

SILT+SALT

The Silt+Salt paintings recall memories of childhood experiences on the beaches of New England.

I remember floating in shallow water steeped in seaweed. Hypnotic waves froth and splash the sand as the sun warms my back. Minnows tease around my tiny fingertips. A brush from a horseshoe crab awakens the daze in terror for a moment. I watch it sidle away beneath the foam, and I wonder where it lives.

The work reflects my youthful discoveries of the sky, the sand, the water and the living creatures. Long before the awareness of human spoilage, the lure of smartphones, and that razor-tooth menace in the 1975 Spielberg movie.

The artwork is a recollection of being mesmerized by the briny decay, texture, and colors of low tide, and the heart-quickenings moments. Spurts from clams buried in muck, grotesque gelatin-like egg sacs poked and prodded before the high tide returned them to complete the lifecycle. Frayed fishing nets, entangled with trash, and patinated buoys slick with slime pretending to be sea monsters.

The paintings return the viewer to nature with the naivete and curiosity of a child. To rediscover the beauty and complexity of the ocean's ecosystem, and to consider its fragility in the face of our aggressions.

