

Plan for January – April 2017

In the aftermath of the 2016 presidential election

1. I am watching (more than once) William Kentridge's videos of his six Harvard Norton Lectures from 2012. I believe this South African artist is one of the most important, if not the seminal artist, in my lifetime spanning the mid 20th into the 21st centuries. He infuses politics into narrative, drawing and film as no other artist has. I am trying to let his words and images wash over me, without preconception or expectation.

http://mahindrahumanities.fas.harvard.edu/search/node/william_kentridge

2. I am learning about the latest board games. There's a tremendous resurgence of interest in these, and its one way people reconnect. They are complicated and often beautifully designed, frequently funded on Kickstarter. There are often lots of cards and compartments and sealed envelopes and stickers and miniatures. Opening a box for the first time is really exciting.

3. I am taking a college class on Japanese literature in translation. This will be a semester long study of the novelist Haruki Murakami. Japanese culture somewhat influences my art and its style, but I have never started a systematic exploration until now.

<http://www.harukimurakami.com/>

4. I am getting involved in a community art project. The year's theme at Enough Pie is sea level rise and a community wide focus on dangers, options, and possibilities meant to coincide with the arrival of a King Tide in Charleston SC.

<http://enoughpie.org/2016/12/awakening-v-king-tide/>

5. I have joined a Great Decisions study group to learn more about world affairs.

http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions/

These are unrelated activities, but they all represent influences I feel I need. I'm fortunate to be able to pursue them. I do not think I will lose ground as an artist. Sometimes it is useful to step back and look at things anew.