



### **CONOR KING |** Artist Statement

These photographs are part of a series titled “Cultural Parasitism”. The photographs were created in 2003 using a 4x5 inch view camera and Polaroid Type 55 negative / positive film. Since that time the images captured have been reworked, presented on various materials, and exhibited in different formats. Though the subject matter in the photographs has remained the same, over the past two decades the context in which the artworks have been shown has changed, lending to different interpretations of the project.

The series was made at a time that had witnessed the coming together of nations after the events of September 11<sup>th</sup> and by 2003 the reduction in support of the US “War on Terror.” However, after revisiting the series in 2009, I believe that “Cultural Parasitism” had just as much to do with my personal separation from my undergraduate community, after graduating in 2003, as it did with geopolitics.

Years later I began to view the artwork in relation to human created climate change. Seeing the series connected to human impact on the planet and the separation between humans and the environment. My interpretation of the series changed again in 2020 with the rise of covid and the need for social distancing. Today, I view “Cultural Parasitism” in more general terms, as a narrative series that speaks of separation.