

**Front and Back Cover:**

*The Blue Angel (detail), 2007*

Oil on Canvas, 40 x 60 inches (101.6 x 152.4 cm)

Featured on Page 35

**Acknowledgement Page:**

*Self Portrait, 1992*

Chalk and Charcoal on Paper, 18 x 24 inches (45.7 x 61 cm)

# GEOFFREY FONTAIGNE

selected works

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For more information on the artist visit [www.gfontaine.com](http://www.gfontaine.com)

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Geoffrey Fontaine grew up on the north shore of Long Island to a family grounded in both the arts and sciences. Fontaine's interest in visual arts began early with an attraction to the French impressionists. Throughout his grammar school years, his studies broadened to include the surrealists, minimalists, and other more modern masters. After a preliminary survey of art history, and experimentation with various styles and media, Fontaine developed his artistic technique under established artists such as Jeanne Timko, Mary Lynn Conte-Law and Dr. Mark Graham.

At Carnegie Mellon University, Fontaine's studies advanced his passion for the arts and enhanced his ability to view compositions on multiple levels. Mathematical coursework expanded his aptitude for abstract theories and problem-solving. Musical training developed his sensitivities to subtle changes in dynamics, movement, structure, and thematic development.

Additional training in gross anatomy, figure drawing, anatomical drawing, and kinematics, honed his existing skills for portraying human interaction. A post-graduate photography apprenticeship with Ron Pretzer refined Fontaine's eye for light and composition in two-dimensional images. As a teacher of drawing and painting at Haven Art, Fontaine expanded his understanding of the way children and adults perceive visual stimuli.

Geoffrey is deeply involved with the art community in New York City, and attends numerous gallery and museum events. He supports programs at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in NY, and is active in working with the curatorial staff to discover and cultivate emerging artists.

In recent years, collectors world-wide have begun embracing Fontaine's unique perspective. His artwork can be found in numerous private collections in the US and abroad, and a growing number of public institutions have begun purchasing his work. He is annually displayed in solo and group exhibitions.

Combining a passion for the visual and conceptual, Geoffrey Fontaine applies pigment with abandon. In a Schiele-like response, he enhances forms and textures to refine impressionistic elements in an otherwise abstract composition. The artist draws from early experience with improvisational music, figurative art, and minimalist textural works in his latest series 'Beurre'.

"For me, painting is like composing music. In my childhood I would often sit alone at the piano, allowing the music to flow. It wasn't planned, it wasn't conscious or mathematical, it was pure emotion. Temporarily shutting off the analytical part of my brain is a skill that music taught me and I now apply to my art.

Somehow the skills developed in my study of music and photography come through in the paintings, even though I'm not consciously "thinking" about either during most of the creative process. Near the very end of a work, a return to an analytical consciousness leads to delicate touches. One might compare this to how children see clouds... I alter the abstraction to more closely represent the realistic images personally visible in the work."

Public commissions have included work for the Mount Sinai Medical Center, The Israel Discount Bank, and several other businesses in New York. His most recent public work is a large painting for the World Financial Center, to be hung in Tower #3. The work has been started but not completed as of this printing.