

## If you could collaborate with anyone, who would it be and why?

I am in awe of science, which provides incredible tools for understanding the natural world. However, when my father died, I realized its limits in telling us anything meaningful about vital subjective human experiences such as love, grief, death. Over the years, I have developed an irrepressible interest in the intersections of science and spirituality where one discipline can inform the other.

For this reason, I would like to collaborate with Dr. Richard Davidson. Together with The Mind & Life Institute in Colorado, Dr. Davidson has focused on working with the Dalai Lama and many of his Tibetan monks. He uses imaging technology to measure the mental activity of monks in advanced meditation, which has identified specific brain structures involved in positive and negative emotions. Because Buddhist practices train the mind and cultivate emotional balance, this research has interesting implications for spiritual well-being.

For me, the research is exciting because it has the potential to illuminate the basis of consciousness. What is the self that perceives reality while living in the world and eventually passing into death? This was a question I arrived at while grieving over my father years ago and it inspires me still. *The Liminal Series*, which I developed at MacDowell, involves abstract digital animations that are my visual musings on this question of self. The images are large-scale DVD projections of moving white dots and dashes against a black ground. These dissolve and reappear in patterns that coalesce into atomic, cellular, or cosmic forms. By enveloping the viewer in an apparently infinite structure, I aim to call attention to the self that perceives. Mediated by computer technology, these animations are my way of connecting science with spirituality. Collaborating with Dr. Davidson, however, would introduce a level of objectivity to what I do and could produce a record of aspiring consciousness in motion.



*Eva Lee was born and raised in New York City. Her work has been on view at P.S. 122 Gallery; The Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Gallery; and The Bronx Museum of the Arts. Upcoming exhibitions will be held at The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT; and The Yale School of Art Gallery, New Haven, CT.*