Centennial Honors College

Western Illinois University

Undergraduate Research Day 2012

Podium Presentation

Lauren Ring 1946

Lauren Ring

Faculty Mentor: Jenny Knavel
Art

I am investigating the time of my father's birth in 1946. It's important to me to capture this piece of family history to keep it alive and reflect on a time of innocence. My resources include personal photographs, oral history, and some written history. I create collages incorporating paper, cloth, beeswax, string, and image transfers. In my work I use the images of family members to suggest their presence and juxtapose those images with silhouettes to imply their absence. In this body of work I have also used wood, steel and cloth while incorporating objects and imagery that are important to my family and me. I am creating portraits of my paternal family to explore my relationships with my family and with myself. Most importantly, I am paying respect to the people, places and life experience that have made me who I am.