

RE·CONSTRUCTS

A toy camera records a flawed and fantastical world. I idealize these fractured moments, removing the camera's characteristic flaws. The synthetic result documents my Faustian search for the inspired moment of capture and the hidden details surrounding it.

These images explore the truth that exists between an experience and a memory.



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INNOVATIVE URBAN DOCUMENTATION

ARTIST STATEMENT

I explore an idealized world where structure and form are filtered from an urban landscape.

I first saw it from a car's backseat window some 25 years ago; the metropolitan framework of Chicago. I remember contorting my body in an effort to take in more. To my young eyes the buildings were impossibly high and overflowing. I was in awe of their presence.

This city's grandeur would imprint in me the power of logic and reason. Stone, glass and metal twisted into epic shapes - direct evidence of our progress as a people. The rational sciences fused into tangible symbols of human strength.

I spent four years traveling the country. I visited hundreds of cities. None held the same attraction, the same blend of tradition and innovation as Chicago. Each return trip left me shocked at the pace of its growth and humbled by the beauty of its corridors.

My images preserve these elements as shrines where humankind's achievements are honored and explored.

I create rifts in reality – pockets of concentrated time. Space is pushed, pulled and carved via traditional and non-traditional techniques. Each image is born from a series of photographs. These analog and digital sources may be as large as 120 mega pixels. I implement a process of refinement, where elements not tied directly to the structural integrity of the subject are stripped. The skeleton of the image is handled with a worshipful eye. It is glorified, enhanced and presented to the viewer – not as a byproduct of society, but as an honored stage in humanity's progress.

Michelangelo is known to have carved his 'David' under the discipline of *disegno*. This is the belief that sculpting the male form is likened to the act of divine creation. Michelangelo believed that religion guided his hands with faith.

I believe that technology guides my hands with reason.

PORTFOLIO DETAIL

The Holga was introduced in Hong Kong in 1982 for \$20.

In the last 26 years, it has changed little. As an information gathering device it is a crude and basic system. It is less a camera and more an ill-fitting plastic enclosure for medium format (120) film. A loose focus ring is the only real manual control offered on a Holga.

The Holga 60mm lens is a single piece of curved plastic or glass, depending on the model. No two Holgas will produce the same image. Light leaks, warped elements and flimsy materials give each camera its own life, quality and perspective. **These characteristic flaws give each little black box an unmistakably human element.**

In the last year I have taken a Holga everywhere. It has become an extension of me. I don't worry about breaking it or getting it wet. Its simplicity removes any obstruction between me and my experiences. I'll often abandon the viewfinder and shoot blind.

The negative film inside my holga has a high dynamic range. Scanning and examining each negative at 4000dpi reveals much information that might not be immediately visible. These environments are painstakingly reconstructed, distilling the moment of capture from the myriad of Holga characteristics. Lens distortion is corrected, uneven exposure is adjusted, and frames are recropped. **The image is rebuilt in the same fashion a childhood memory may be recalled - details (often idealized) slowly emerge with care and patience.**

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Cross Section & Front View of a Plastic Holga Lens



Initial Scanned Negative



Final Re-Construct

More Info:

Initial Scan

The Flair Building

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

11/27/07

More Info:

Couch Place

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

06/18/07

More Info:

Initial Scan

South West Loop

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

06/15/07

More Info:

Initial Scan

Bloomington

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

05/21/07

More Info:

Initial Scan

Wells Corridor North

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

05/15/07

More Info:

Initial Scan

Orleans Bridge No. 2

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

05/07/07

More Info:

Initial Scan

Orleans Bridge No. 1

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

05/07/07

More Info:

Initial Scan

Van Buren & Federal

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

04/11/07

More Info:

The Brown Palace: Atrium

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

01/18/07

More Info:

The Brown Palace: Escalator

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

01/18/07

More Info:

Initial Scan

Chicago Aerial No. 3

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

01/15/07

More Info:

Initial Scan

**Shaarey Zedek
Synagogue**

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

01/09/07

More Info:

Initial Scan

Denver Art Museum: Canyon Walk

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

12/19/06

More Info:

Initial Scan

Chicago Aerial No. 2

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

11/21/06

More Info:

Initial Scan

Chicago Aerial No. 1

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

11/21/06

More Info:

Initial Scan

Southern State Parkway

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

11/21/06

More Info:

Initial Scan

Wantagh Deli

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

11/21/06

More Info:

Initial Scan

124 W. Polk (Day)

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

10/03/06

More Info:

Initial Scan

124 W. Polk (Dusk)

Rollover the image
to view film prior to
Re-Construction.

10/03/06

More Info: