

Artist Statement - Photography

Having grown up in Appalachia, I have developed an appreciation of the abandoned dwellings and belongings that are common in Southeastern Ohio. Humans' mobility is often related to class; wealth makes one's ability to travel easier, and poverty makes one's stability and permanence a constant struggle.

By creating photographs that focus on the structure of the image, I show the stability in humans' absence. Focusing on texture, I hope to create an image that shows the beauty of decay, mimicking the natural decay process in architecture as well as organic life. In creating a shallow depth of field, I hope to confront the viewer with the issue of depravity and its difference among class.

Swimming pools are places that most humans regard fondly. However, pools are places that potentially add anxiety and an element of uncomfortableness to our beings. This summer I photographed my family by the swimming pool, and I found their interactions in their aquatic environment to be quite humorous, not stifled with them being uncomfortable. I then started to think of the time frame that we use pools, which is usually between four to five months out of the year. Even so, pools still have a vividly nostalgic and childish association. By photographing a vacant swimming pool, I wanted to contradict this association, creating a feeling of lonesomeness and isolation.