



CHURCH★AS★ART

*Imagine Worship that Changes People into
People Who Change The World*

Introduction

Church as Art's big dream is to outfit churches of various forms to more deeply engage in local action, birth original work, and grow in understanding their calling and mission. This kind of dream means that we serve as bridge-builders and translators with communities and individuals who often find themselves on the fringes of Christianity and Culture and yet believe that they bring a meaningful contribution to God's mission.

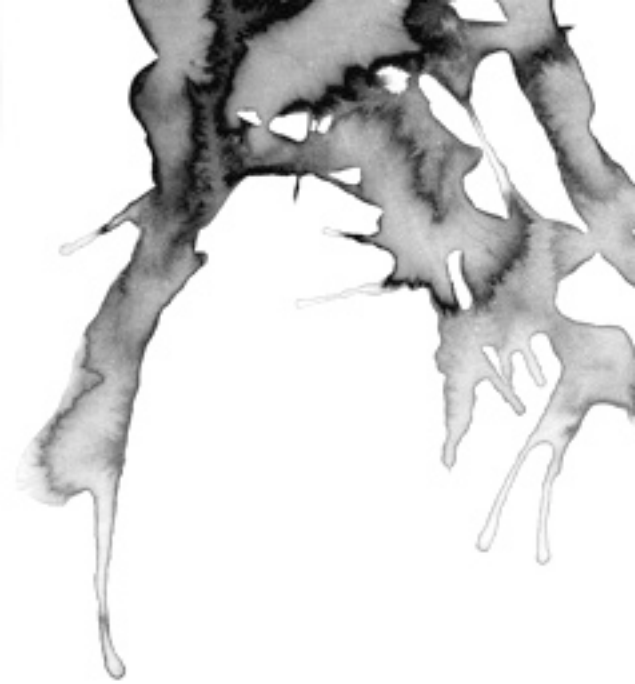


Our art is drawing congregations and their leadership into generative conversation with each other and their neighbors. The outcome of these conversations include new works of worship: worship gathering programs, original music, artwork, poetry, and

community action, to name a few. We believe that, so called, 'laypeople' can handle complicated puzzles and that play and healthy communication can be learned while navigating these puzzles. We even have a hunch that "church happens" when prayer, worship, and just acts are enjoyed as puzzles in-and-of themselves.

At Church as Art, we look to match up our dreams with the dreams of clients to together join God's big dreams.

We addresses issues including worship styles, church identity, young adult ministry, non-violent communication and outreach through tools of community organizing, multi-media, and creative exploration. Shift and widen your church's perspectives through intentional-yet-personal approaches including the following:



Examples of Workshops and Consultation

- Build bridges between contemporary and traditional worshippers and leadership.
- Weekend seminar exploring Emerging patterns in the missional church.
- Interactive workshops on church and postmodern culture, non-violent youth ministry, community organizing, or mission and social media.
- Team building between pastors and musicians/artists in the church, or neighboring artists.
- Expanding the repertoire of praise teams to include original, contemporary, global, and alternative-folk music.
- Infusing "high liturgical" worship with lay ownership, original interactive practices, and tasteful media.
- Reorienting "contemporary" worship approaches into missional gatherings of disciples building upon the past for the sake of the future.
- Building relationships between churches and their neighboring artists

As a church, individual, or team, Church as Art will use our experiences, resources and networks to help you become the creator of the kind of artifacts and expressions that your community most values.

Why Worship Coaching & Consultation?

What makes a church style contemporary or alternative? Why do so many mainline churches have such a hard time doing emergent worship? How does the protestant tradition and polity converge with this emergence? Why do so many evangelical churches have a hard time with tradition or ritual? How might congregations celebrate their traditions of worship while learning from and adapting to complimentary styles from contemporary emerging expressions? How can we get the un-churched young adults in our neighborhood into worship, or should we even try? Why are downtown churches' attendances decreasing while downtown neighborhoods are growing? How do we even begin to make disciples in an era of global disparity, mass-media marketing, and post-modern skepticism?

These are all questions regarding the mission and practice of the church. Putting aesthetics and theology in opposition or defining contemporary as anti-traditional can just be cultural excuses for the church stuck in writers block. What if, instead, we asked how our traditions help us to live in the way of Jesus inspiring our witness among our neighbors? What if we saw the church's friendship between both Gospel and culture as a momentum continually pressing us to innovate upon our traditions as we've been handed them...

This is emergence, risks in faith and imagination to move toward where God's work of art, "the reign of God," leads and anticipates.





About Troy

Troy Bronsink is an artist and a pastor seeking the way of Jesus. He and his wife and daughter, live in the Capitol View area of inner-city Atlanta, where they are forming "Neighbor's Abbey," an holistic monastic community. Their family has been passionate about community development, education, and creativity for years. In integrating these Troy has become a contributor in the emerging church conversation. He is a singer-songwriter with 15 years of experience ranging from youth ministry to worship director to senior pastor, and in both the mainline and para-church field. Troy has an MDiv from of Columbia Theological Seminary, is an ordained Presbyterian minister, serving on the Greater Atlanta Presbytery's Emerging Church Committee, founder of the Atlanta Emergent Cohort, and board member of Emergent Village. He is a contributing author to the 2007 Baker Emersion release, An Emergent Manifesto of Hope, and author of the forthcoming 2011 Paraclete Press book, Getting Drawn In.



About Josh

Joshua Case is a blogger (joshuacase.net), podcaster (thenickandjoshpodcast.com), and activist. Josh and his wife live in Decatur Georgia where he is in his final year of study at the Candler School of Theology. Josh is an Episcopalian, co-facilitator of the Atlanta Emergent cohort, and has blogged and podcasted on matters related to Christianity in the emerging culture for over 10 years. Before moving to Atlanta, Joshua worked for six years in Geneva Switzerland where he served as the executive director for an international, interfaith youth work and ministry organization.

