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Maude Everly (M.E.) Series – Artist Statement

Maude Everly (M. E.) Series is a fictional narrative about casting off the disillusionment of adult expectations and appreciating the everyday. An American consumer society creates Maude's expectations of the suburban home, a fulfilling job and a loving partner. Many of the images are constructed similarly to advertising or stock photography to enforce photography's power and role in creating these disillusionments. I used the wooden hand in these images to represent a shell of a person that is trying to find happiness in the world.

In a Pinocchio-like fashion, Maude slowly becomes a real person as she finds for her identity. In these images I have transformed my own hands into a pair of wooden hands. In these digital composites Maude is become more lifelike and embracing the mundane of the everyday. She should feel grind out by the everyday, but it is through these moments that she awakens and discovers her disillusionment. She learns to let go of the expectations and to embrace life.

My goal of the project is to challenge viewers to discover and shed their own disillusionments.