

No Ka Home O Ka Hale Kahiko

Diana Nicholette Jeon

No Ka Home O Ka Hale Kahiko is a still-developing project about vanishing Hawai'i. Hawai'i, and O'ahu in particular, has a cost of living equal to or greater than mainland cities such as LA, SF or NYC. Yet income levels remain stagnant; mainly tied to lower-paying service jobs in the tourism industry. Families resort to living multi-generationally in small, older homes and apartments while members work multiple jobs in order to cover the costs of living here. Youth leave for the mainland to find better paying jobs. What used to be thought of as the 'paradise tax' has become the 'paradise paradox' - you can live here, but you won't be able to afford to enjoy the place. The slowness in the lifestyle and the aloha of the people is being lost.

Along the Hamakua and Hilo coasts on the east side of Hawai'i Island, it is different, though. After the closures of the plantations that dotted the land there, jobs are not plentiful but those there are support local infrastructure and resident services. Land is cheaper, lots are larger. Much of the area is unchanged from what it has been for decades, in fact it is more of the romanticized throwback that many tourists picture when they think of Hawai'i. There is open space with wild growth. It is a place left behind by time. And that is what I portray with this imagery: a sense of place, and a sense of loss.



A New Lagoon Arises at Poho'iki/Hope Emerges in the Post-Flow Lava Remains



Fog and Rain Through the Trees Off Mamalahoa Highway/Abandoned Homestead Outside Waipio Valley



Early Morning Downpour Through B&B Window/Lone Dress on a Backyard Clothesline



Rain and Fog Near Kolekole/Sophia with Lavalava in Hilo



Ladder in Mango Tree in Hilo/Abandoned Home on Old Mamalahoa Hgwy in Hamakua



House Adjacent to "Downtown" Honomu/Cliffside Landscape Overlooking Honoli'i Beach Park, Hilo.



Ceramicist's Tools on Studio Wall, Hilo/Fog Over Road Closure, Hamakua



Fallen Trees on Hilo Farm/Ka'ahakini Stream, Hamakua



Mist and Fog Outside Hilo Uplands/Lava Flow and Spared Trees at edge of Poho'iki



Hawaiian Girl at Carlsmith Beach Park/Trees Spared From Lava Flow at Leilani

PROCESS

These images were shot using a variety of iPhones with plastic Holga lenses jerry-rigged to them.

MATERIALS

Archival Pigment Print on Hahnemuhle Baryta Paper with Hand-applied Cold Wax

EDITION

Edition of 2 + 1 AP at 22"h x 28"w sheet size

- Unframed \$700
- Framed in 26"h x 32"w x 1"d black wood shadowbox: \$1050

Edition of 3 + 1 AP at 10"h x 13"w sheet size

- Unframed \$475
- Framed in 11"h x 14"w x 1"d black wood shadowbox: \$700

Diana Nicholette Jeon holds an MFA from UMBC. She has had eleven Solo Exhibitions at venues including Honolulu Museum of Art, Kirsch Gallery, and Griffin Museum of Photography, Disorder Gallery in Sydney and has an additional one scheduled at Blue Sky Gallery in Portland in Oct 2020. Her work has been included in over 100 Group Exhibitions nationally and internationally. Jeon's art has received four Hawaii SFCA Purchase Awards, the International Photo Award, 11th Julia Margaret Cameron Award, Pollux Award, and the Mobile Photo Award. Her work has been featured in Gente di Fotografia, SHOTS Magazine, Pf Magazine, the Art Photo Index, and Lens Culture.

See more of her work at <http://diananicholettejeon.com>

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