



VAJRASATTVA-VAJRAGARVI YAB YUM

JAMPA DORJE'S ARTIST STATEMENT as related to a series of Tantric Paintings

I have created eleven prints based on small Vajrasatava-Vajragarvi yab-yum paintings that I did during my four-year solitary retreat in the San Juan Mountains in Colorado at the Tara Mandala Retreat Center. I painted each yab-yum in the styles of well-known western artists: Matisse, Braque, Dali, Chagall, Picasso, Tobey, Blake, Rouault, and Diebenkorn. Each framed print is 18 x24 inches.

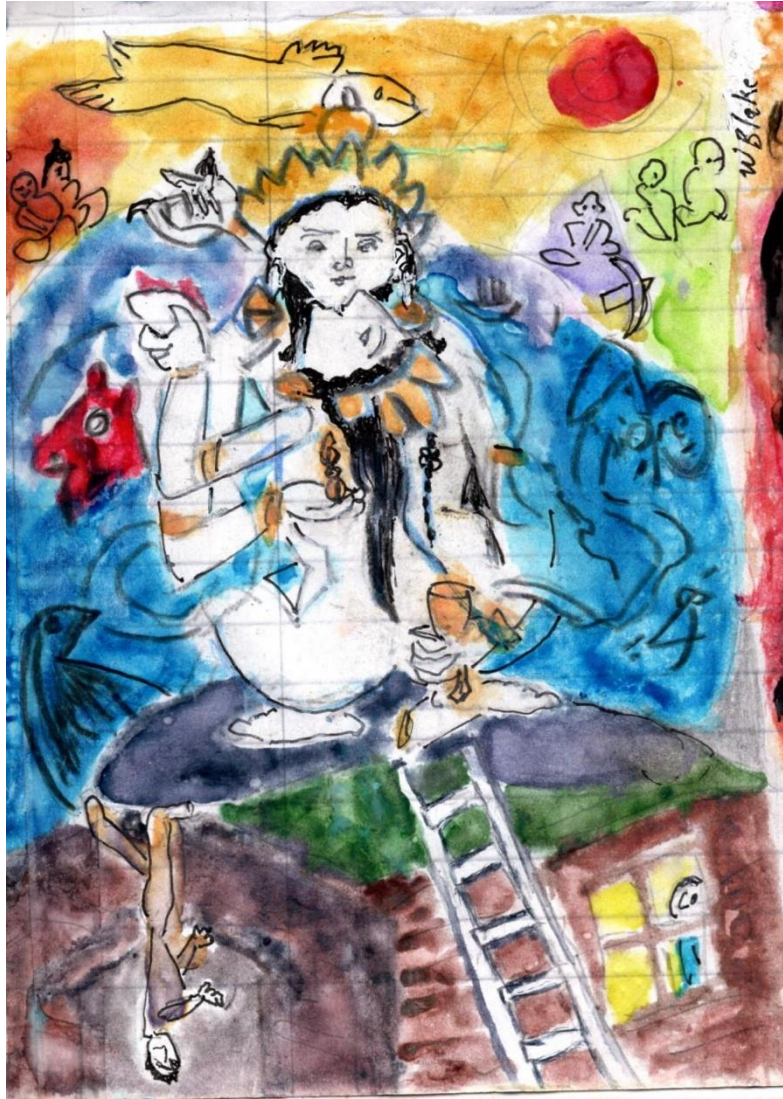
Yab-yum (literally, "father-mother") is a common symbol in the Tibetan Buddhist art of India, Bhutan, Nepal, and Tibet. Yab-yum is generally understood to represent the primordial (or mystical) union of wisdom and compassion, depicted as a male deity in union with his female consort through the ideas of interpenetration or coalescence. In Buddhism the masculine form is active, representing the compassion and skillful means (*upaya*), and the feminine form is passive and represents wisdom (*prajna*), both of which are necessary to enlightenment. United, the figures symbolize the union necessary to overcome the veils of *Maya*, the false duality of subject and object. These figures are frequently worked in the shape of statues or reliefs or are painted on hangings called *thangkas*. This profound meditational deity practice is the most powerful healing and purification method in Vajrayana Buddhism.



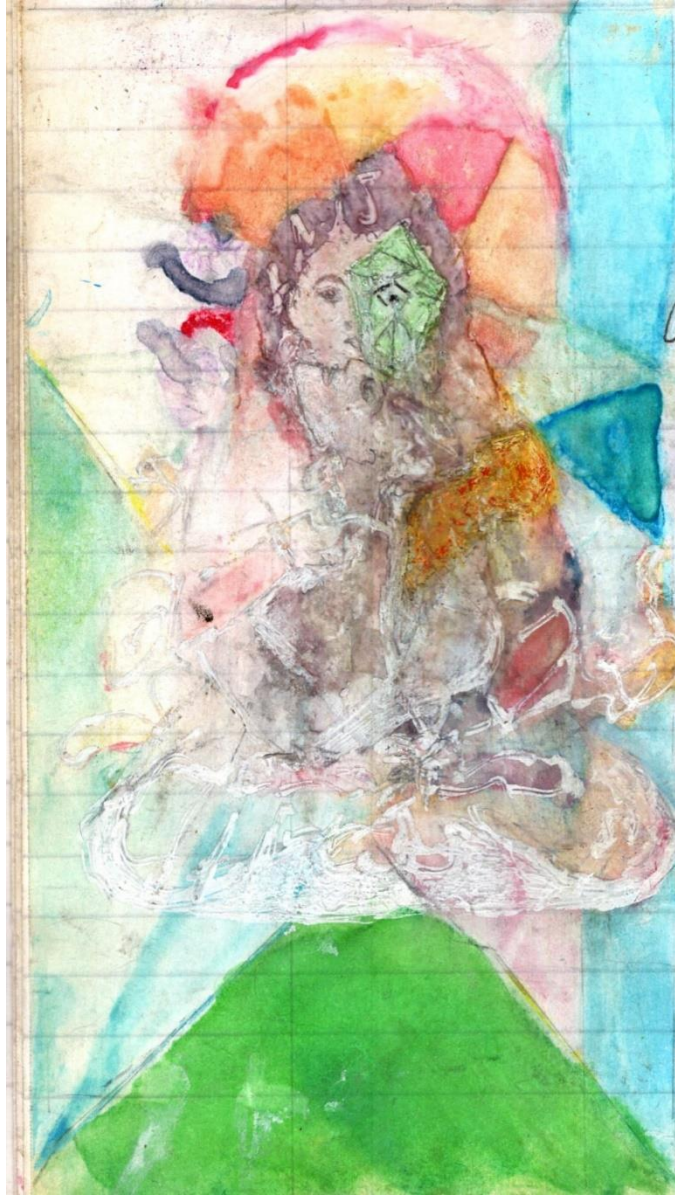
Paul Klee



William Blake



Marc Chagall



Richard Diebenkorn



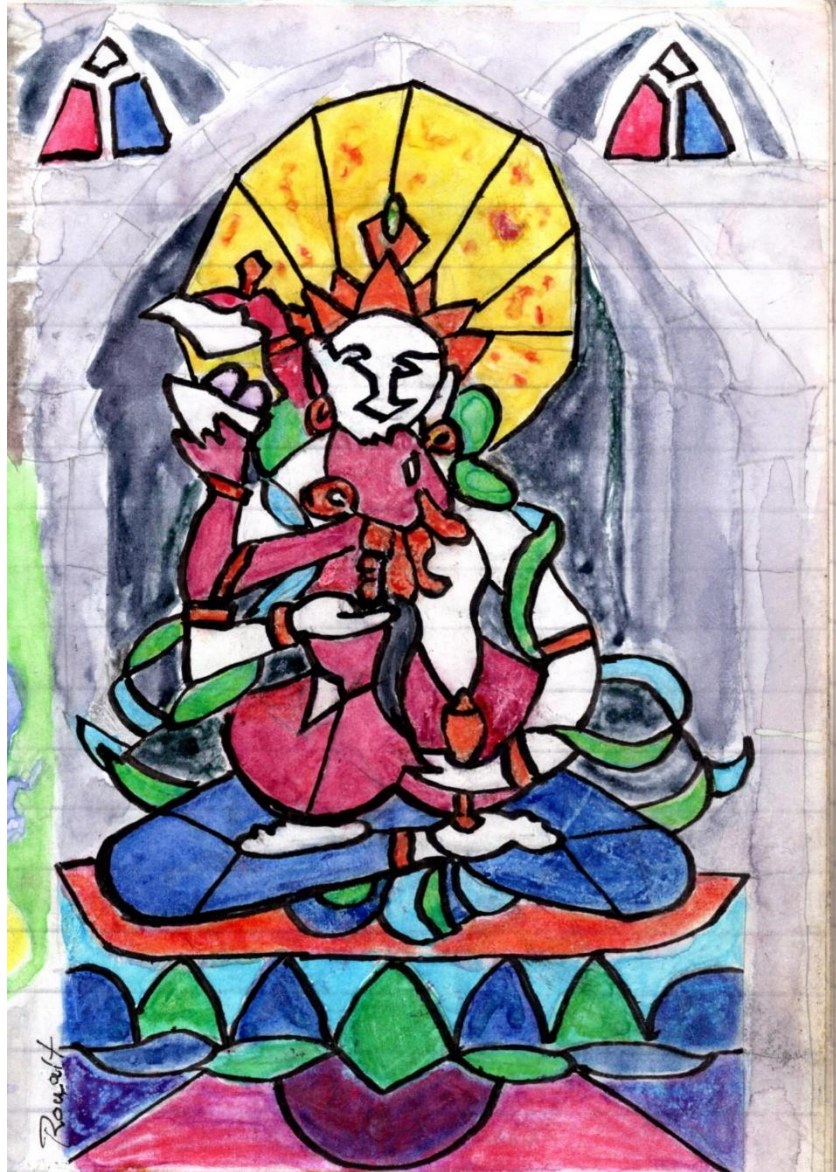
Salvador Dalí



Georges Braque



Mark Tobey



Georges Rouault



Pablo Picasso



Joan Miro



Henri Matisse