

RePlace/Work in Progress and InsideOut/Work in Progress

"RePlace/Work in Progress" (2013/14), and *"InsideOut/Work in Progress"* (2015), represent an autobiographical turn. The shows were, essentially, about *where I am from*. The theme of these shows was imaginary and actual return to my place of birth and my multivalent relationship to that place. For these installations, I partially reconstructed my studio out of 2 x 4's, as if incomplete, under construction, with studio furniture, work in progress and projected, painted and drawn images and sounds associated with both real and imaginary *return*. *"InsideOut.."* incorporated interactive and participatory elements, including the collection of stories from visitors to the exhibition about *where they're from*.

RePlace/Work in Progress Statement

Recently, I returned to the house of my birth—built upon a sea wall, facing the Atlantic, in the ancient town of St. Ives, in Cornwall. The house has stood for hundreds of years. Built to withstand full force gales, it seems impervious to the elements, indifferent to the inhabitants. I remember sitting in the window seat, looking out to sea, toward the lighthouse, with spring tide waves crashing against the walls, over the roof and into the street, becoming a river. I am six or seven. I am there still.

I returned to the house but was not invited in. I drew the outside. I knocked on the door. I peered through the letterbox. I placed tracing paper on the granite steps and rubbed graphite for an impression. As a boy, I ran up and down these steps. I sensed my footfall. The mica, feldspar and quartz became mountains, valleys and rivers.

I rubbed the door to reveal the grain, the doorknocker, the dimpled window, and the letterbox. I could not finish.

I sent drawings in the mail from halfway across the world. I returned with tracings of the door and steps. I returned with pictures and moving images. I drew and painted moments of the generations before me, and my imaginary world. Moments that are there and not there now.

