

Statement

Steph Butchko's works explore the limits of manipulation in perception via a combination of natural and unnatural textures, gradients, scale and color. Butchko's focus on analyzing perception exists to create an interactive yet touch free relationship between viewer and art object. What does it mean for a piece to be interactive? Butchko argues that focusing solely on tactile conversation is limiting. The way a piece of art affects the mood in a room or the mood in the viewer for example could also be considered interactive.

Much of Butchko's inspiration can be found in the artist movements of the early 20th century as well as in the dogma of the Catholic Church. Much of the artist's attention to dogmatic themes exist with the intent to make the viewer feel a cosmic attention to themselves. Catholicism is often referenced because it is the faith that Butchko was raised in and therefore the most accessible when entering the conversation on who we are and what we are seeking as a curious species. Butchko questions the source of our desire for spirituality and how simply shifting perception can show us the magnificence of our present world as it is.