

# CHRIS ERNEY

RESIDENT ARTIST | STUDIO 33



## ARTIST STATEMENT

“ My “Environmental Awareness” series spotlights both nature’s astounding beauty and the impact humanity has on it. The focus of much of my work has been on water and the animal life living in and near rivers and oceans. Though I was familiar with the issues, my recent work with the NFWF further detailed the impact humans have on all aspects of the life-giving cycle of water. Often, we don’t realize many of our own contributions or the scope of their impacts. I chose to express these dissonant elements in the same way that they are created: quietly; there are merely hints of their existence, but their cumulative impact is huge. I want my pieces to appear as beautiful art at first glance. Then as the audience studies further, they find the hidden truths that are poured, seeped, or overtly dumped into our precious waters.

My hope for this series is that the viewers’ eyes will be opened and they will become conscious of their own contributions to these problems. On my website, I have added educational components, and tell of my own journey in realizing these issues. I am currently working with the NFWF to present this series publicly. ”

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Left Image: “Looks Like Rain” Stainless Steel on Birch Panel with Acrylic Paint, Acrylic Glazes and Laser-Printed Logos on Tissue Paper, 46”H x 44”W, 2023.

Right Image: “Moonlit Crude” Stainless Steel on Birch Panel with Acrylic Paint, Acrylic Glazes and Laser-Printed Logos on Tissue Paper, 46”H x 44”W, 2023.