Michaelle Marschall Artist Statement

Quarry Scuba Diving

Charted depths and time manifest into an exploratory venture incrementally experienced. With a lack of clear vision, a naturally abstracted underwater world engulfs me. Guided further by what is seen, yet obscured, I move onward, only later to recall in print.

The landscape or underwater imagery begins with mark making. The experience is conveyed through a building up of marks on wood, that is then inked and transferred. Some marks reflect actual depths reached in a dive, while the hidden or unseen is replaced with the imagined. The combination of these creates a place that cannot be explored - a space that cannot be charted, logged, or revisited.

The dive, just as wood lithography, has its limits. The observed environment in a dive is fleeting; time, vision and mobility are competing factors. The inked wood block. a clearly printed image, re-inked and printed again, eventually develops tones, allowing shadow areas to become muddied and obscured. Infused with ambiguity, altered scale, and organic material, the works echo one's ever-changing perception in the transition from focused to unrecognizable.