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### **Artist's Statement**

I have long been drawn to photography. It began as a technological interest. As a teenager I was fascinated by astrophysics and acquired an 8-inch astronomical telescope. To capture what I found in that telescope I needed a camera. So at age 15 I began studying cameras to find the proper device for my telescope. This began a decades long love of photography.

I was soon lost in catalogues of images by Steichen, Stieglitz, Kertesz, Atget, Sudek, and so many other photographers that awoke in me a longing to record and document the beauty of my environs. These early photographs possessed a quality that caught my attention.

I don't see myself as a landscape or architectural photographer, though these are frequently recurring subjects. I view photography as a visual tool, a means to record what I have seen and felt. As I move through life images will often suddenly present themselves. They grab my focus through no conscious effort. Generally these found images fuel my photography. They are like markers in a timeline, a visual inventory of ideas and experience. Once found, I will take as much time as necessary to capture the image as I first saw it, but the initial moment is usually instantaneous.

Other times I will take a more methodical approach, such as building still life tableaux. I am beginning work for example on a series of still lives of small objects of meaning to me, such as my grandfather's dog tags from WWI, 60's artifacts of ex-hippy friends, etc. The use of these objects during their active lifespan imbues them with a power of memory and reflection, though they are now meditative objects long past their useful lifespan, simply objects in a drawer. I find that isolating them into still life arrangements invites speculation into their prior uses, creating a sense of mystery and longing about what has passed not unlike antiquities in a museum.

There is an interconnectedness that arises in photography for me, a sense of continuity. The notion of history repeating itself is a major theme of photography for me, owing in part to the documentary nature of photography at the most basic level. I see a fractal aspect of life that connects us all from deep levels up to the superficial visual level. I seek that connection by tripping the shutter. All my images are uncropped, full frame representations of that moment.