



CODY MILLER

Painter

www.codyfmiller.com

Hometown: St. Louisville, Ohio. I have lived in Columbus since 1991.

Alma mater: CCAD

On his artistic origins: I was always drawing as a kid. I don't ever remember a time where I wasn't doing it.

On inspiration: Since most of my work is from the Bible, that's the main thing – that's kinda like my glasses – but then from there, there's a number of things. You know, writers like Flannery O'Connor and Dostoyevsky, the music of Tom Waits, the artists I work with – I teach art to artists with different physical and developmental disabilities for like the last 18 years – and anyways, their work inspires me.

On lessons learned: I would say probably the most important is to take risks, learning to let go of the familiar and the usual and consent to the new and the unknown to me.

On art's appeal: Eric Liddell – the movie that was made from [his life], *Chariots of Fire* – he says he runs to feel God's pleasure, and it's like I create to feel God's pleasure.

On showing at CAF: It's usually ranked in the top five of art festivals in the country, and there's thousands of art festivals that happen so that's a big deal, and for them to do that, that means there's a number of things going on. One is they're treating the artists well. Two is there's a lot of people coming. And three is you know sales are good for a lot of the artists who participate. So I'm kind of excited about hopefully all those things happening. (laughs)

Advice for the next generation: To always have a sense of wonder and awe ... I think if you always have a sense of wonder and awe, everything becomes exciting to you, to the most mundane thing that crosses your path.

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The Columbus Arts Festival will be held June 7-9 at the downtown Riverfront. For times, exhibitors, and other activities, visit www.columbusartsfestival.org.