

McLean Fahnstock

Statement:

We choose the things that surround us, that occupy the spaces in our lives, by what they have to offer. Sometimes they fulfill a need, facilitate a task or help us to perform better. And other times, they are given importance by context. We attach memory and emotion to things because of the events or people that we have shared them with. The object then becomes the bearer of that experience.

I use domestic objects that hold preconceived notions of physical properties, limitations, and function to illustrate relationships. These objects are charged by their direct correlation to humans in usefulness or affection. I am interested creating an event for the viewer through the dialogue between objects in multiples or in combination with other disparate objects by testing limitations; playing with our notions of what an object does or means.

Creating a sense of experience and tension, physical and emotional, is a goal of my practice. I originate from minimalist and surrealist traditions; mine is an aesthetic based on simplicity and directness that receives cues from science and mathematics. All the while relying on the narratives that we each have attached to objects to flesh out the metaphor.