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Artist Statement
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I orchestrate lush cinematic scenes, exploring a visual world of heightened tension, anticipation, anxiety, longing and desire. These carefully staged, richly textured environments are charged with the nostalgia of idealized Americana yet embedded with a sense of unease on the surface. This is a world populated by strong yet often detached characters, who peer beyond the edges of the frame, silent witnesses to unsettling narratives that remain unknown. Like a film's opening moments, these scenes are filled with broad possibility. Or, as in the closing sequence, they are like an unresolved ending —the viewer must carefully sift through scripted clues to fully comprehend the narrative.

The protagonists inhabit transitional, anonymous spaces like motels and cars; they are trapped in places without personal touch that possess a suspense where one can hide. The playful, stylistic choice of colorful costumes, wigs and props are instantly transformative and lingers between fantasy and reality; an unspecified era of the glamorous American past. Their hyperreal, glossy appearances are in contrast with their depth of expressions. Filled with existential dramas these characters bear a false facade and are dissonant to their perfectly arranged settings. The subject's exaggerated beauty is a mask encouraging the viewer to empathize and connect to their emotions. At times, groups of characters are awkward and lacking human engagement. Each individual is trapped in their own roiling psychological world, suspended in thought.

The aesthetics of Americana allow my photographs to address contemporary concerns by creating a setting that is removed from our expectations of reality. As a female, I have struggled with the feelings of oppression, uncertainty, and fear. These narratives are my visceral reaction to our current political climate, my way of raising awareness of these problems we must all face together. Reflecting these emotions, my photographs are filled with women who struggle against the depiction of one-dimensional objectified appearances. These images advocate for looking beneath the veneer, finding strength over vulnerability.