

Edith De Chiara

Artist's Statement

Two aspects of experience provide the primary focus for my artmaking: changes that occur in the environment with the passage of time and the compelling need for us to make marks and leave traces of our identity. Walls, pavements and rock formations with markings, layers or cracks are evidence of their history and changes over time. There is a tendency of cracks in pavements and walls to branch out. Correspondence of this pattern is found in the human form and nature. Given a surface such as walls or pavements, marking occurs, giving concrete evidence of the need to leave traces of our being.

Very young children's drawing, another resource for my art, give further evidence of the need to make one's mark and establish a sense of self and relationship to the world. The writing and drawing on pavement and walls by older children is evidence of this continued need.

The material I work with includes paint, encaustics, paper and thread. For surfaces I use wood, fabric, paper or old photographs. I use thread both as a drawing and embroidery medium. I adhere the spontaneous drawn thread line with gel medium and secure it with couching stitches. The physicality of thread combined with the process of sewing provide a tangible sense of presence in development of my work.