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Artist Statement

I view art as a byproduct of a process; the pursuit of preserving a moment in time. My artworks are reactionary artifacts inspired by life experiences and memories. Objects, materials, colors, and patterns are the vehicles I use to communicate the striking contrasts I observe in everyday experiences.

Art has no set rules. Abstraction, and the act of simplifying objects is a way of exposing the inherent freedom I find in creating art. Within my art, I seek to escape logic through process and create artworks that are more visceral experiences; artworks, which are a blend of past and present moments, and are a byproduct of my human experience. *Escape* is defined as, "to get away from; an act of breaking free from confinement or control. Each artwork I create is a vehicle for escape as well as preservation.

Mold making is a symbolic process of capturing and preserving an objects likeness. By utilizing molds to replicate objects in my art I am able to transform objects into symbols meant to evoke a sense of familiarity, as well as unknown. I intentionally use archival and timeless materials as a method of preservation and transformation.

I believe materials, in art, have an inherent language and imbedded meanings that communicate ideas. Similarly to objects in art become symbols that communicate ideas, I am evoking the language of the materials I chose to create symbolism and added meanings to the objects I have chosen to replicate. For example, I use porcelain because it is the most pure form of the ceramic medium. Hollow cast porcelain specifically, is a thin façade replication of an object, yet is extremely fragile and simultaneously exceptionally durable and permanent in its fired state. I am also fascinated with the ability of clay and glaze to easily mimic other known materials, such as metal, fabric, and wood, and are simultaneously densely archival, yet extremely fragile. These are characteristics I intentionally exploit in my ceramic art.

The objects I choose to replicate in my art are often examples of functional objects rendered functionless and broken. Each carry a foundational contradiction and inherent meanings I associate with contrasting themes, which have continuously filtered through my art, such as mortality and permanence, safety and vulnerability, and real and imaginary. Each object and material is a personification, a symbol, of the human experiences I am seeking to preserve, and yet escape.

"To be a successful artist is to allow art to infiltrate every aspect of ones being, so that no longer can there be a distinction between ones art and ones life."