

An individualist caught in the reality of his own anonymity, a moment of realization when he is surrounded by irrationalism drowning out his thoughts of order in a sea of chaotic random fragments of thought.

The Man In The Crowd is a moment in time we all experience, whether briefly or continuously. Our world is our own until suddenly we look up, stirred by unfamiliar sensations, and realize we are not who we think we are, but part of an endless fluidity of others who influence us. Just when we feel comfortable, the swirl of external forces we ignore.

This work continues my exploration with broad gestures in contradiction with pattern, where order and disorder coexist, working toward a dynamic result to give the observer layers of visual interest, with the emotionalism I feel as a backdrop. Successful electronic painting is difficult, where the temptation is to blob colors and swirl them around without understanding how the process works. Each line in this work is crafted through experimentation of settings in the software to achieve an expected result. The background started as a vector grid, filled as a solid-void mat, then manipulated through extrusion and applied lighting effects to create a texture that could then be twisted and warped to move with the gestures occurring in the foreground. While completely different, the curvilinear strokes work with the fabric-like background, giving further depth to the feelings of being exposed, surrounded, and separated from familiarity.

The work was "electronically painted" on a Macintosh computer using an Intuous 4 digitizer tablet for direct hand input, using Adobe Creative Suite software for both vector and pixel together as a way of creating depth, detail, and broad gesture. The background was created in Illustrator and imported into Photoshop for painting. The final digital file size is 728 megabites. The process of laminating the RGB laser exposed film into glass includes optically clear polyurethane adhesive each side of the interlayer within two layers of ¼" low-iron optically clear glass. The glass allows light to interact similarly to how I see the work on screen, with greater effect as colors are projected onto adjacent surfaces.