



JASON DEMARTE

By Aline Smithson | November 20, 2009

Jason DeMarte's arresting images evoke a whimsical response, which smartly brings the viewer in for a closer look at what he's really trying to tell us. Jason recently moved from a professorship in New Mexico to a teaching position at Mississippi State University, after receiving his B.F.A. in Photography from Colorado State University and a M.F.A in Photography from the University of Oregon. His work has been exhibited nationally and internationally and he was nominated for PDN's 30 emerging photographers.

I'm including two of Jason's projects, as I always find it interesting to see the evolution of a visual mind. Jason thinks outside the box to create thought-provoking images that push the boundaries of traditional photography. Much of the imagery that he uses for his project, *Uptopic*, are predetermined tableaux from museum dioramas, which add another layer of irony to this project about fabricated experiences.

My work investigates how our modern day interpretation of the natural world compares to the way we approach our immediate consumer environment. I am interested in the American modes of representing the natural world through events and objects that have been fabricated or taken out of context. This unnatural experience of the so-called "natural" world is reflected in the way we, as modern consumers, ingest products. What becomes clear is that the closer we come to mimicking the natural world, the further away we separate ourselves from it.

I work digitally, combining images of fabricated and artificial flora and fauna with graphic elements and commercially produced products such as processed food, domestic goods and pharmaceutical products. I look at how these seemingly unrelated and absurd groupings and composites begin to address attitudes and understandings of the contemporary experience. I represent the natural world through completely unnatural elements to speak metaphorically and symbolically of our mental separation from what is "real", and compare and contrast this with the consumer world we surround ourselves with as a consequence.



Support Lenscratch

Your donation of any amount will directly support the day-to-day operation of Lenscratch as well as our future growth.

[DONATE TODAY >](#)

Subscribe

Get the latest Lenscratch article in your in-box every morning and stay up-to-date with all the Lenscratch happenings in our monthly newsletter.

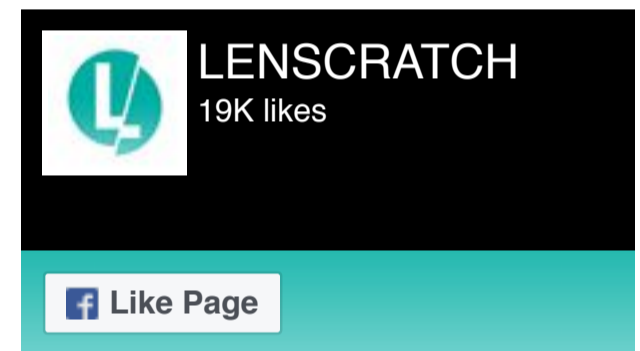
[SUBSCRIBE TODAY >](#)



LENSCRATCH is considered one of the 10 Photography-Related blogs you should be reading by Source Review, Wired.com, Rangefinder and InStyle Magazine.



Follow Us On Facebook





22 ARTISTS' CATALOGS!

SEE INSIDE BEFORE YOU BUY!

SHOP OUR ONLINE STORE



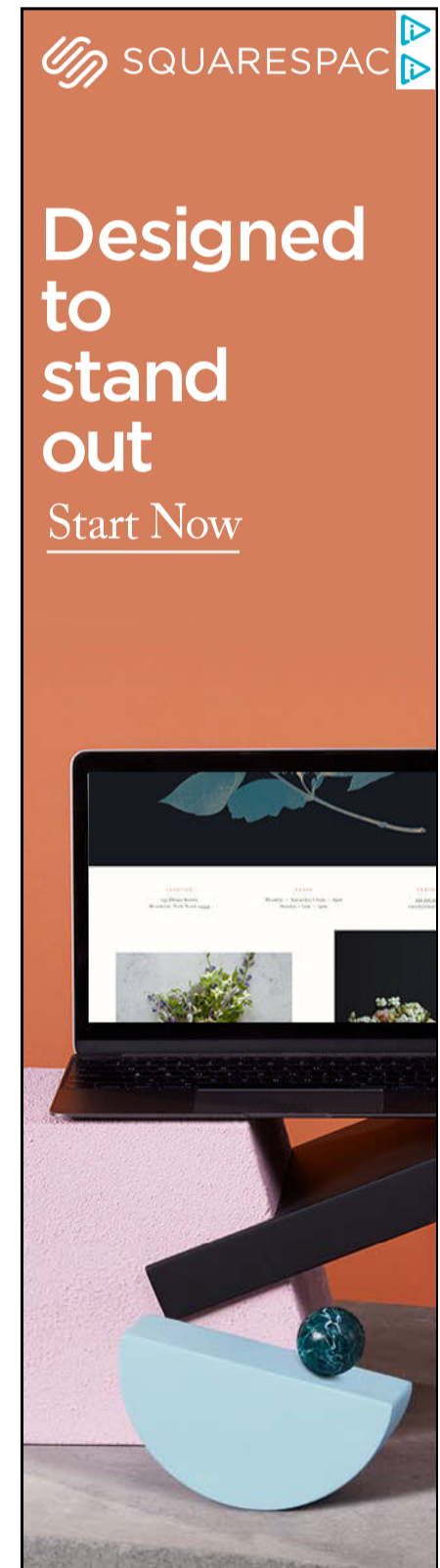

GRIFFIN MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY 

The States Project





Images from *Restoring Memory*, 2005



More in Conceptual



Fotofest Week:
Sunjoo Lee:
Memorabilia



On Collaboration:
Elena Valtcheva and
Inès Di Folco



**Steven D. Foster: The
Space Between**



**Wendel White and
Tya Alisa Anthony:
Segregated
Influences at the
Colorado
Photographic Arts
Center**



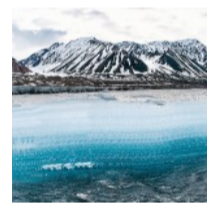
**Nadine Boughton:
The Modest Women**



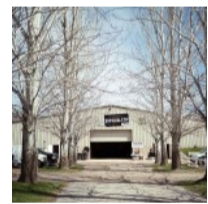
**Edie Bresler: Based
on a True Story**



**Bill Armstrong:
Partial Appearances**



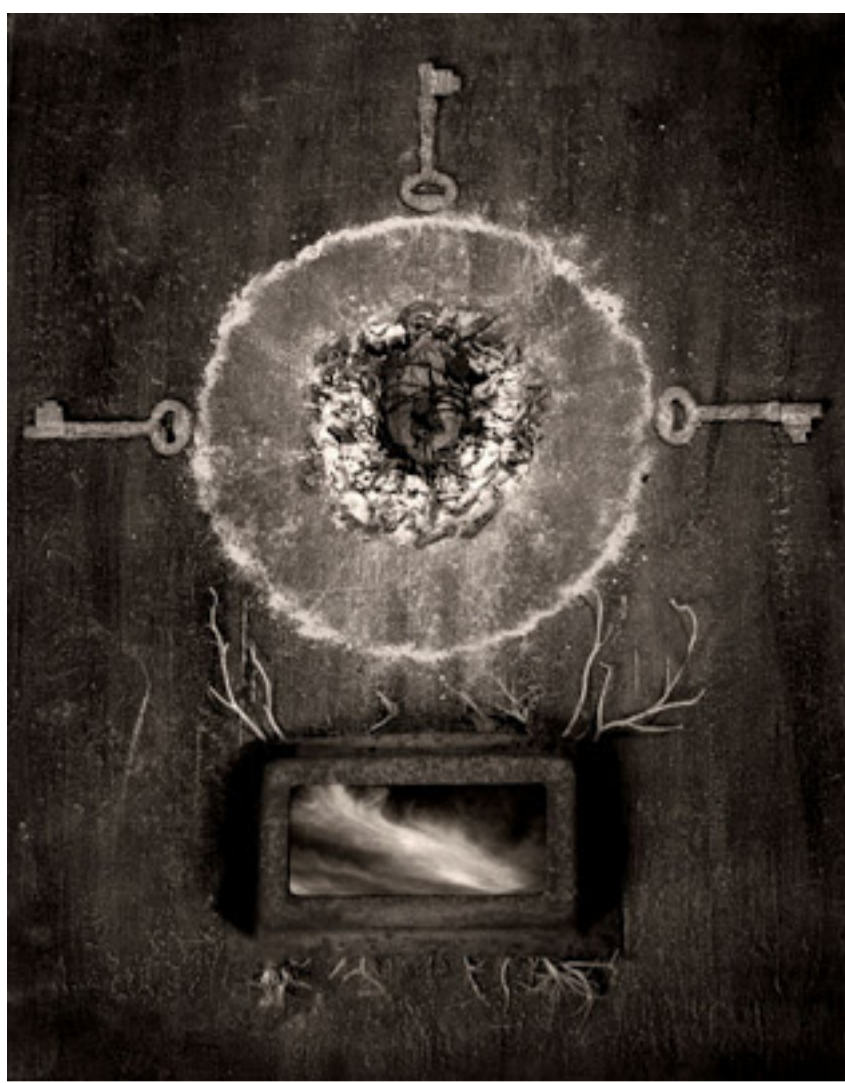
**Justin Levesque:
Place/Hold**



**Allison Stewart: Bug
Out Bag: The
Commodification of
American Fear**



**Inbal Abergil: N.O.K-
Next Of Kin**



Rotita



[Like](#) [Share](#) Sign Up to see what your friends like.

Tags: [Animals](#), [Jason DeMarte](#)

Posts on Lenscratch may not be reproduced without the permission of the Lenscratch staff and the photographer.

[< Michael Sebastian | PREV](#)

[NEXT | Laura Domela >](#)

[Tweet this article](#)

[Share on Facebook](#)

[Pin on Pinterest](#)

Recent Posts



Fotofest Week:
Jennifer Loeber:
GYRLE

May 2nd, 2018



**Fotofest Week:
Sunjoo Lee:
Memorabilia**

April 30th, 2018



**On
Collaboration:
Elena Valtcheva
and Inès Di Folco**

April 23rd, 2018



**Steven D. Foster:
The Space
Between**

April 21st, 2018



**Wendel White
and Tya Alisa
Anthony:
Segregated
Influences at the
Colorado
Photographic
Arts Center**

April 20th, 2018



**Nadine
Boughton: The
Modess Women**

April 18th, 2018



**Fotofest Week:
Yukari Chikura:
Zaido and Fluorite
Fantasia**

May 1st, 2018



**Fotofest Week:
Sunjoo Lee:
Memorabilia**

April 30th, 2018



**Addison Gallery of
American Art:
Photographers
Among Us and Gun
Country**

April 28th, 2018



**R. J. Kern: The
Unchosen Ones**

April 27th, 2018



**Dale Niles: What Lies
Within: Andrea M.
Noel's Multiple
Eclectic Collections**

April 26th, 2018



**Harry Flook: Beyond
What Is Written**

April 25th, 2018



**Greg Miller: Unto
Dust**

April 24th, 2018



**On Collaboration:
Elena Valtcheva and
Inès Di Folco**

April 23rd, 2018



**Steven D. Foster: The
Space Between**

April 21st, 2018



**Wendel White and
Tya Alisa Anthony:
Segregated
Influences at the
Colorado
Photographic Arts
Center**

April 20th, 2018



**James Dean
Diamond: Dreaming
of Le Gibet**

April 19th, 2018



**Nadine Boughton:
The Modess Women**

April 18th, 2018



**Andrea Modica:
January 1**

April 17th, 2018



**Edie Bresler: Based
on a True Story**

April 16th, 2018



**Christine Holtz and
Lauren S. Zadikow:
50 Greenspace
Dumpsites**

April 13th, 2018



**Interview with
Melissa Sptiz: You
Have Nothing to
Worry About**

April 12th, 2018



**Interview with Joel
Meyerowitz: Where I
Find Myself**

April 11th, 2018



**Bill Armstrong:
Partial Appearances**

April 10th, 2018



**Justin Levesque:
Place/Hold**

April 9th, 2018



**Joshua Smith: The
First Years**

April 6th, 2018



**Shin Noguchi:
Something Here**

April 5th, 2018



**Allison Stewart: Bug
Out Bag: The
Commodification of
American Fear**

April 4th, 2018



**Inbal Abergil: N.O.K-
Next Of Kin**

April 3rd, 2018



**Rafael Soldi: Life
Stand Still Here**

April 2nd, 2018



**Michael Vahrenwald:
The States Project:
Connecticut**

March 31st, 2018



**Mary Frey: The
States Project:
Connecticut**



**Joan Fitzsimmons:
The States Project:
Connecticut**

March 29th, 2018



**Marion Belanger:
The States Project:
Connecticut**

March 28th, 2018



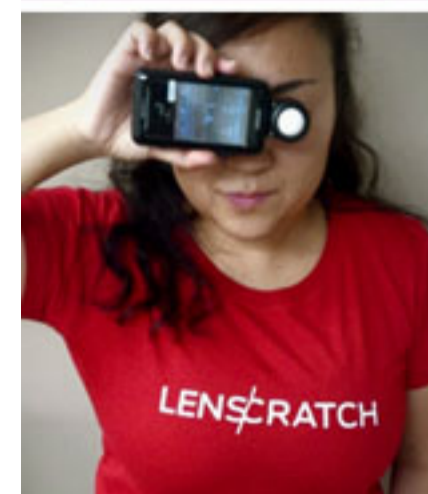
**Lisa Kereszi: The
States Project:
Connecticut**

March 27th, 2018

JustFashionNow  



BUY NOW



ARCHIVES

Archives

Select Month ▼

TRANSLATE

Select Language ▼

Select Language



FOLLOW LENS CRATCH