I am studying a doorjamb, finding art in it somewhere. The familiar and the forgotten views can convey art

It's easy to make art from that which is already beautiful, making a shower curtain interesting, meaningful, musical, academic, proletarian, poignant, portable, prophetic and beautiful is where the challenge resides for me.

North of the Heart East of Victory

Joel Hansen

This thesis has been examined and approved by the following members of the thesis committee.

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