

Fat Canary Journal

January 2019

BEN ROBINSON

www.BenRobinsonPhotography.com



grain silo

Ben Robinson was born in Dillsboro, a rural town in southern Indiana. He studied photography at Indiana University and received his BFA, along with a minor in Art History, in 2016. Ben moved to Bangkok, Thailand shortly after graduating, where he lived for two years. He has now returned to Chicago, Illinois. His work has been exhibited in galleries both in the United States and in Thailand, and has been featured in fine art magazines such as *Photographer's Forum* and *Canvas Creative Arts Magazine*. In addition, a handmade book of photography was admitted to the permanent collection of the Kinsey Institute.

Ben's artwork deals with a wide variety of concepts, inspired by personal experiences and art history. His work questions and raises important social, cultural and political issues, and often pushes the boundaries of art and photography, using traditional methods in non-traditional ways.



country road

Unbiased Documentation of Rural Southern Indiana:

An insider's look at the backwards and beautiful country

I am from small-town America. The kind of town where most people are born, raised, live and die within a 15-mile radius. Partially because of this, there is a small-mindedness that breeds in these areas. When I was growing up, I couldn't wait to escape. I didn't want to end up like my countless peers, who never left Indiana.

However, I respect other lifestyles as different (not wrong) and I appreciate some of the opportunities and values my rearing awarded me. I feel an undeniable allure to the beauty and simplicity of my hometown.

This work explores notions of home, roots and nostalgia. As well as trying to reconcile political, theological and ethical differences. The images, shot using a 4x5 view camera, expose an inner struggle; spawned by my childhood home.



American flag and church



artillery



buffalo



deer and rebel flag



mobile home, two RVs and a van



state champs 1954

Ben Robinson

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Education:

Indiana University, B.F.A., Photography 2016

Selected Exhibitions:

2017 - Tentacles Gallery, "Tentacles TV," Bangkok, Thailand
2016 - Grunwald Gallery, "Pornograms," Bloomington, IN USA
2016 - Harlos House, "Mythic," Bloomington, IN USA
2016 - Blueline Gallery, "Pop-up Show," Bloomington, IN USA
2015 - Grunwald Gallery, "BFA Area Show," Bloomington, IN USA
2014 - Alternative Gallery, "Memento Mori," Bloomington, IN USA
2014 - Grunwald Gallery, "Overseas Study Show," Bloomington, IN USA

Collections:

"Still Lives," The Kinsey Institute, Bloomington, IN USA. Acquired 2016

Publications:

"No. 18" & "No. 26," *SOIL Magazine*, Volume 1: Somatophobia, 2018
"Crazy Stairs," *Canvas Creative Arts Magazine*, Volume 18: Issue 2, 2015
"Honey Man," Photographers' Forum, Best of College & High School Photography, 2015

Awards & Grants:

Henry Holmes Smith Scholarship, IU School of Art Architecture & Design, 2016
Undergraduate Creative Activities Grant, Hutton Honors College, 2015
International Experiences Program Grant, Hutton Honors College, 2014
Area Prize in Photography, IU School of Art Architecture & Design, 2013 & 2014



old truck



the front lawn