

Erosion and Memory

Stirling Gorsuch

My imagery these days focus on certain locations in the Northwest that have made lasting impressions on me the past few years. Some of these places are located on the north Oregon coast, while others are in the high desert, east of the Cascades. What draws me to specific areas remains a mystery to me, but I find myself returning to these places again and again as starting points for new work.

Aside from documenting my personal interpretation of these different environments, my work has an underlying theme of Nature's awesome power and ability to alter and reshape the landscape. I'm particularly interested in what could be characterized as intense or extreme natural phenomena, such as earthquakes, floods, forest fires and winter storms. I'm also very interested in geological forces, and the way they impact the composition of the land over millions of years. I've continued using the window motif, or window blinds half closed, as a way to represent *looking in* to these environments I know from the present day perspective, while also reflecting on their history, and anticipating future events to come.

All the prints in this exhibit are either linocut or monotype combinations. Recently I've approached several pieces similar my journaling practice, as a tool for pushing ideas further along. This has allowed me to work back into prints with various drawing media and hand coloring in a way that I'm not able to when making editioned prints.

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