

Michael Benedetti

treefactories@gmail.com - themichaelbenedetti.com - @_things_n_stuff

ARTIST STATEMENT

My artwork focuses on identity and the compartmentalization of emotion through the use of architecture, modular components, and systematic image creation. Within my studio practice, I create systems that exist as self sustaining organisms. These systems recycle information, techniques, and materials in order to generate imagery. Tools such as custom drawing stencils and printmaking matrices are continually reused to create variations of initial images in order to present the progression of an idea through serial artworks. Throughout all media and imagery drawing is a key initiator within a system and exists as a unifying concept, connecting machine-like precision with the hand of the maker.

The Architecture of Memory, my current research, explores how the architectural interiors we inhabit throughout our lives aid in the construction of an identity and shape how we perceive our memories. I have thoroughly examined my personal history concerning the thirteen residences I have inhabited from 1985-2016, spanning my childhood home in Pittsburgh, PA to my graduate school apartment in Athens, GA. Playing the role of architect, I have redrawn floor plans by hand from memory, utilizing the language of architectural drafting and engineering: repetition, systematic arrangement of shapes, and stark line drawing. Throughout this documented history of my life, basic geometric shapes have replaced myself, my personal belongings, and my memories. In order to talk about the constructs of identity and memory compared to a detailed portrayal of my life.