

Artist Statement: Carson Fox

I am interested in beauty, but I mistrust it. Instead, I look for the beauty that exists in tension with the materials or the circumstances that invent it, somewhere between creation and destruction.

Through obsessive crafting or by expediting decay I wish to suggest a history for the object. The history is my own; it is personal, yet it is also universal. My longings and my losses are not unique to myself. I ask the viewer to bear witness to my narrative while calling on them to take note of what we have in common.

Often text is used as a literal entry point to my ideas. The visual aspects of language act as a springboard to my mark making. It is a place to begin which conveys the essence of the emotional content, while initiating a visual dialogue to fill what written language alone cannot accomplish.

The selection of material is very important to me. No material is too mean or humble if it is expressive. My recent sculpture has been inspired by Victorian hair sculpture and jewelry. Such Victorian objects were crafted out of the hair of a deceased loved one to act as a memento of the departed. The sudden deaths of both my parents in late 2001 encouraged me to consider these objects more thoughtfully and interpret them in a contemporary vein.