

"Topomnesia: Remembrance of place, especially that informs a painter's rendition of a place or region he or she has once experienced in first person; in such memory, the place or topos constitutes the major theme or primary concern, though not necessarily in an explicitly topographical manner."

—Edward S. Casey, *Representing Place: Landscape Painting and Maps*, University of Minnesota Press, 2002

Through this work, I am finding ways to decode the signs and myths inherent to maps, re-investing their ostensibly utilitarian function with personal narrative. I am interested in the tension between place that is longed for and place that is lived in. This tension is realized through imagery that I fragment, then seam back together. Singular mapped lines representing borders or coastlines are repeated in multiple, transforming one notation of space into another. By rearranging and reorganizing certain features and structures, I attempt to reclaim my relationship with significant places in my memory. Space then transforms into place, when according to Yi-Fu Tuan, "it feels utterly familiar to us."

It is my intention that these confluences of memory and place provide both a new lexicon of experience for the viewer and an understanding that true connection with place lies beyond the parameters of mapped terrain.