

SHELLY SHORT

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Artist Statement

There are many different factors that shape how we identify ourselves and interact with the world around us. These components are tested and applied to create a full version of our perceived self. Traditions, symbols, and societal constructs influence our development and we form our identity through the investigation and selection of influences.

I am interested in how our identity is formed by accepting or denying the layers that society places upon us throughout our lives. My artwork explores these layers and their significance to our "self" through the still and moving image.

As a photographer and filmmaker my goal is to capture moments, objects, or ideas that support a lifelong curiosity surrounding identity. When I approach a project my main objective is to explore the origin of each layer and emphasize its importance as part of the whole.

Through my art, I have turned the lens on myself and investigated the layers that I have accepted or rejected. I ask myself, "Who am I?" and "What makes me who I am?" Sometimes I am annoyed at where and who I am, but in other moments there is joy in the very moment I stand.