

Public Abstract

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My thesis centers on the idea of "societal control that results in stifled creativity within an individual". We begin life able to playfully express imaginative ideas until our ideas are judged and we start to question ourselves. Over time these influences condition us, to a point that inhibits our creative thought process. In my images, water symbolizes "control". Water is a dominating variable that can continuously change situations and parallels societal conformity. Printing the images with the Tri-Color Gum Bi Chromate process further expresses my thesis because of the unpredictable nature of the process. The nature of this medium allows tremendous creative freedom, and the "dreamlike" quality of the prints resembles the functioning of our creative sub-conscious.

The ambiguity of the imagery intrigues the viewer, leaving the prints open for contemplation, interpretation and ultimately understanding the creative individual that resides in all of us, despite the controlling forces that govern us.

My hope is that these prints will alert others of society's constraints against their creative potential. Ultimately, this awareness should make all of us less critical and more open to creativity and inventive problem solving.