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Statement

Sentimentality and disposability present a dichotomy in suburbia. As a product of a typical southern Californian neighborhood I analyze suburban culture in an effort to locate the essence of the American experience.

Suburban neighborhoods are stereotyped as generic due to their repetitious vernacular; but upon closer inspection, individual personalities become more visible. The modification of homes reveals a culture that longs for distinction. America's economy is fueled by consumerism, where by possessions become extensions of character. Capitalism promises individuality at a cheap price, but instead delivers disposable sentimentality that is easily traded in for the new.

A byproduct of consumption is household trash. Packaging, food, clothing, household appliances, and even keepsakes are purged daily from our lives. Garbage is an overwhelming reminder of how much we spend and waste.

Much of my work is in a sweet aesthetic, transforming disposables and consumables into ceramic keepsakes covered in highly decorative imagery. This process allows me to inject social commentary under the guise of kitsch. Interjecting memories of home and family into items for consumption and disposal transforms them into lost family heirlooms. I want to create objects of sentimental familiarity that is undermined by the threat of being easily discarded.