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an Echo of Light

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Anaka Wetch
Bard College
April 29, 2020

Senior Project Artist Statement

My senior project film *an Echo of Light* is an experimental 16mm film exploring light as both a metaphysical and physical process. I became interested in light during my studies in holography, which is a medium revolving around the interference of light. I studied holography independently and with the guidance of professionals in the field. My holographic work is oriented around the natural world and its micro-constituents. I examined and photographed substances, such as salt, pyrite, and quartz with the scanning electron microscope at Bard. These materials have striking crystalline geometry which I intend to explore through the light dependent medium of holography.

I chose to shoot *an Echo of Light* on 16mm film because of the physicality of the medium and the quality at which it records light. In addition, a reverence of the analog has been a prevalent motif in my work and process. From restoring an analog stereogram to creating holograms using optics and lasers, my process during the making of this film was geared towards the physical.

Light is a transformative energy of immense flexibility and meaning. In watching *an Echo of Light* I hope that the audience will be granted a brief respite from anxieties of everyday and perhaps contemplate their connection to the physical and metaphysical veins of life itself. In conclusion, within this film I intend to evoke the relationship between the self and something beyond in an abstracted form through the manipulation of light.

Originally, my senior project was an installation which would include my holographic art works and showcase my film. Due to the unfortunate unforeseen circumstances of the pandemic I was unable to complete the project in the way I had intended. However, my film *an Echo of Light* stands on its own and may be seen in isolation from the microlandscape series of holograms. I plan on completing my microlandscape holography series and installation in the near future and showcasing it somewhere around Bard.

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