2017

Beyond The Surface

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Recommended Citation

http://digitalcommons.bard.edu/senproj_s2017/297
Artist Statement
Tamar Sandalon

This world is my own. I’m like a child in a new house, I just want to explore. Everything is exciting, and I’m seeing it for the first time.

I’ve created a series that primarily focus on curiosity and base reaction. Ordinary scenes are depicted through a childlike lens. Images are flattened, their planes meld together creating fluctuation and distortion- a nod to reality’s inherent fluidity. These images are not windows, rather, they resemble canvases. They explore color and expression in an immediate fashion, but also contain subtleties- little secrets. When photographing people, I tend to focus on individuals, though I sometimes incorporate small groups and silhouettes. The portraits are visually simple, but capture complex and intimate expressions. Undoubtedly, subjects portray their reactions to me. I like to photograph those who warm my heart.

However, Tension exists between the idealistic way I view the world and the true nature of things. Reality bleeds through sentimental illustrations; brick walls crumble, old games break, and people age. There is no escaping the truth; things are not always positive, everything ends. Despite this, I continue to explore and create confronting illusions. While planets crumble, new stars are born- thus I remain hopeful. My photographs are of moments and scenes one would notice but not dwell on. I preserve these moments, so that my audience may understand what initially drew me in, and what kept me there wondering.