

Connie Millholland - Millhollandarts.com

Artist Statement: **Moments in Time**

Ordinary Lives

“There are no ordinary lives.” Ken Burns

People in their everyday routines spend time as passersby as they transport, gather in groups for work or to attend events. Unknown to each other, they constantly create moments in time.

As they glance at each other’s faces on the streets, in public transport, office buildings etc. they can only ponder on what is superficial: facial expressions, personal attire, forceful body motions and “who is doing what?”- cell phone conversations, reading newspapers, or waiting in a line. Most are obviously successful. On the other hand, the less fortunate individuals are also present on the streets holding their hand out for spare dollars with sad countenances, inadequate clothing, hunger, and fear in their eyes.

As passersby move through the stream many individual countenances, silent compliments or criticisms form in their minds momentarily. Their thoughts are released and then forgotten as they move on to the next oncoming image.

My paintings depict various scenes of people together for a *Moment in Time*. I was inspired by a female artist Isabel Bishop from New York’s Art Student League, who painted figures from 1930 to 1970.

As the viewer ponders over the painted composition, facial expressions, and body movements of each figure, what thoughts arise? Will they judge desperation or contentment? Will they look at the passing scenes superficially thus block memories and negative feelings that may arise, or will they become open to feel and acknowledge the similar emotions within themselves?