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E Interrelated rythems]

CREATIVE THESIS STATEMENT

by

Richard A. Van Pelt B.A. Colorado State College, 1968

A thesis submitted to the faculty of the Graduate School of the University of Colorado in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Fine Arts Department of Fine Arts, Creative Art 1978

This Thesis for the Master of Fine Arts Degree

by Richard A. Van Pelt has been approved for the Department of Fine Arts

by

(Chairman of Committee) (Name) (Name) (Second member) Date:

"In the transformation and growth of all things, every bud and feature has its proper Form. In this we have their gradual maturing and decay. The constant flow of transformation and change.

Chuang-tzu

In the discussion of objects as potentially complex as photographs, there is a tendency to discuss issues which often lie at the outer reaches of that potential. Such ventures into the relm of conotative meaning are usually impotently reached, and only at the expense of the central issues.

The passage by Chaung-tzu suggests phenomona intrinsically simple and complex, simultaniously. The central thesis of the photographs exhibited seem to exist in harmony with these processes. The harmony I am implying addresses itself to the idea that there is an interrelatedness to all things. When these relationships are aligned, and manifest as art objects, the artist often describes the manifestation with the word Form--a word with so many meanings that perhaps its usage has become ambiguous. At the risk of compounding the problem thru over-simplification, I would like to define them again for the sake of understanding the nature of the photographs. Aspects are often implied in the work which deal with ideas which could be labeled demographic or sociologic -political or economic. Such aspects, if not allowed to grow to propagandizing proportion, can be useful to our understanding (and are perhaps a necessary precursor to the realization of higher Forms), but ultimately are of only minor import to the art, as they confront issues about which most are aware of -but do little to reconcile our position relative to them. I call these aspects 'minor forms'.

On a higher level, and one which demands more of the viewer, are qualities which I call 'major Forms'. These qualities tend to be aural in nature, and transcend the limitations of my linguistic skills--they are understood, or at least sensed in the abdomen. The understanding lies in being receptive to the 'reason of things' as it relates to ones 'reason for being'. I believe there exists, a complex of interrelated rythems, which form a matrix, or unity of reason, in which all things function and seek their proper Form. In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Fine Arts

Richard A. Van Pelt

as a supplement to the creative thesis ten photographs

 $7\frac{1}{2}$ X $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches square, untitled

which are in the permanent possession of the University of Colorado and recorded with the Department of Fine Arts

Approved by:

Chairman of the Committee

Co-Chairman of the Committee

Chairman, Department of Fine Arts

List of Photographs

7<u>1</u>"X7<u>1</u>"

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No. 1, Photograph No. 2, Photograph No. 3, Photograph No. 4, Photograph No. 5, Photograph No. 6, Photograph No. 7, Photograph No. 8, Photograph No. 9, Photograph No.10, Photograph Untitled Untitled Untitled Untitled Untitled Untitled Untitled Untitled Untitled Untitled



