

Production Statement: "Vanity In Light" (2003)

The foremost intention for this photographic series was to employ the panoramic form to illustrate direct and peripheral views of the environment of each image. By forcing the viewer's ability to see beyond a fixed, central point, the periphery insinuates the idea of "seeing the whole picture", or being granted an insight to further understanding.

Each image incorporates a performance of vanity and a perception of that vanity, which are both presented and recognized by the characters and the characters' alter ego. There exists unresolved conflicts of etiquette between the selves. These conflicts transpire as a disapproving judgment upon obvious acts of vanity (or discretion from conceit) in itself also constitutes vain behavior.

This work is influenced by seventeenth century still-life paintings of the Vanitas genre, which generally portrayed specific objects to symbolize the transience of pleasure and the frailty of earthly life. Performances of self-admiration ("*Bathroom*"), construction from one's own physical, mental and/or spiritual image ("*Countryside*"), obtaining non-compromised sexual gratification ("*Park*"), the desire for fame ("*Movie Theater*"), and referencing excessive pride and strength through knowledge ("*Slide Library*") are the performances reflected in this series that define the work as a contemporary Vanitas. Furthermore, these photographs were composed with a principal theme of light to signify a more direct relationship between the brevity of life and the technical aspects of photography.

Geoffrey Mattie

Technical:	Each image is composed of between 30-50 manually stitched frames from 3.2MP digital captures.
Shoot Locations:	Montréal, Québec, Canada Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada
Exhibitions:	<i>"Vanity In Light"</i> (Photo Series) VAV Gallery, Montréal, Canada February 2004



Bathroom
from "Vanity In Light", 2003
Numeric Chromogenic Print, 38 cm x 152 cm



Slide Library
from "Vanity In Light", 2003
Numeric Chromogenic Print, 38 cm x 152 cm



Park
from "Vanity In Light", 2003
Numeric Chromogenic Print, 38 cm x 152 cm



Movie Theater
from "Vanity In Light", 2003
Numeric Chromogenic Print, 38 cm x 152 cm



Countryside
from "Vanity In Light", 2003
Numeric Chromogenic Print, 38 cm x 152 cm