



Susan McEachern - Clip 9

Using Text

I think I had more text in my earlier works... possibly because I was, you know, maybe attempting to think that, hey text is as important as imagery, and it should be balanced, it should be equal, you know, images shouldn't have all the power and text have none, which is of course the opposite of the way it actually is in the world... text has most of the power. And I think in... in later works I think I'm interested in... either transposing text, or putting it into my own words, or creating my own text, and not citing the experts or quoting the experts quite so much. And probably it's because maybe I'm feeling a little more self assured, the work is maybe more mature... a sense of greater confidence. And also probably because people hate reading text in work... you know, they complain, and to some extent I say well, you know, that is the kind of work I make. I mean you do end up responding to people who find fault with that. And I also think that the projects, I'm trying to bite off appropriate chunks... the family is a very difficult topic to address without text, whereas perhaps... you know, ants and aphids, you can represent with, you know, some graphs and charts and a few words, you know. Getting across ideas is something that, you know, you have to relate the scale to project to the idea, and maybe I'm getting a bit better at that. So I can do smaller sections, you know, say more with less. That would always be the goal. I admire work, the

simpler the work, the work that is just brilliantly simple, all they do is just...there it is and it's just speaks worlds to you. I would aspire to making work that you can put up a single image, and it speaks worlds and... and you know, you know, you try.

