

→ what does it mean to abstract something? to obscure, becomes vague, unrecognizable, w/ a few decipherable moments that harken back to the representative. When sth is abstracted, its ~~original~~ ~~source~~ becomes obscured, or something is revealed. something revealed in the simplification of forms, or the confusion of forms. → could also mean over-generalizing, stripping sth down to a minimum in a way that ~~analysis~~ of it becomes ~~misformed~~, ~~incorrect~~.

what do you want to reveal?

what do you gain from abstracting?

Esteban Vicente - memory abstracts in

obscure, places of childhood shrink drastically when they're revisited in adulthood, environments are inevitably colored by our emotional state when experiencing them. We ~~are~~ ~~are~~ our brains → memory (eye witness accounts) are notoriously unreliable. We are misled, tricked by our own faulted memories - ~~attempts~~

personal or topical??

childhood home, Hartford vs a city, cake George? Family members?

~~time~~ always abstracts - ~~it~~ will always obscure reality in some capacity. our recollections of events are morphed over time, misguidedly reinforced & altered by context, forces, memories, emotions, new experiences

whole cultures can be abstracted to be perceived in one particular way by outsiders. ~~and~~ the influence of this outsider perspective then shapes how that culture sees itself, defines itself

beer can abstract, over-simplify something → alter the image of the actor is hyper-represented, more predicated as a simply formed person

FULLY
 TURN
 +
 FULL
 SLADDER
 IT'S
 SUPST!
 (scribbles)

→ we ~~believe~~ ~~myth~~ that the ~~rest~~ photograph
 declares, depicting truth - but it ~~doesn't~~ instead
 alters truth/reality because it affects our
 neurological connections to that memory - we
 change our experience of it when we see
 photos of it when you go back & recall it, you
 aren't recalling the event as it actually took place.
 You're taking up it the emotional state associated to
 it, memories of other times you've thought about it,
 or talked about it, photographs you've seen from that
 time, as well as other similar experiences, etc. It
 doesn't remain pure, even in the moment you are
 experiencing it all it is one perspective → this doesn't mean that
 all of this does not constitute reality, it ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~reality~~
 but a new reality is created in one's mind

Using ~~the~~ photographs representation to depict the
 memory of that photograph - oftentimes trying to return to,
 to find, it will seek out
 the Miss of childhood, but also who I was as a child
 & how that affects me today → reputation, resistance to
 authority, introverted, creature of habit, spiciness/creamy
 close to my family
 how is this translating now as a young adult? how is it
 changing me?



personal religion? God has become
 so abstracted as to become
 abstracting in discourse of Christianity



One photograph operates under the assumption that
 it depicts absolute truth, likewise our memories feel
 to us to be essentially accurate
 & recreate
~~memory~~ ~~photos~~
 in non-rep.
 way

Esteban Vicente

abstract landscapes

Don Bothwell, "Memory Machine" (1947)

Ross Bleckner "Green Hands & Faces", (1994)

Historically women die when abortion is made
~~illegal~~ illegal; from modern abortion
procedures, there's a
- 00073(?) % rate of
death

Under the premise of
helping, protecting, saving
women & children when
instead ~~of saving them~~
it hurts them

→ How to transcend into abstraction?!

right understandings of what's going on in the world,
→ lack of concrete knowledge of reality
acceptance of photographs as depictions of absolute
truth, work to reduce memories

* can you make a personal network that's
interesting to more people than just yourself??

→ In an "as if it didn't happen" age, where
the ~~explorative power of social media~~ has propelled
major change in this country through something
as simple as a hashtag → proliferation of Black
Lives Matter movement due in part to ~~aggressive~~
documentation by activists, ~~the use of camera dash-~~
board, body cameras, bystanders, security video) in
the deconstruction of police brutality by revealing it
that had previously been so hidden to the underpublic.
The video footage taken at a Planned Parenthood
clinic by "pro-life" activists that spurned discussion
(renewed) of the morality/ethics of the institution,
particularly the service of abortion, → the adding of
fetal photographs/ultrasounds

Seeing childhood home - ~~funny~~

but childhood memories don't feel like dreams in the way they might, if one feels so far removed from them, they feel real

want to cry all the time even in stupid fucking pain, so much discomfort in trying to help
I HAVE NO IDEAS \Rightarrow all music, watch ext videos??
stab myself in the gut?? ~~rip~~ Rip out my intestines??
So to sleep for 50 yrs & see if things all better than??

time's ability to abstract and classify - memories weaken, become unreliable, our logic is sharpened by experience. So while moments from childhood seem to make sense now, revisiting them reveals their haziness - we may think we remember but we don't. So usually remember people & use last? Connections & details?

is there something to gain from this revisitation to the past? Historically, one can point out major injustices at the hands of those in power, can follow a thread to explain why certain outcomes ~~happened~~ existed as they did. Examining/analyzing history informs us about the nature and reasoning of the present (why certain things are the way they are) as well as how to form/build the future so the problems of the past do not repeat or continue.

Images of fetuses made to look more fully formed, practice of forcing a woman to get an ultrasound and watch/listen to the fetus' heartbeat before she gets an abortion \rightarrow creating a ~~new~~ truth/reality that demonizes women for choosing an abortion by placing utmost value on fetus' personhood

we must still have access to our memories if we learn so much from our experience, what remains is the emotion ~~the~~ associated experiences

natural right to life movement
Christian right, born-again evangelists

proliferation of photographs, myriad of photos of every aspect (nearly every aspect) of ~~everyday~~ daily life → how does this change our ability to form new memories and recall memories?

piece about futility of memory, in modern world - ~~the~~ ^{us.} abstracted images of my childhood home taken from Google maps. Photographs of memories I can't recall

time is the ultimate thing that has the ability/potential to abstract ~~the~~ ^{it} & clarify. although we can't clearly remember things from our past, the trace they have left is reachable, our emotions, what we learn from the experience remain, vast unknowable influences, early childhood growth

→ is there a way to incorporate presence of the camera? Do things only exist if there is a record of them? How valued is someone's word if there is no evidence to back them up? Perhaps someone's word is not highly scrutinized until they want to assume a position of power (president) or ~~is~~ ^{are} seen by many people, criticized/analyzed by the masses.

So this exploration/consideration of memory, ~~and time~~ ^{photography} the camera, and the passing of time ~~and~~ ^{is} done so through my childhood, which I'm returning to to all of my current disposition, emotional ~~and~~ ^{and} situation, and ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~return~~ ^{return} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~in part~~ ^{in part} because of photographs & Google maps.

technologies' effect on memory

painting depicts haziness of memories of ^{personal} childhood ~~that~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~clear~~ using photographs & partial memory
→ colour palette specific to disp. photos

→ Explanation of ~~the~~ passage of time ^{& how} through
its effected by photography & memory

exploration of photographs' effect on
memory (passage of time) through consideration
of my memories of childhood, using photographs
to ~~reconstruct~~ create a painting that reflects
the haziness of childhood memories, that
still hold resonance in my life now.

what do you really remember? they
become obscured, but experiences, things
learning, emotions carry through to
affect the rest of your life.

Depiction of recalling old^{est} memories, think-
ing about my childhood home and neigh-
borhood is clouded, w/ various moments
reemerging that have no obvious significance
to my current life/personality, yet you can
reason they have all had imperceptible
effects on me bc they happened during such
a malleable stage, a period of exponential
growth.

yet our recollections of our
childhood can themselves be manipulated
when we look at photographs of that time
period.