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As part of Month of Photography Denver 2015, RULE Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition of work by **Jason DeMarte** entitled *Confected*. The show will open with a public reception on Friday, March 27, 2014 from 6-9pm and will be on view March 27 – May 9, 2015.

Additionally, DeMarte will be giving a public lecture titled "An Artificial Relationship to Nature: Work by Jason DeMarte" on Saturday, March 28, 2pm – 4pm at RedLine. Several of DeMarte's photographs will also be on view in the RedLine exhibition *Playing with Beauty*.

Confected examines our cultural tendency to idealize the natural world while continually trying to improve upon it. DeMarte explores the veneer of material desire and constructed natural beauty by composing fictional tableaux that speak to our obsession with beauty, perfection and excess. Meanwhile, underneath the bright colors is an oppressive sense of disenchantment. By "improving" on the natural elements with lighting and post processing, nature becomes just another commercial good, victim to our materials desires. Carefully arranged, and then "sweetened" with sugary items and bright primary colors, DeMarte's confections are indulgent treats that play with the boundary between the contrived and the natural. In the end the pieces mimic a consumer economy screaming for our attention and demanding that we desire more.

On view

Rule Gallery

3254 Walnut Street, Denver, CO 80205

Tuesday –Saturday 12-6p and by appointment

About Jason DeMarte

Jason DeMarte is an emerging artist teaching as a tenured faculty member in photography at Eastern Michigan University. He received his B.F.A. in Photography from Colorado State University and his M.F.A in Photography from the University of Oregon. DeMarte's work has been exhibited in galleries and museums, both nationally and internationally. His work has appeared in journals, textbooks and publications including; *A Short Course in Digital Photography*, *The Elements of Photography*, *Six years later*, *Photo Review*, the *Wynwood Arts Magazine*, *British Journal of Photography*, the *Black Warrior Review*, and the *Oxford American*. Some of Jason's notable exhibitions include being the featured artist in the exhibition *The Museum of Un-natural History* at Clamp Art Gallery in NYC. Solo exhibitions at Rule Gallery in Denver Colorado, Wessell Synman Gallery in Cape Town South Africa, and the Detroit Center for Contemporary Photography in Detroit Michigan. Jason was also recently awarded the Garry B. Fritz image-maker award at the Society of Photographic Education conference in Atlanta Georgia and currently has work included in the Midwest Photographers Project at the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago, IL.