

## **Wish You Were Here: *Bill Dunlap***

### **When did you live in the Bay Area, and what brought you here?**

1992-2006. I followed the love of my life here. She had a purpose in life! I had no purpose in my life then. I could go anywhere.

### **What prompted you to leave?**

Many reasons. Among the more important ones, my wife was writing her doctoral dissertation and the academic job market would place her somewhere, most likely not in the Bay Area. And honestly my hillbilly roots were calling me. I had a deep desire to return to the hills and hollers of Appalachia.

### **Where did you end up?**

An area: Western Maryland/West Virginia /SW Pennsylvania. And eventually New York City. We split our time between the two.

### **Has your artwork changed or evolved since you left the Bay Area?**

Immensely, I believe. For me art-making in San Francisco was student or apprentice work. There was so much I wanted to try, so many different styles. Only just now (after nearly 20 years!) I feel that I'm finally settling on a few specific approaches that I want to follow and develop.

### **What are you up to now?**

Art-making mostly. But I've also developed a much healthier lifestyle. I drink very little and exercise every day. Actually, a very holistic approach to health had its beginnings in San Francisco: walking all over the city, jogging on Ocean Beach, biking everywhere (through the city and through the Headlands), healthy organic eating, and meditating at the Zen Center. In a very real way, so much of what I am today started in San Francisco. I always think of San Francisco as the place where I became an adult.