

# Cagney King



Georgia native Cagney King is best described as a natural born artist. While she has had both formal and informal training in various medium applications and their technical aspects at Ball State University and Herron School of Art, execution and exploration were self-taught. In addition to opening King Studios five years ago in Indiana where she currently resides, a lot of his work has also been featured in many galleries both in solo shows and group exhibits. King has also received multiple awards since 2002, her most recent being for 1st and 3rd place for mixed media piece 'Take Control of your Horizons/Transitions' in the Will Vawter Arts Show.

King currently utilizes a variety of mediums such as collage, marble dust, sand, cement, graphite, tempera, acrylic, oil and even cat litter to communicate the appropriate textural messages and invitations for the viewer. King is constantly working and experimenting endlessly to find the perfect mix of mediums and culminations on the canvas. Her work is often portrayed as abstract, deep, thought provoking and contemporary.

## Interview with Artist Cagney King

To View Cagney King's Artist Techniques: [CLICK HERE](#)



Cagney King

**How would you describe your work and your style?**

My work is an exploration in bridging the parallels of science, mathematics, and structural engineering with that of nature and human life. I work to express these parallels and thoughts and their reoccurrences in nature and life with mixed media, textures and loose palettes that invite the viewer into the painting and encourage thoughts and emotions on a whole new level. I work to draw people into my work, but then to also cause them to step back and take in the whole image and contemplate the meaning and intent. My work encompasses this push and pull with mediums and textures that take me on a journey of discovery with each painting. My style can best be described as textural, layered and loose.

**What do you enjoy most about working in your art medium?**

The ability to explode, explore different techniques and communicate visually.

**How do you develop the concepts and creative ideas for your art?**

I may have an idea at the start, but the journey is a path determined both by my desire to communicate the idea, and the paintings desire to exist in a certain energy and light.



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**How does your location or environment affect your work?**

I am primarily a studio artist and work best closed up with my music so I can dance freely with my canvases.

**How do you measure success?**

If in the end I like to look at what I have created, then I have been successful.

**Do you sketch and draw your art or develop your designs with special equipment?**

Both, but I generally grab scrap paper or a notebook as I can find it. I will often gesso a phonebook page or a newspaper to work on...just feels more free and disposable. Sometimes I also do full paint sketches on gessoed poster board.





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**Please tell us about your technique and method.**

I work layer by layer with mixed medias to an end result. I primarily work with graphite (traditional and liquid), charcoal, acrylic, spray enamel and oils. For texture, I work with concrete, marble powder, plaster of Paris, cat litter and sand. My method and thought process is ‘how can I accomplish this without overworking it or ruining it all together?’

**What tools do you use?**

Grumbacher brushes, palette knives, Gamblin and Amsterdam oil paints, spatulas and other various kitchen utensils, scrapers, my fingers, rags, stencils...

**What are some of your favorite tools that you use to create your Art?**

Grumbacher brushes are my favourite brushes to work with; Gamblin and Amsterdam paints are my choice in oil paints. As far as other ‘favourite’ tools, I utilize a lot of non-traditional tools often found in the trash, at a goodwill, at a hardware store, or in the kitchen drawer...

**What are some of your favorite materials to work and create with?**

Concrete, liquid graphite, spray enamel, acrylics and oils.

**Do You sketch before hand? If so is there any particular brand of sketchbook, notebook or drawing pad you prefer?**

I generally grab scrap paper or a notebook as I can find it. I will often gesso a phonebook page or a newspaper to work on...just feels more free to me and disposable...I will also do full paint sketches on gessoed poster board

**Any suggestions what supplies to start off with if you are not quite sure if Art is for you?**

Graphite and Acrylics



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## ***Final thoughts***

### **Tell me about your upcoming projects, activities and/or events.**

I am currently working furiously to put a new portfolio together for my first trip to Art Miami. I want to market my work to a larger audience and feel ready to take on some knowledgeable criticism in order to improve as an artist.

### **What advice would you give a young artist just starting out?**

Explore. Read. Research. Learn. Try. Fail. Try again. Just do it and leave this place better than you found it. As for exposure, word of mouth and visual impact are important, but websites, blogs, and e-mail communication with patrons is a must these days. Press releases and show reviews are a really big help too.

“I encourage EVERYONE to see the world as a painting! Look for color, not criticism. Look for shapes and tone, not race. Look for beauty, not cynical distress. See the light out of all the dark. And above all, leave this place better than you found it.” -Cagney King