

Olivia Durham

When questioned about my interest in visual images gleaned from other sources, I reflect on the idea that I am from the generation and the product of both the internet and images collected and manipulated from all things digital. By exploring the tension between the nostalgia of vintage, using archived images mostly gleaned from magazines and with contemporary painting, I aim to manipulate the process into something that was not possible/didn't exist at the time the images were published. Additionally, the concept of layers is a large influence on my work, and I am dedicated to the aesthetic impact of layers through materials and techniques such as: image transfers, and manipulating found images in my computer, and different paint materials that possess qualities that can be used to build layers and surfaces. I use old images in terms of "out of date"/discontinued/irrelevant to this exact moment in time/history so I can bring them into this contemporary era via technology (scanning) and printing on a large scale, because I think its troubling how nothing functions anymore without technology/having some interaction with it, and how all images exist somewhere on the internet.

My main objective and interest is to explore the dynamics between found photographic images that I manipulate in my computer and paintings. My process is driven by researching and collecting images from personal archives that possess qualities that can relate to abstract painting. I am fascinated by the idea of using my collected materials other than just paint to make a painting. Taking things out of context and acting as a voyeur to transform the function of the images that I find, is very important to my practice. I aim to bring new life to these decaying and discarded images by recreating their lives in my own imagined narratives and compositions.