

## ABOUT MY WORK IN THE 1990s

The Walls Series, began in the 80s, was sustained throughout the 90s as I continued to discover new connections between paper manipulation and treatment techniques and the aging of architectural surfaces. A sub-text of the Walls Series has been the Graffiti pieces through which I acknowledge what I feel is legitimate folk art/calligraphy and social commentary despite the legal issues. Walls are our urban canvases on which nature and man make their marks. Paper is uniquely structured to express the nature of a wide variety of surfaces and to bear the effects of age and wear. As such, the Walls testify to the vulnerability and resilience of life itself.

The series of self portraits in hand made paper, begun in the mid-80's, eventually lead to using plaster casts of other parts of my body in non-biographical narratives. This was the period where my figurative imagery dealt with world events and social issues. Whole series of paper sculptures were displayed as installations and became the focal point of multi-media projects including dance, poetry, music and educational and community events.

Inspired by Cristo's community interface in order to realize his monumental landscape installations, I began to feel that the artist could be influential outside of the work they produced. I began organizing traveling "projects" with the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Memorial Series and the Holocaust Series in which, I felt I had used paper as a metaphor for the human condition and viewed my active participation in organizing these projects as that of a "healer".

By the end of the 90s, I had become so involved in social action, that I no longer pursued the evolution of my previous aesthetic interests. I felt I had completely explored the medium of paper and paper sculpture and returned to drawing where I had left off at the end of my undergraduate work at UCLA in the Art department. I decided to explore welding, combining metal sculpture with drawing, but did not find it engaging enough to pursue. By the end of the 90s, I had stopped producing art altogether.