

Matt Wedel  
Artist Statement:

My art practice is to consider and give recognition to how I think. From this, I have decided to use the landscape as a platform to play with the imagination and narrative. The objects in my work are depicted in ceramic. Having spent my childhood exposed to ceramics through my father's pottery, this material has become a kind of memory for my imagination to exist. In addition to this, its malleability gives immediacy to my ideas and allows it to unfold at a pace similar to my thoughts.

Using classical statuary as a compositional reference I create sculptural work either by revisiting past works or by creating my own. A series of work that I am currently remaking are 15<sup>th</sup> century child portraiture from the Netherlands. My interest in these paintings lies in an awkwardness that I find brilliant and metaphorical of society in general. The children seem to be depicted as stand-ins for adults, emphasizing a sense of confusion and allowing for a seemingly objective entrance into understanding humanity. I see this body of work as vocabulary to influence my work that doesn't fit to any specific historical composition or format.

In the work that I think of as my own, I am creating figures of children, stylized flowers, rocks, and animals. This work doesn't portray one specific narrative but occasionally suggests smaller narratives within an individual or cluster of pieces. Sometimes the narrative is completely fractured. I see this work as flexible and something that can carry with me as long as I continue making. Currently I have grown a huge liking to puppies in which I am anxious to start.