

# michellegiven

## contact

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## exhibitions

### upcoming

***Accommodations: Solo Exhibition (October 2011)***

Solo Invitational Exhibition, Fisher Gallery, Otterbein College: Westerville, Ohio

### 2011

***Developed Work: 2011 National Photography Fellowship Competition & Exhibition (May)***

Midwest Center For Photography: Wichita, Kansas

Juror: Laura Valenti, Program Director, Newspace Center for Photography

***An Exhibition of Recent Work by MFA Students from Indiana University (April)***

Group Invitational Exhibition, Perspective Gallery: Evanston, Illinois

***Artifacts: Sites of Memory (January)***

Group Invitational Exhibition, Gallery Project: Ann Arbor, Michigan

***New Faculty Exhibition (January)***

Clara M. Eagle Gallery, Murray State University: Murray, Kentucky

### 2010

***Indiana Artist Series: 2D (October)***

3 Person Invitational Exhibition, Low Road Gallery: Greencastle, Indiana

***The Distance From Oneself: Solo Exhibition (August)***

Solo Exhibition, Gallery Tosei: Tokyo, Japan

***New Art 2010: Henry Radford Hope School of Fine Arts Faculty Show (January - March)***

Invitational Show, Indiana University Art Museum: Bloomington, Indiana

***Forgotten and Future Landscapes (February)***

Billboard Project Juried Show, Your Art Here, SoFA Gallery, Arts Week: Bloomington, Indiana

### 2009

***The Hole World: Photographic Pinhole Exhibition (November)***

Juried Exhibition, Patty & Rusty Rueff Gallery, Purdue University: Lafayette, Indiana

***Carmel Art & Film Festival (October)***

International Juried Exhibition, Marjorie Evans Gallery, Sunset Center: Carmel, California

***Interpreting The Square: Collaborative Group Project and Exhibition (September)***

Bloomington City Hall Atrium Gallery: Bloomington, Indiana

***A Place For Everything, Everything In It's Place***

Invitational Show, Fuller Space: Bloomington, Indiana

***The Video Show: International Juried Video Exhibition***

Raritan Valley Community College: North Branch, New Jersey

### 2008

***The Flat Files Program***

Contemporary Museum of St. Louis: St. Louis, Missouri

***Paris Summer Program Photography Show***

Indiana University, Sofa Gallery : Bloomington, Indiana

***Faculty Exhibition***

DePauw University, Richard E. Peeler Art Center: Greencastle, Indiana

(exhibitions  
continued)

***Neither Here Nor There***

MFA Thesis Exhibition  
Indiana University, SoFA Gallery: Bloomington, Indiana

***Joyce Elaine Grant Juried Exhibition***

Texas Women's College: Denton, Texas

***MFA Photography Departmental Show***

2007

***Cultural Exchange: Kotoba Wa Iranai / No Words Necessary***

Shasaen, Japan Institute of Photography and Film: Osaka, Japan

***Indiana 7***

Clara M. Eagle Gallery, Murray State University: Murray, Kentucky

***Pushed***

Art Hospital: Bloomington, Indiana

2006

***MFA Photography Departmental Show***

***The Gavel***

Juried Show, Fuller Space: Bloomington, Indiana

***Photography Now***

Lexington Art League Juried Exhibition: Lexington, Kentucky

***Top 40 International Photography and Digital Art Exhibition***

Los Angeles Center for Digital Art (LACDA): Los Angeles, California

2005

***Mapping Impermanence***

BA Thesis Exhibition  
Otterbein College Dunlap Gallery: Westerville, Ohio

awards

**Presidential Scholarship for Anderson Ranch Summer Workshops**

Anderson Ranch (March 2009)

**John Beck Award for Excellence in Photography Alternative Processes**

Indiana University (December 2006)

relevant professional  
experience

**Residencies & Portfolio Reviews**

Review Santa Fe, Premier Juried Photography Portfolio Review (June 2011)  
Woodstock Byrdcliffe Artist-In-Residence Program (June 2009)

**Independent Study**

Studied with Terry Barrett, Ph.D., of Ohio State University: Columbus Ohio (2004)

- o Photography Criticism Independent Study

**Publications**

LP Photography Magazine Quarterly Website: <http://lp-magazine.net/?p=501>, August 2010.  
Diffusion Magazine: Unconventional Photography. Vol. 2, Autumn 2009.  
LP Photography Magazine Quarterly: Young Photographers from Bloomington, Indiana, U.S.A.. Autumn 2009, p 48 – 55.

- o Uncoupled (2008), Breathing Room (2008), Tipping Point (2007), All The What-ifs (2008), Stillness (2008), A Lesson In Futility (2008), Outside Oneself (2008).

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artist statements

### **Portfolio 1: *Accommodations* (the series of color photographs)**

By the time my parents were in their late twenties, they were married, had a child, and were settled into the home and occupations they would retain for the next thirty years; they and the rest of my family are the definition of stability. In contrast, my lifestyle and that of many of my peers is decentralized; we are constantly moving, traveling, changing jobs, and cycling through intimate relationships. I often wonder how one can know oneself, and be known by others amid these seemingly ever shifting variables.

To further explore this line of thought, I have begun documenting the places that I sleep that are not my home including hotel suites, computer labs, studios, as well as the homes of friends, acquaintances, and family. By including myself in the frame, I am creating environmental portraits of sorts. I am interested in how these spaces and the objects within them are empty signifiers— while they might influence the way in which a viewer perceives me as an individual, that perception is not completely accurate as the rooms and the majority of the possessions within them are not my own. There is an artificiality to these photographs and the way in which I inhabit them; the rooms are like sets and I could be an anonymous character in an undefined role. This work is an exploration of identity, isolation, representation, context, and transience.

### **Portfolio 2: *Neither Here Nor There* (the series of monochromatic photographs)**

As an artist I am concerned with defining the distance between things— the distance from oneself, from one's environment, from other people.

For this project I employ pinhole photography combined with digital imaging to address the idea that as humans, we function at a certain distance from the physical world. While our bodies are situated in a specific location and time, our minds are free to wander away from that place— forward and backward in time, or laterally elsewhere. The pinhole camera's characteristic soft focus and wide angle of view distort space, warping and pulling it in such a way as to put more distance between photographer and place, the audience and subject. Some images are produced from multiple in-camera exposures, while others are digitally manipulated to combine environments to exaggerate this gap. In doing so I remove a solid point of visual reference with the intention of causing confusion and disorientation as a way to draw attention to the mental dislocation from physical experience.