

*Interdisciplinary & Transdisciplinary Approaches*



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## *Artist (front cover) Backstory*

**-Patrick Slattery**

USA

[Sen. Ed. note: this volume's cover is a 'mash-up' digital collage of two original art works by Patrick Slattery, one a painting (Black and Blue and Red All Under) and the other a painting and assemblage (Metamorphosis)—originals can be seen at <http://psartworks.com> (Gallery); Patrick was kind to let me digitally manipulate his images, cropping, shifting color, layering to create the intriguing IJFS cover image.]



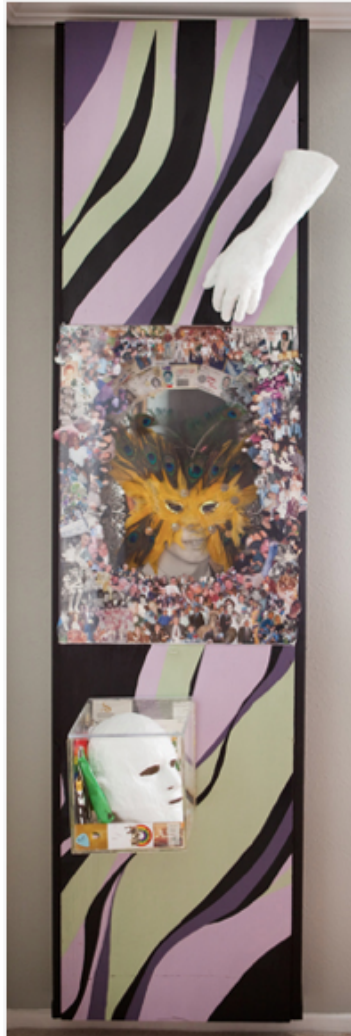
“Black and Blue and Red All Under”

Patrick Slattery

2013

36" x 132" acrylic on canvas

This large canvas is a meditation on child abuse. I worked alone in the studio during a hot, sweaty summer with the music of Leonard Cohen and Natural Born Killers blaring from the speakers. I wanted to enter a mental and emotional space of fear, confusion, pain, and abandonment and convey those emotions on the canvas. I applied a meditative layer of blue paint and added darker hues to the blue to mark deep bruising of the skin. Black belt marks rip the skin; blood oozes from the wounds. The white paint on the top layer was applied in violent slashing motions with a cat o' nine tail whipping an imagined defenseless child. The violence of the strokes is not immediately apparent when viewing the canvas, just as the bruises and festering wounds of an abused child can be hidden by clothing or ignored by adults who should protect the child. I have always been committed to addressing issues of child abuse. As a high school teacher and elementary school principal in my early career, I occasionally had to meet with Child Protective Services and testify at court hearings. Today, I am a member of TeamFX, a marathon training team at Lady Bird Lake in downtown Austin. I ran the Austin Marathon and Half-Marathon for many years, and I raised money for abused and abandoned children at the Austin Children's Shelter. The team motto is “Creating a world without child abuse and neglect... one step at a time.”



“My Mardi Gras Life: Intercorporeal Metamorphosis and Carnavalesque”

Patrick Slattery

84" X 36"

Ongoing additions “in process”

acrylic on wood plaster casts, photographs, and found objects

### **Bio**

Dr. Patrick Slattery is Professor and Associate Department Head for Graduate Studies in the Department of Teaching, Learning & Culture in the College of Education and Human Development at Texas A&M University where he teaches courses in Philosophy of Education, Curriculum Theory, Social Foundations of Education, and Arts-Based Research. His books include: "Curriculum Development in the Postmodern Era" (Third Edition, Routledge, 2013); the co-authored text with Dana Rapp "Ethics and the Foundations of Education: Teaching Convictions in a Postmodern World" (Allyn and Bacon, 2003); the co-authored text with William Pinar "Understanding Curriculum" (Peter Lang Publishers, 1995) amongst others.... the central theme of his work is the promotion of a just, compassionate, and ecologically sustainable global culture through holistic and reconceptualized approaches to curriculum, constructive postmodern understandings of education, queer studies in gender and sexuality, and Process philosophical visions of creativity and change. In his research he contends that spiritual, ethical, and social transformation is intimately linked to visual culture, public pedagogy, and aesthetics, and that wisdom can emerge in the artistic process. He is a long-time visual artist and uses art-making as part of his research inquiries. Contact: [pslattery@tamu.edu](mailto:pslattery@tamu.edu) To see more of Patrick's art go to: <http://psartworks.com>

