

# Christy Shigekawa

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## STATEMENT

I am inspired by ambiguity and mystery in everyday life, unpredictable circumstances and coincidence. With my camera I create portraits of places that are both minutely specific and ambiguously anonymous. I use my photographs to simultaneously capture the world as it literally exists as well as create my own disorienting vision of the world. Context is everything. Photography allows me to re-contextualize and make alien (and therefore call attention to) the mundane things which exist in life largely unnoticed. It is these happenstantial occurrences, these moments of unexpected beauty and strangeness that I am drawn to.

Continually present in my mind are the questions of how we construct our understanding of the world and how we narrate our lives. I seek out the intersections between fate and personal control. We all want to leave a mark, to be remembered. As much as we try to control this, our marks are inevitably altered by fate in the forms of decay, progression, and reinterpretation. Likewise, memory, with all its malleability and the degree to which it is subject to revision and distortion, functions in direct parallel to this. It is the struggle to control our memories versus the forces that are beyond our control causing them to be lost and misinterpreted.

## EDUCATION

2008 • Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI - MFA Photography

2006 • California State University, Chico - BA Communication Design, option in Graphic Design, Minors in Psychology and Art Studio

## EXHIBITIONS / PUBLICATIONS

2011: "Slideluck Bushwick," 3rd Ward, Brooklyn, NY.

2010: "Doodle," Anton Art Center, Mount Clemens, MI.

2008: "CMYK Magazine Vol. 42"

"Photographer's Forum Best of Photography Annual 2008"

"Here & Now: The 2008 Graduate Degree Exhibition," Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI.

"8th Annual Cranbrook Video Festival," Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI.

"They Live: Cranbrook Performance Night 2008," Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI.

"Side by Side: New works from the Cranbrook Photography studios," Museum of New Art, Detroit, Pontiac, MI.

"Under New Management," Bolton Gallery, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI.

"Mailed and Mounted," Anton Art Center, Mount Clemens, MI.

"Michigan Annual XXXIV," Anton Art Center, Mount Clemens, MI.

2007: "Transmorphicalshiftolution," Forum Gallery, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI.

"7th Annual Cranbrook Video Festival," Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI.

"Picture This: New Ideas on Photography from Cranbrook Academy of Art," Museum of New Art, Detroit, Pontiac, MI.

"Only Human," 79 New Montgomery Gallery, San Francisco, CA.

"Environ-meant," Forum Gallery, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI.

2006: "Loupe," Forum Gallery, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI.

"10th Annual Janet Turner Student Printmakers' Invitational," Ayers Hall, California State University, Chico, CA.

2005: "Photographer's Forum magazine Best of College Photography Annual" 2004 and 2005.

"Digital Dialog," Chico Art Center, Chico, CA.

## EXPERIENCE

2010–present • Graphic Designer/Prepress, Copycats, New York, NY

Responsibilities: Designing brochures, business cards, stationary, posters, annual reports, and websites for various clients; prepress for all files.

2009 • Freelance Graphic Designer, Thompson cthink, New York, NY

Responsibilities: Designing websites, business cards, packaging, and stationary for various clients.

2008–2009 • Graphic Designer/Typesetter, Sharp Image Printing, Los Angeles, CA

Responsibilities: Pre-press; preparing files for digital or film output, sending to press, designing business cards, postcards, advertisements.

2007–2008 • HR/PR Coordinator/Teaching Assistant, Photography Dept., Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Responsibilities: Assistant to artists-in-residence David Hilliard and Carl Toth, official department communications, scheduling activities with visiting artists, hosting prospective students, organizing/maintaining dept. calendars, updating department website.

2006–2008 • Digital Lab Tech, Central Media Lab, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Responsibilities: Monitoring of lab during student use, troubleshooting, assisting with printing, instructing students on software/equipment.

2007 • Assistant to the Registrar, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Responsibilities: Updating museum collection database, filing, photographing objects in collection, researching info about objects.

2006–2007 • Installation Assistant, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Responsibilities: Installation/deinstallation of artwork between shows in Museum, including wall preparation, packing/unpacking/hanging artwork.

2005–2006 • Graphic Design Intern, IMC (Instructional Media Center), Chico, CA

Responsibilities: Working with individual clients including CSU, Chico President and Alumni Assoc. to come up with design solutions for projects including posters, postcards, invitations, brochures. Also worked with programmer to design interactive Flash maps of campus buildings.