ECOTONES

Chas Schroeder
Claremont Graduate University

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarship.claremont.edu/cgu_mfoxeses

Part of the American Art and Architecture Commons, American Popular Culture Commons, Art Practice Commons, Contemporary Art Commons, Fine Arts Commons, Interdisciplinary Arts and Media Commons, and the Modern Art and Architecture Commons

Recommended Citation
Schroeder, Chas, "ECOTONES" (2015). CGU MFA Theses. 104.
https://scholarship.claremont.edu/cgu_mfoxeses/104

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by the CGU Student Scholarship at Scholarship @ Claremont. It has been accepted for inclusion in CGU MFA Theses by an authorized administrator of Scholarship @ Claremont. For more information, please contact scholarship@cuc.claremont.edu.
**At the heart of the action of human mark making is a declaration of life. I am alive. I am here. So are you. Applying pigment to surfaces marks territory, tells stories, declares needs and desires, reveals dreams, begs interpretation, calls to nature, announces affiliations and reveals identity—all that and infinitely more.**


**Action:** human/animal marks. cave paintings, i am here. declarations of life. hedonistic activities. antler velvet rubbings. scent marks. hard lines and soft lines/ splashes and sprays/ thick and thin/ layered and single coats. active escapism. **Decoy:** lures and entices. pulls prey in. hunters/ biochemists/ military.

**Game:** small game/big game. migrating game. food. sustenance. self-reliance/discovery. romanticized history of open plains/harmony with nature. utopian dream. **Great Basin:** largest and most uninhabited desert in the United States. wilderness or wasteland? wilderness = parks/ wasteland = nuclear dump. the basin is both. void. **Geography:** disjunctive compositions. idiosyncrasies. voids, dead zones. overpopulation. trespass. **Migration:** primary reasons for animal migration: food and nesting. spreading of disease/dispersal of plants and plankton. primary reason for human migration: food and nesting. no money= no food or nesting. must move. **Mining:** gold/silver/other precious metals. gravel. uranium-power/weapons. pits for waste. minds. hydraulic fracturing. open pit mines. **Patterns:** dot dot dot world/internet/binary coding/mass-production/virtual reality/fashion/increasing speed in modern life. social function/spiritual function in past humans. meditative doodles. aesthetic concerns. human instinct/human nature at play. **Skeletal Figures:** animals and architectures. natural and artificial—both trying to survive/to have space/to have a presence. disappearing wetlands/habitat/environments/peoples. calls to “the void”.

**Tension:** disjunctive compositions. fractured narratives. acrylics and oils/aerosols and enamels/latexes and sharpies/chalks and crayons. peaks and valleys. voids. formalism mates with abstraction. a wanting to act almost appropriately—a combination of decadent/frantic/desperate/intuitive/flamboyant/fragmented/beautiful/fashionable/compelling/funny/elegant/(insert strong adjective) types. in-between zones. **Text:** typography/pattern/design. sounds of us/sounds of nature. scrawl. graffiti. strike-ups mark boundaries. life/death in humans. (like ecosystem boundaries = life/death to animals) **Triangle:** pyramid power. preserve foods/sharpen or maintain the sharpness of razor blades/improve health/energize humans/function as a thought-form incubator/trigger sexual urges. **Wilderness:** untamed. revered. immortalized. voids. what is wild? not adhering to convention. freewheeling/open-minded/adventurous/dangerous/brave/a hunger/immortalized/revered/untamed/in danger of something/dangerous. pure mammal instincts/root behaviors. basic needs. rock-and-roll. desire for freedom.

**Chas Schroeder, *Ecotones*, March 23-27, 2015. East Gallery, Claremont Graduate University**

https://scholarship.claremont.edu/cgu_mfatheses/104 © 2015 Chas Schroeder