

*I'd Languish in Your Dust* explores intimacy and sex in a visceral way.

Sex is both universal and completely unique. It is so personal that it feels like you're inventing it. But often, photography about sex is clinical, to the point where sex is mistaken for a visual experience rather than a visceral one. This work is extremely personal, so each piece interprets emotions and thoughts as they are felt through my body. My goal is to express these experiences honestly and with vulnerability.

Text is integral to each piece; it complicates the images and pushes them into a more uncomfortable and visceral place. The images I make are neither grotesque or explicit, but the writing is vulnerable and sexual. The text acts as a memory catalyst and allows the viewer to emotionally enter the work and recall their own intimate experiences.

In addition to the use of text, I employ several visual motifs, creating a symbolic language. *I'd Languish in Your Dust* includes photography, video, animation, drawing, and small print publication but I use a similar set of visual devices in each piece, regardless of the media. This binds the work together as one cohesive statement. The circle is a symbol of union and intimacy. It is derived from a story Aristophanes told in *Plato's Symposium* that describes the birth of humanity as being two beings fused together in an eternal embrace. Red is the strongest visual element throughout the body of work. It representing being in the throws of passion; red becomes the mediator between the two lovers in their desire to become whole. And the use of repetition of form references the obsessive feeling of being overwhelmed by love.