

ILLUSTRATOR INTERVIEW

Ray
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Washington, DC

GIVING WORLD
ILLUSTRATOR



1. What is your technique and medium of drawing and painting?

My primary medium is acrylic paints applied to canvas. Although, I have used oil paints, and I have painted on other surfaces such as paper and wood.

2. How do you get inspired to produce a piece of artwork?

I am inspired from the inside- out. Meaning my art is influenced by my life's experiences. As I work, I tend to reflect on a kaleidoscope of thoughts and emotions held within. And from that, the painting tends to take shape and is eventually revealed.

3. What artist inspires you?

Many artists have had an influence upon me. My top four may be Salvador Dali, Jacob Lawrence, Vincent Van Gogh, and Georgia O'Keefe.

4. What do you do to overcome a creative block?

In avoiding creative blocks, I continue to work. Whether I complete a painting or not, I work every single day. Work through it; keep things in motion and they're less likely to come to a halt.

5. When did you start illustrating?

I've been painting since 1997, however, my first opportunity to provide an illustration was maybe in 2003. It was an illustration for a jazz musician.

6. What does art mean to you?

Art is everything for me. I believe my heart would stop if I weren't able to be a part of art creation.

7. Tell us an unexpected fun fact about you, that might come as a surprise to others.

Before I began painting, I wanted to be a song lyricist. Still today, I have several unshared, writing note pads of what I thought would've made great songs.

8. Where are you from and what places would you love to visit one day?

I was born in North Miami Beach, FL. And I would love to visit one of the sites were Vincent Van Gogh created one of his many masterpieces.

