

## David Sokal Artist Statement

I am an interdisciplinary image creator working at the intersection of painting and photography and between time-based and static presentation. These seem to be areas of inquiry ripe for interrupting passive inattention and drawing the audience into a deeper conversation about the nature of Being, which presents us with an *impossible condition*.

What do I mean by impossible condition?

Words are not images even though both may describe. I might 'draw' an image with words, or illustrate text with an image, but I don't have a Rosetta Stone for these translations. To read 'red' is not to see red. The color sensation produced by reading the word is an unintelligible echo:



RED

Translation is part of the impossible condition of being sentient.

Bound in mortal flesh, limited by our five senses and dependent on language we can only know through translation. It is true in art, science and love. The impossible condition in art may be exemplified by a transmitter naively expecting a record of their experience to be translated by a receiver into the initial experience. In science it may be described as the problem of *knowing*, when mere observation changes what is to be known. In love, it may be described as a desire to be one with the other, while still being oneself.

I am attempting to create works that invite my audience to engage with their perceptions in such a way as to become more aware of our impossible condition.