

CHARLES BENEKE ARTIST

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Artist's Statement ***Seducing Uncertainty***

Our faith in technology has instilled in us a predisposition to identify with the unidentifiable, believe in the unbelievable. X-rays, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, and Endoscopy have placed us in the position of having to accept representations of the human body which we cannot actually see as a physical reality. We readily defer our judgements on such images to doctors and are eager to accept the explanations we are given.

I am interested in our willingness to suspend our disbelief when we are presented with images which we cannot fully comprehend. Using forms that are not specifically identifiable despite their internal, biological references, I present the viewer with images that are seductive, yet difficult to resolve because of their often absurd existence. Defining forms through printmaking processes, rather than predetermining their identity, establishes a cohesiveness between figure and ground which creates a documentary aura. Repetition of similar forms leads the viewer to believe that the situation with which he or she is presented is more than a freak occurrence—it has happened here and could happen again.

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