



fine arts

b u t t e r f l y

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presents:

John Edward Gregory

Scottsdale, Arizona. To most people this city conjures up images of luxury, money and the perfect place to retire to a good golf game. I was born here in 1969 and raised here, surrounded not by wealth, but by a strong hardworking family in a blue-collar neighborhood. Many of my images and aesthetic sensibilities stem from the well-manicured suburban laws in contrast to my father's constantly growing junkyard of cars in the family's backyard.

I developed my interest in art from a beginning drawing course I took as a prerequisite to a jewelry-making course during my first year in college. I found that art gave me confidence in my ability to learn and be creative and the self-awareness that I could accomplish anything that I truly desired. Like many other artists, pursuing an art degree was not highly encouraged by friends or family. After pursuing other more potentially marketable educational tracks, I returned to art as my primary focus. When I tried to imagine what I would do for the rest of my life, confident that I had given the world the best I had, it was only as an artist. After receiving my BFA in Jewelry and Metalworking and a BA in Studio Art from Arizona State University, I enrolled in Pratt Institute to obtain an MFA in painting and drawing.

Urban scenes, working class automobiles and mangled images. The subject matter of my paintings and drawings are often represented by middle class objects from my past, fragmented vertigo images, skewed diagonals and agitated environments or objects. I find industrial environments and deteriorating automobiles to have aesthetic beauty where I continue to discover great interest in their details. I often use inviting vibrant colors to represent images, placing them in imagined pseudo-industrial landscapes and environments. By marrying the automobiles with my created spaces, I seek to have viewers re-evaluate what they find beautiful.

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