

How We Do Both: Art and Motherhood

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How do you logistically balance art making and motherhood?

This is a challenging question because I am not sure that there be a balance when one is a mother and particularly when one's child is still small. My child is my priority. This is not a negative in my art practice. It does mean that I need to be quicker about my execution, and that I need to conceptualize more and experiment in the practical sense, less. The more I work about the process of art making I grow more aware to not fear change, but rather to understand that with new experience brings new perspective.

I wouldn't say that having a child has taken anything away, except maybe time. Sometimes I wonder what I did with all that time before my child. The insight I have gained into the human experience (and that of being a woman) has given me a lot to think about to apply to my work.

Does your art making require a "room of one's own"?

Yes, in some ways it does. I find moments when my child is sleeping or when I am on the train. I get a lot done in those moments.

Did having children enhance your creativity?

Having a child gave me a different perspective on a woman's abilities and a women's body. Some things have to be experienced to be understood, and for me pregnancy and child birth were that. I am not speaking romantically because I do not think it was all pleasant. I recognized almost immediately that it was tremendous work and sacrifice to create a person, primarily of the physical sort, and yet, this how we are all here. In many ways this has deeply impacted me and my understanding of work and commitment-to one's practice, one's family and to life itself.