

Philip McEachin

I feel Hartford is missing that special something - people. It lacks an attraction that brings to its property. Urban Renewal is one reason for this rather dry city. All we see businessmen and businesswomen walking downtown. The people we want to see are those we imagine from the records they left - graffiti. Graffiti exudes a powerful energy and the feelings of the people in the area. The North End Wall had four personages - two brawlers, a man that looks to be a biker, and Death. To find these figures on the wall intrigued me: where could I find the former three individuals? Death seemed predominant in the whole city. So, where are you, people? I look at the social scene; it is harshly segregated between the rich and the poor. I feel the city lacks a dominant middle ground. Even the restaurants lack an ambience of life, vibrancy, and vitality. Where did you, people of Hartford? Come back and fill the streets, come back and fill the park. We want you, people of Hartford. We need you to resurrect this dead city. With these views in mind, I wanted to capture a sense of life. However, I discovered I only added to the emptiness. The only individuals I captured were leaving the city. The only energy this city has is its businesses, its streets, its buildings.