ABANDONED COLLECTION | Martin Osner

ABANDONED COLLECTION

by Martin Osner

Edition 35

ABOUT

The purpose of this body of work is to highlight today's modern "throw-away" society and the excessive desire to have. Consumerism has reached an all time high in the world. Homes are filled with the best modern electronic equipment, beautiful cars are parked in the garages, and caravans and motorboats are lined up to guarantee an interesting weekend away. These items have a relatively short shelf life, soon they will be traded in for a new model and their journey towards insignificance commences. This series is a collection of things that have passed their "sell by date", subjects that have fulfilled their purpose and have now been thrown away only to be forgotten. Earthly items, discarded if you like, "things" brushed aside... once worshipped, idolised and even loved... now simply left ABANDONED. I have photographed a collection of subjects from old cars, caravans, grave stones, barns and houses etc, having tried to captured them as they have been found. From a photography point of view, I have tried to portray the intrinsic beauty of these old abandoned subjects at their height of neglect, by shooting them in very "moody" light, which helps to depict them in a surreal, sanguine sort of manner. Prints are limited to thirty five copies regardless of the size of reproduction.

ARTIST STATEMENT

On a winter's day in 1984 "photography" and I met quite by accident, an encounter that redirected my life and changed it forever. Over the past twenty eight years, while walking a path of self discovery, my methodology has taken numerous detours. A journey that has refined a relaxed subconscious attitude, with a desire to express simplicity and honesty through my work. For me, a photograph holds an undeniable sense of realism, a modern correlation that is easy to associate with. I see, I understand, I experience, I connect. In my photography I allow day to day life to provide inspiration and treat all subjects as a potential composition. I enjoy the conceptual transformation from reality to realism that a lens and camera offers. Although I have never been a dedicated painter I see and experience the world in this way. Life is my canvas and I often feel like a painter trapped in a photographer's body where lens and light have become an expressive substitute for paint and brushes. I often create themes and grouping of images within my portfolio and on a given day find myself working on a variety of projects at once, often taking years to complete. One of my great joys is using photography as a base to create mixed media pieces. I have adopted an intuitive approach resisting restriction to specific substrates, mediums or technique. Emotion and experimentation drives my creative process and I allow the final art- work to evolve over time rather than containing its finality. In my work I intently concentrate on elemental form, rhythm and pattern allowing simplicity to engage visual impact. I contribute my influence to a number of artists and photographers. My social commentary and documentary work has been inspired by the great artist and master photographer Henri Cartier Bresson and my landscapes are underpinned by the teachings of Ansel Adams. On the other hand, many of my still-life and abstract studies have been described as painterly expressionistic, drawing influences through the works of Henri Matisse and of late Jackson Pollock. In my spiritual walk I experience hours of peace and contentment when behind the lens of my camera. I believe that my steps have been guided along an inventive path by an awesome creator. I have never doubted my love for photography or my burning passion for art. It is something I could never stop. It's what I do, it's what I love, it's who I am. Martin Osner.

ABANDONED # 1 | Orange Free State - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 2 | North West Province - Geluk - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 3 | North West Province - Brits - South Africa
60 x 77cm

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ABANDONED # 4 | Pretoria - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 5 | Botchebelo - South Africa
60 x 77cm

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ABANDONED # 6 | Venda - South Africa
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ABANDONED # 7 | Venda - South Africa
60 x 77cm

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ABANDONED # 8 | Mozambique
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 9 | Mozambique
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 10 | Oribi Gorge - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 11 | North West Province - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 12 | North West Province - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 13 | Elphin - Scotland
SOLD OUT

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ABANDONED # 14 | Naukluft Park - Namibia
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 15 | Naukluft Park - Namibia
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 16 | Drumrunie - Scotland
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 17 | Ullapool - Scotland
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 18 | Orange Free State - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 19 | Pretoria - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 20 | Naukluft Park - Namibia
60 x 77cm

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ABANDONED # 21 | Cape Town - South Africa
60 x 77cm

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ABANDONED # 22 | Paternoster - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 23 | Kamieskroon - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 24 | Khamos Region - Namibia
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 25 | Liefiefontein - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 26 | Liefiefontein - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 27 | Karoo - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 28 | Karoo - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 29 | Bokkerivier - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 30 | Cape Town - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 31 | Cape Town - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 32 | Boesmanspad - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 33 | Tulbagh - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 34 | Boesmans Pad - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 35 | Leopards Creek - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 36 | Klaarstroom - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 37 | Malgas - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 38 | Swellendam - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 39 | Swellendam - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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ABANDONED # 40 | Overberg - South Africa
60 x 77cm | 80 x 110cm

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THE GALLERY

Situated in the scenic village of Hout Bay, a short drive from Cape Town central, the Osner gallery is located on the slopes of the Twelth Apostle overlooking the surrounding mountains and the Bay itself. The gallery is dedicated to showcasing a permanent exhibition of Samantha and Martin Osner's collaborative private print collections in a beautiful and serene setting. This is a place where time stands still for just a little while.

Viewing is by appointment.

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To us photography is a reality driven medium that unlocks the expressive depths of art. We consider the camera and lens as mere instruments with the creative process.

In our work we strive to convey emotion and design rather than illustration. With the power to transform a subject in a matter of seconds, light for us is the mystical and elusive element that forms the foundation of what we do.

As a father and daughter, we are truly blessed to be able to share this creative world together. Our gallery is a sanctuary; a place where we can display our emotions on a wall and share our passion for art and photography with you.

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OSNER GALLERY | PRIVATE COLLECTION

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