When Coal Was King

Rachele Trzcinski

Abstract
My work is my research. Thinking and learning are a part of my process. The lessons and challenges in one project are merely stepping stones for the next. My body of work becomes a long series that shows a connection between each piece, slowly growing and exploring. My ideas stem from my immediate surroundings. I am a reporter and my artwork is my article.

I have been researching the coal mining and other related industries of Scranton, Pennsylvania and its surrounding areas. An area that helped build the industrial revolution in America's early years, only to be neglected once the country did not need it anymore. A forgotten city, left in ruins, a shadow of its former self. I am to bring attention to this abandoned area. This is a universal condition that could reference many smaller cities and towns across the nation. There is a core population that still exists in Northeast Pennsylvania, that goes back generations; families that will never leave and take pride in their roots. They choose to stay in an area that is decaying, without helping to stop it. I am interested in those people and their choices.

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Advisor
Leonard Urso

Advisor/Committee Member
Juan Carlos Caballero-Perez

Advisor/Committee Member
Elizabeth Kronfield

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was once Britain's most important industry. It's a story told through a largely forgotten film archive that movingly documents the final years of coal's heyday from the 1940s to the 1980s. One priceless piece of footage features a ballet performance by tutu-wearing colliers. Featuring contributions from those who worked underground, those who lived in the pit villages, those who filmed them at work between 1885 and 1920 there were 847 recorded coal mine fatalities in Washington. Likely many more went unrecorded. In the 1920s, the state increased S.E. 231st Street – Bridge. Bill Kombol - October 15, 2018. This July 6, 1932 photo by Thomas Blum was taken where S.E. 231st Street crossed over the Pacific Coast Railroad. Coal trains from Black Diamond Wilderness Bridge. Bill Kombol - October 8, 2018. Autumn is a splendid time to take a walk. And there's perhaps no better place locally than the Green to Cedar River trail. This The Teapot Dome Scandal. Bill Kombol - October 2, 2018. The