

Papers & Publications: Interdisciplinary Journal of Undergraduate Research

Volume 7

Article 11

2018

Ruins

Lauren Copelan
University of North Georgia

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.northgeorgia.edu/papersandpubs>



Part of the [Fine Arts Commons](#), and the [Photography Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Copelan, Lauren (2018) "Ruins," *Papers & Publications: Interdisciplinary Journal of Undergraduate Research*: Vol. 7 , Article 11.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.northgeorgia.edu/papersandpubs/vol7/iss1/11>

This Visual Art is brought to you for free and open access by the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (CURCA) at Nighthawks Open Institutional Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Papers & Publications: Interdisciplinary Journal of Undergraduate Research by an authorized editor of Nighthawks Open Institutional Repository.

Ruins

Acknowledgments

N/A

Ruins

Cover Art Contest Finalist

Ruins is a selection from a larger body of work, titled *waste not, want not*, used to explore the role of waste in a consumer society. *Ruins'* low saturated color scheme and dream-like haze is created through the use of a large format photography and color film. Film is a purist medium, allowing for the capture of consumer waste with little to no digital interference- encouraging self-reflection and a critical view of the way we as consumers treat the environment. The discarded materials and trash in *Ruins* not only poses a moral question, but also draws the viewer's eye in a way that is unusual of the subject matter.

My work at the time was industrial in nature; this series stemmed from an exploration of industrial waste eventually leading to various forms of consumer waste. This image features the elaborate line work and movement found amidst the chaos of construction waste.

Much like the majority of people in our society, I am a participant in the consumer cycle. The irony found in my medium and the wastefulness of film production and development is not lost on me. The imagery in *Ruins* is meant to challenge not only my audience, but myself as well, taking a deeper look at exactly what and how much we waste on a regular basis - while also taking the time to stop and appreciate the more unsightly things.



Contributor Bio

Lauren Copelan is a Visual Arts Educator and artist from North Georgia. She has been making art for 15+ years, focusing on photography, textiles, and illustration. Copelan's work primarily features observational subject matter and social issues. Copelan hold a B.A. in Studio Art from the University of North Georgia with a concentration in Film Photography and Darkroom Production and is current M.A.T. Candidate at Piedmont College.

Faculty mentor

Craig Wilson



Film Photography,
24 inches x 30 inches