

AQUARIUM GALLERY

ARTIST: Ani Garabedian

(Royal Oak, MI)

Family Album

(Mixed Media)

December 17 – January 13, 2018

STATEMENT:

My studio practice is driven primarily through the foundations of drawing and painting. Working mostly from a compilation of found and vintage photographs I am interested in exploring the ideas of family and nostalgia. Balancing these captured moments between reality and abstraction, while derived from a place of empathy, I capture the awkward and melancholy qualities that these memories bring.

I am interested in capturing my personal memories, as well as the history and past events of friends and strangers alike. I'm concerned with the people and the experiences that are considered significant enough to pause and take a photograph of – these moments that turn into memories and keepsakes. And then, these keepsakes often times turn into items that become forgotten and lost; that decay in old boxes and albums and even curiously wind up in secondhand shops.

This installation acts as homage to peoples' memories, relationships and past life experiences. It represents a large, collaborative, family photo album and is a celebration of the individual as well as our personal histories. Removing these personal and individual memories and moments from their original context, the time spent with them, and the act of reinvention through the physicality and manipulation of paint and mark making brings about relevancy and remembrance.

The included figurines are found objects that have been reformed. Much like the photographs, these figurines were precious at one time, forgotten about and then found again. Brought back into existence and present day, they have been redeveloped and modified, much like a lost memory.