Artist Statement
Random Hands – Ghosts in the Machinery
Industrial Photography Series
Amy Jackson

Amy Jackson has been exploring industrial photography since beginning photography in 1982, exploring outbuildings near the railroad near her home in Cartersville, Georgia. However, not until 2001 did the explosive truth of the pull of the industrial on her subconscious understanding of raw imagery similar to Rothko and other abstract painters make itself known.

A simple drive past an industrial machine shop in Nashville, Tennessee at dusk, when the glowing rust of roughly ten enormous, to her oversized, machines left outside the shop caught Jackson's attention and as she literally clawed at the closed car window, she made plans to return and take the first of hundreds and now an ongoing series of photographs.

In Jackson's industrial photography, she has found mysterious forms, codes if you will, or language, in the industrial images. Random splashes, seeming brush strokes, and actual writings. The pieces convey communications in a poetic and artistic sense.

As in Jung's collective subconscious and in the miasma of "imagery that we are bombarded with" from Jackson's artist statement, the unique and chance leavings of the workers on the metals and industrial "canvases" are communications of no less a media than the newspaper or the billboard -- a graffiti of a different kind, if you will, they speak a truth in their own way, albeit random, unintentional, and indirect.

In addition, there is what is communicated beyond what the worker has left, but what the world has left, in the rust, in the spaces, the textures of time. This is the world -- painted by unseeing hands --that Jackson ultimately seeks – and finds -- with her camera's eye.

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