

Why photography?

Studying photography truly makes you see everyday life in a completely different way. It opens your mind to seeing everything from more than one point of view. I view everything like I'm seeing it from a camera lens now, constantly thinking about light and composition. I always have to have a camera on me or else I could miss an opportunity to make a photograph.



How did you come to photo?

I honestly never thought of photography as something I wanted to pursue until I took a darkroom class my freshman year at MassArt. I got a lot of great feedback on the photos I was taking which made me decide to study photography and start to think of it as a career choice.



What are your influences?

A couple of years ago I came across a photobook I fell in love with. *The Known World* by Anne Hall and Sophie Morner. It really inspired me to start thinking about nature differently and opened new ways to looking at how to make a photo. The book also has text as well which inspired me to try to include text within my work, especially in the form of a book. Other photographers that inspire me are Kristine Potter, Irina Rozovsky, and Carolyn Drake.



What photographic processes do you like to use?

I've only photographed with positive color film once, but I really loved the way it came out, especially on the film strip itself. Although most of my work currently is digital, I will always love the slower pace of film photography and using the darkroom.

How did you pick your thesis topic and why?

I never solely thought about my thesis project *To Be Yours, Soon* directly relating to a relationship I'm in. Maybe it isn't directly related and mostly exists in my own mind, but the emotions I feel from being in a long distance relationship truly helped my thesis project develop the emotional and mental state it conveys. Adding text to my images definitely helped route my direction towards this and without text, I believe someone could understand this project in a completely different way.





Should photography be collaborative or is it really the artist's vision?

I think photography has to be a little bit of both. I personally don't think that someone can create a project solely on their own without even one opinion from a peer. I think ultimately it is the artist's vision, but there is always some sort of collaborative sense. Whether it be help with sequencing, editing or any other part of the process.



Do you think about the viewer when making your work or are you more focused on your vision and the subject?

I always think about the viewer when making my work, especially when making portraits. I want to make sure I can spark some sort of emotion from the viewer and I want to make sure I can connect the viewer to each subject in my photographs.



Do other arts like music, literature or fashion play a role in your process?

Even though I also major in fashion design, it really doesn't play any role in my photographic process. I try to keep both majors separate from each other. It's nice being taught in a design sense and also being taught in a fine art sense at the same time. I think if anything, music plays a role in my process, mostly on my own end. It sparks emotions I bring with me on my journeys when I photograph.

How has quarantine affected your senior year?

Even though this was not the way anyone saw things going, it comes with a lot of pros. Having to abruptly change my environment has pushed me into thinking about how to make work under these sudden changes.

