

Why We Draw In The Sand

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www.sandandsawdustfestival.org

The Story of Sand Drawing

Drawing and scribing geometry in the sand has ancient roots and was a catalyst to increased human intelligence eons ago. I know this, because when I first started drawing circles in the sand I was gifted with visions or memories that showed me the ancient practice of drawing on the ground and their methods. I often tell students on the beach they are standing on the first classrooms of humanity and we are partaking in one of the oldest crafts ever practiced. People would have drawn in the sand before counting numbers and possibly before language was used. Sand drawing is a way to connect with ancient humans and the art, tools, and methods have not changed in thousands of years. There is a purity in doing the exact action of ancient peoples and walking down their thought process.

While cutting geometry and pictures in the sand we have a direct link to our ancient ancestors. I often imagine what it was like for the first person who grabbed a Y shaped branch and turned the first circle. It would have been the first time a human experienced the concept of perfection and had dominion over it. It must have felt like a god just appeared on the beach and the circle might have even sacred them with its perfectly rounded shape.

The feeling we get from the simplicity of drawing in the sand is unmatched by other art forms. Making a temporary art piece allows for mistakes and frees the artist up to experiment and just be in the moment with nature and themselves. This is an attractive aspect because temporary means there is no pressure or plans needed, just a little focus and imagination. The feeling and sound of cutting the sand has a meditative effect as well – very Zen. Sand art is a transformative artform as well. This means no material is added or taken away like in most other art forms. The sand is simply transformed for a few hours and cleaned away by the rising tide with no trace – beautifully simple and simply soothing.

I honestly feel as if I have done this long ago and am here to revive the art form and share it with others. In our modern times, with our busy lives, we lost sight of our ancient beginnings and don't give it much thought. I think we can know ourselves and what we are capable of through our long-forgotten past. My dream is to teach enough people how to use and implement sacred geometry and ancient methods so we, once again, create projects that have divine inspiration and convey true human spirit.

Why is Ocean Shores the best place in the world to draw on the beach?

The Beach - The beaches themselves lend to drawing large designs on them in a way not found anywhere else in the world – I have looked. These expansive beaches give plenty of room for gigantic designs with their gentle slope and large tidal changes. The sand has a composure that is perfect as well, the right blend of clay and particles make the sand cut smoothly in a gentle fashion giving a sensation and sound that is truly therapeutic for the for our busy lives. Even the wildlife will take part in the fun. There are many times I am drawing and birds land and frolic right in front of the art, I believe they are drawn to the energy the

designs emanate. I feel as if the designs are acupuncture or massage therapy for the Earth itself. There is true magic happening on the beaches in Ocean Shores.

The People - Ocean Shores is an oasis for the eclectic and artistic soul that hides within us all. The people here easily embraced my geometric art and I am so thankful they accepted this simple craft developed on their beaches. I have had the most enlightening conversations out on the beach; half way through a design a curious mind strolls up and an hour later we are deep in philosophical conversation without our names even exchanged yet.