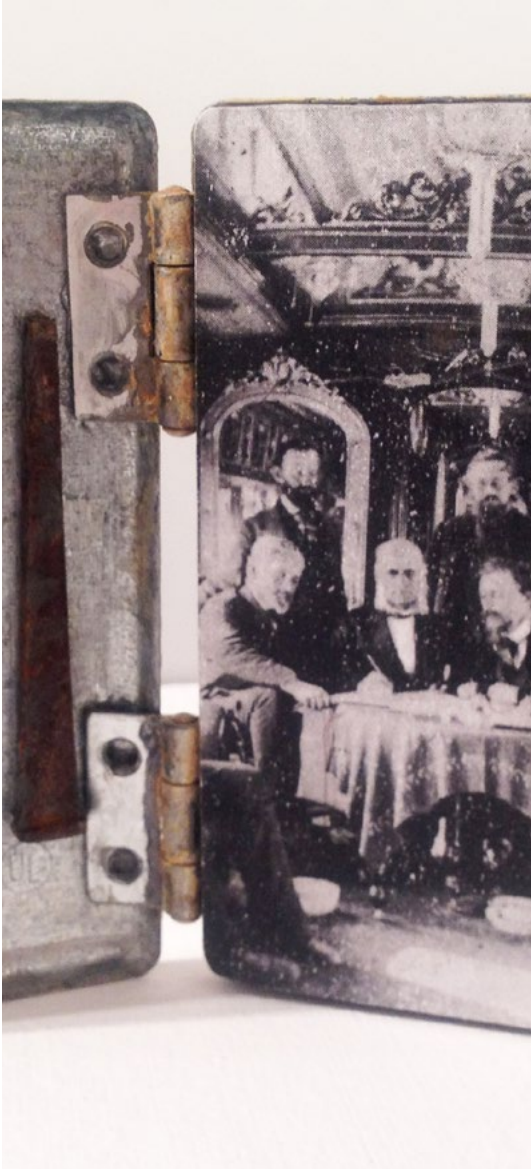


UTOPIA/DYSTOPIA

Nyla Hurley
Cody, WY



“Patterns of consumption, dominance and production over people, wildlife, resources and the land.”

Nativist Nostalgia

Sculptural piece created with California job case, string, nails, hand dyed paper, typewriter. Size: 32” w x varied length.

Statement

I find myself constantly chasing fleeting feelings and experiences. I am starting to understand that my way of thinking is an addiction or even a disease: a disease of nostalgia. In desperately seeking out ways to put myself closer to the past, I realize that my attempts are always met with the disappointment of never really being able to come close enough. It is a lesson learned, but quickly forgotten.

The Railroaders

Accordion book created with found objects, beeswax, paper, ribbon. 8.5” h x 4.5” w

Statement

In my research I look back to the opening of the American west and the key influences that the nineteenth century had in shaping our relationship with the landscape and its inhabitants. I look at the response created in fear by the uncharted vastness of the Western frontier and its influence in producing powerful dynamics and tension within an influential society. More specifically how these responses supported the role of manifest destiny and its ignition in creating patterns of consumption, dominance and production over people, wildlife, resources and the land.

Biography

Nyla Hurley is an artist rooted in traditional practices of printmaking, book arts and graphic design. Her work examines the role that westward expansion and manifest destiny has played in shaping contemporary attitudes towards Western America. She holds a MFA degree with an emphasis in Printmaking from the University of Arizona.