

Rocco Scary

Rocco Scary is a multi-disciplinary artist and paper-maker whose work explores the concept of 'place' as reservoir for memory. Currently based in New Jersey, his Artist Books have been represented in such venues as The Center for Book Arts, The Nathan Cummings Foundation and The Grolier Club in New York City, Columbia College Center for Book and Paper Arts in Chicago, Rutgers University, The Trenton City Museum and The Newark Library in NJ, University of California in San Diego, The Ellipse Arts Center in Virginia, The Yale University Library in New Haven CT, and The 2013 European Book Arts Biennale at The Islip Museum. Published in 1000 Artists' Books by Quarry publishing, he is a recipient of a NJ State Arts Council Fellowship Grant and currently teaches sculpture at The College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown NJ. He possesses a BFA from Montclair State University and an MFA from The Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Artist Statement

“The memory of a particular image is but regret for a particular moment,” - Marcel Proust.

To what can we attribute the factors which provoke our memory. Is it the simply the engagement of our five senses, or can it have determined to something more, something intangible? Remembrances inspired by a specific time and place can also be linked to images which have existed within them. My work is centered around these instances.

With time passing at an exponential rate and a ‘forced’ adherence to technology within this digital age, reflections of a culture past begin to grow remotely dimmer, leaving only a pale and disintegrating trace of what once was. This body of work uses familiar representations derived from multiple genres. i.e., music, film, television, and pop culture several decades removed to evoke such memory. Through the use of faded, peeling and desaturated shards of handmade paper I have intended to give the viewer a wistful, yet haunting reminder of a previous era.

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