

Erik Waterkotte

**Artist Statement**

*The newspaper was a jumble of meaningless words. A vague blur of broken type, watery ink that still hadn't dried, faint, streaked and uneven. Fergesson briefly scanned the text, but it was useless. Confused stories wandered off aimlessly, bold headlines proclaimed nonsense.*

*-from Pay for the Printer by Philip K. Dick*

Utilizing both traditional and contemporary printmaking processes I incorporate drawn, photographed, and appropriated imagery into a layered space that appears to both juxtapose and elucidate. I am interested in the pervasiveness of graphics in our contemporary world and how events are portrayed through the veiled spaces of the popular media. Working in printmaking I am compelled to investigate, extrapolate, and reconfigure how imagery is produced. I draw influence from the graphic conventions of Japanese Emaki scroll paintings, comic books, and pulp science fiction book covers. My work examines the fabrication and deterioration of events portrayed by the media. With recent events I have become compelled by the imagery of disaster; broken architectures, voids of space and atmosphere distort a once decipherable place. By examining the layers of the media screen the printed image becomes evidence as well as projection.