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Artist Statement  
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My body of artwork revolves around the human condition, how one reacts to one's own self, how one reacts to others, and how one reacts to the natural world. A specific theme or theory I am addressing in my work is the inherent contradiction found in one's own conscious being- as we all feel lonely, anxious, isolated, and vulnerable at times. Yet, there is still the tendency and natural order of being connected to others, by communicating, expanding, learning and growing.

The universe adheres to a natural order and tends to favor specific patterns, and behaviors with a purpose of development, connection and a sense of oneness with itself. Life thrives off of significant principles- a tree grows deep roots that anchor and connect it to a deterministic network of the earth. A tree learns to grow around obstacles and reaches towards the light as; it reacts to environmental changes and other organisms. Beauty and simplicity are found in nature and animal behavior, a principle of cause and effect that creates and effects all interactions and creates a oneness with all living things. So why does the human condition often negate this oneness? We often find ourselves lost in the deep deadlocks we create; we feel anxious and unable to communicate to others or even to ourselves. We often feel and fear a sense of separation and create troubling thought patterns, cyclical behavior, depression, trauma, and deep metaphysical conundrums we cannot even confront for ourselves. These behaviors aren't singular to humans. Yet, what is unique to humans is we are often trying but unable to grasp the actual reality of our existence, of life, and what it means to be human. To make sense of the world and of ourselves, we often create fallacies, complexes, and often doubt our own abilities to perceive reality to its full extent.

Neurological perspectives stress that the human brain is more comparable to a malfunctioning computer than it does a nurturing system of roots of a tree. While both share a network of connections, of electrical signaling, of memory, and in turn, a response to a stimulus- humans are not logical like a computer nor act as a simple chain of a cause and effect pattern found in a root system. We lose our reasoning for our reactions and feelings are lost in our own neurological mysteries. Of course, no one wants to feel negative emotions, to feel alone, or triggered into illogical thinking- but we do. We unwillingly deprive our thoughts of nurturing, understanding, connection, and growth in order to survive and make sense of our natural world. The struggle of overcoming our own thoughts becomes a battle of free will- a tension between freedom and biological determinism. How much can we willingly reroute the anxious circuitry of thought patterns? How much of it is our deep subconscious piping that cannot be rerouted no matter how much we dig and plant nurturing seeds? Exploring the tension between natural behavior and the human condition as a metaphor built through the industrial pipeline as neural networking, buildings as stored memories, and "pipe people" as neurons makes sense to me as it touches on the clunky connections humans make in an effort to make sense of our world, to give order, and to survive.

I am exploring this metaphor within a neurological basis because it occurs in one's own self but also extends to how we interact with others. Prompting that the same means for creating

our own consciousness is extends into the same process of building a community or a world, how we react to other humans, and even the same means for how nature communicates with itself. The fractals found in nature mimic the natural order of how our brains have neural connections, memories, and neurons that fire to create our perception of reality. The neural connections are responsible for forming new memories that link and apply principles learned from past experiences and use them to present moments. Neural connections determine our behavior and are the same fractal pattern in the root systems in trees, electrical thunderstorms, and many other forms in nature. These fractals are unusual in that they affect the very small and the very large and seem to extend into a principle of universal language.

In working with the pipeline as a metaphor for being connected neurologically between brain cells but also being connected with one's own self, there is an electrical transfer or signal that occurs to build a thought pattern or a signal to transfer energy much like an industrial grid. The fractals that organize our thoughts form the world we live in, and connect us to the natural order of the universe is replicating in the highways we construct, the pipelines we build, and the electrical outlets that connect us to energy. The pipeline and industrial systems interest me because it is where the human mind replicates natural patterns, but in a much less organic, clunky, and often incoherent way that I think interestingly represents human psychology on a scale that we can attach to. The systems humans build also show a conscious collective effort of connecting but in a way that makes sense to us. I am trying to find human and natural qualities in industrial grid systems and connect them to inherent natural patterns as it is an example of humans creating a conscious extension of ourselves. There is something very innate and biological in the self-inflicted isolating contradictions we find ourself's in but also unveils the deep abyss and mysteries unique to the human condition.