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ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD

WINNER: Margeaux Walter - *Don't Be a Square*

JUROR: Quentin Nardi - *Smithsonian magazine*





PROJECT STATEMENT

I am exploring ways to depict a disconnection with the landscape in reference to climate change denial through staged site-specific photography. Thinking about the notion of invisibility in the age of heightened surveillance I have been conceptualizing works centered around how invisibility and denial feed into representations of climate change. In this series, *Don't Be a Square*, I am staging site-specific interventions in the landscape that when seen through a camera lens disrupt the landscape much like a glitch in the image. I see the Anthropocene age as a glitch in time; it is so short in the greater timeline of life, and yet has caused so much havoc. In my performative photographs, this glitch can be seen as a pixel, a cubicle, or a portal, yet there is a glimpse of humanity that is both camouflaged into the land and completely disconnected from it. I use my own body and sets I build in dialogue with the landscape to

create these images. In doing so, I experience a deep connection with the land and simultaneously a disconnect. I see an inherent cultural disassociation with the environment as directly linked to climate change, and this is what I hope to highlight through these images.

JUROR'S STATEMENT

ABOUT THE ARTIST



Margeaux Walter received her MFA from Hunter College in 2014 and her BFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts in 2006. She has received multiple honors from the Magenta Foundation Flash Forward, HeadOn Photo Festival, Photolucida, Prix de la Photographie Paris, International Photography Awards, The Julia Margaret Cameron Award, and other organizations. She has been awarded artist-in-residence programs at Montalvo Arts Center, MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, Marble House Project, JTHAR, Joshua Tree National Park, VCCA, Red Gate Gallery in Beijing and BigCi in Bilpin, Australia (Environmental award). In 2020 she was the recipient of the Sony Alpha Female Award (2020). She is represented by Winston Wachter Fine Art in NY, and Foto Relevance in Houston, TX, and has participated in dozens of exhibitions at institutions such as MOCA in Los Angeles, CA, Hunterdon Art Museum in Clinton, NJ, The Center for Photography in Woodstock, NY, The Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, OH, Sonoma County Museum in Santa Rosa, CA, Tacoma Art Museum in Tacoma, WA, and the Griffin Museum of Photography in Winchester, MA. Her work has been featured in publications including *The New York Times*, *New York Post*, *Seattle Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Courrier International*, and *Blouin Art Info*.

www.margeauxwalter.com

Social Award

Multimedia Award

CENTER MISSION: Founded in 1994 in Santa Fe, NM, the not-for-profit organization CENTER supports socially and environmentally engaged lens-based projects through education, public platforms, funding, and partnerships.

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