

**Michelle Ward**



## **Artist Statement**

I am an artist. Everything I see turns into a picture. Observation is key. Scrutinizing all that surrounds me is a never-ending task. Art is fascinating; the transformation that takes place from beginning to end of an artwork can be awe-inspiring. Blank canvases and paper metamorphose into decipherable images capable of evoking response and emotion. Some art withholds deep meaning, while other art exists for purely aesthetic purposes.



My artistic bent blossomed when a camera met my hands. Photography brings forth elation for me, and the nearly instant gratification that goes hand in hand with photos sets this media apart from others. I perceive the world around me with the means of immediately capturing a moment in time. Instead of the seeing the world in pictures, the world is pictures. Never am I without a camera. The camera is an attachment of my body, another limb. My photographs are not isolated—rather, they are united with my drawings and paintings. When I am not working from life, my drawings and paintings are renderings of my photos. I employ my camera to create an image, and then translate that image into other media.

My love for photography is full-fledged. I am proficient with Photoshop, but it isn't my primary tool in my work. All of my photographs are made in-camera, and digital editing is minimal. Instead of altering the images on a computer, I utilize and experiment with exposure, aperture, and lighting.

## **List of Works**

*In this town, Murder is a Form of Entertainment*  
*Just Out of Reach*

All works are Archival Pigment Prints, 2012  
\$235 unframed, edition of 8