



Artist Statement

Photography

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To me, it feels as if our society is living a predetermined life. We go to school, graduate college, get married, start a career, have children and then continue working the same job day in and day out until one day we retire and can finally begin to enjoy our lives. We are imprisoned by what our society defines life should be and shackled by our relinquished ambition. Instead of determining whom we are as individuals we fall victim to what our culture tells us we should be. As we grow up we surrender our youthful aspirations in exchange for mature compromises only so that we are suitable for a realistic world. The body of work, *The Guise That Enslaved Me*, tells the story of a woman as she struggles to find her own personal identity within the constraints of our society. In the great words of Ralph Ellison, "When I discover who I am, I will be free."

	<u>Title</u>	<u>Media</u>	<u>Original Format</u>
Figure 1:	Overcome Them With Yeses, Undermine Them With Grins	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 2:	I Could Only Accept Responsibility for the Living, Not for the Dead	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 3:	They Were Me; They Defined Me	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 4:	I am a Woman of Substance, of Flesh and Bone	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 5:	When People Refuse to See Me	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 6:	Reality of the World Crisis	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 7:	Light Confirms My Reality, Gives Birth to My Form	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 8:	They Call Us the Common People	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 9:	I Am Witness to a Revelation	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 10:	Refusal to Recognize the Beautiful Absurdity	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 11:	I Asked Everyone But Myself Questions Only I Could Answer	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 12:	I Justified Them and it Made Me Sick	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 13:	To Hide the Bleeding Wound	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print
Figure 14:	Play the Game, but Don't Believe In It	Digital Photography	26"x17" Ink Jet Print



Figure 1: Overcome Them With Yeses, Undermine Them With Grins.



Figure 2: I Could Only Accept Responsibility for the Living, Not for the Dead.



Figure 3: They Were Me; They Defined Me.



Figure 4: I am a Woman of Substance, of Flesh and Bone.



Figure 5: When People Refuse to See Me.



Figure 6: Reality of the World Crisis.



Figure 7: Light Confirms My Reality, Gives Birth to My Form.



Figure 8: They Call Us the Common People.



Figure 9: I Am Witness to a Revelation.



Figure 10: Refusal to Recognize the Beautiful Absurdity.



Figure 11: I Asked Everyone But Myself Questions Only I Could Answer.



Figure 12: I Justified Them and it Made Me Sick.



Figure 13: To Hide the Bleeding Wound.



Figure 14: Play the Game, but Don't Believe In It.