

**Women's Caucus for Art of Georgia  
Upcoming Exhibition  
Presbyterian College  
Clinton, South Carolina  
January 23 - Feb. 21, 2009**

**"Occupation: Artist"**

**"To make their work is a necessity as their sense of self is merged with the power of the process."**

**Artist Statement  
Karen Weyandt**

Does the process make the artist or does the artist make the process?

I felt compelled over the years to spontaneously paint loose, abstract figures and faces. The process seemed to take charge, demanding me to ambiguously place an image, move its pose, and break up its solid form with open space, layers, or lines. Was I seeking my identity in my restless work?

My urge to investigate energy, motion, and ambiguity (transcendence of spacetime) has a broader context. Thinkers Einstein (quantum mechanics) and Freud (unconscious forces: id, ego, superego) and painters Picasso and de Kooning, for example, applied their genius to these issues. I became aware that my quest to abstractly describe hidden natural forces, shifts, and paradoxes both honored and renounced the pursuits of twentieth century male intellectuals. It had all been done; nonetheless I was compelled by a visceral, female source.

Did the process help me know myself or did my self-knowledge determine the process? Both and neither. I paint on, direction unknown, at peace with life's ambiguities.