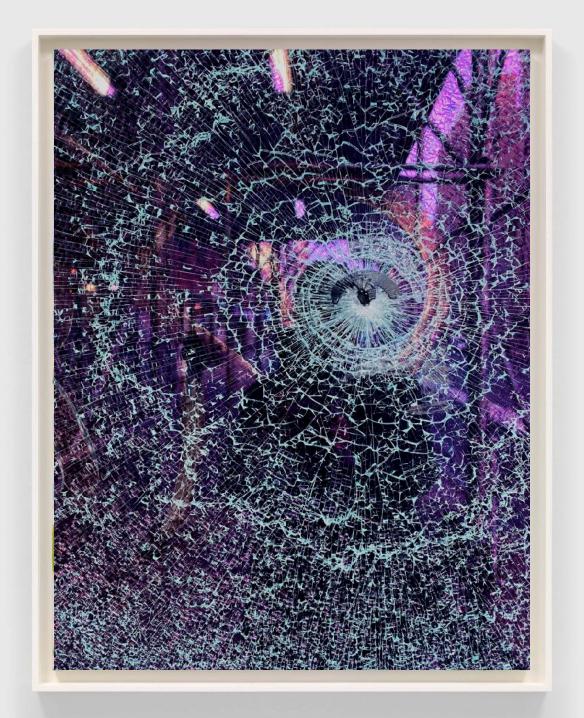
BRYAN CHADWICK

STRAYS

Photography realized on vibrachrome silver aluminum prints

Editions of 5 each, sizes variable



"The Eye" (purple vertical) | From the series, STRAYS | Laser-etched Vibrachrome silver aluminum print | Edition of 5 | sizes variable

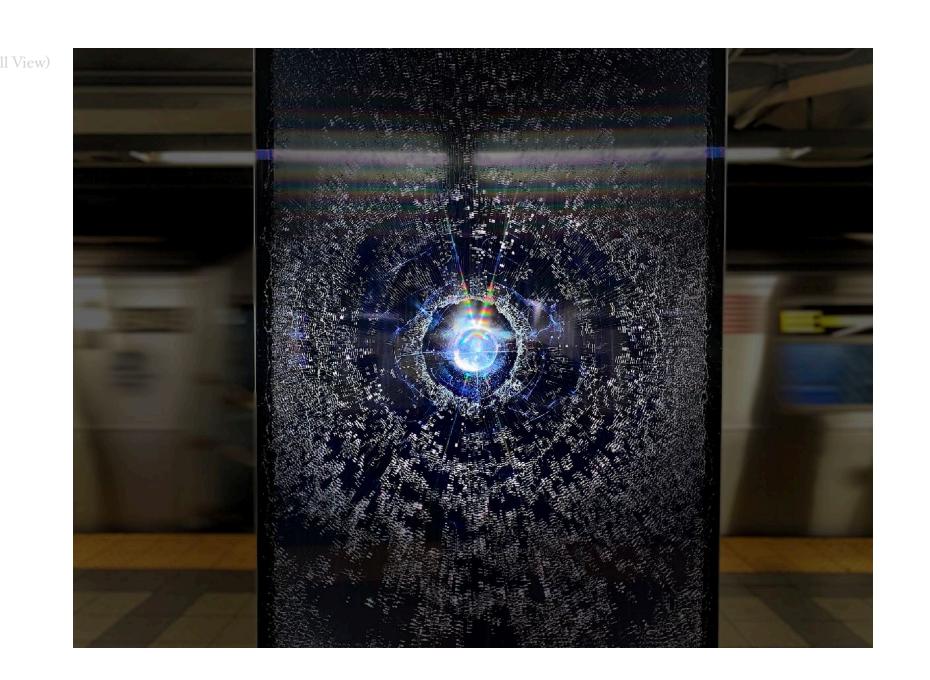


HROUGH MY ART, I've learned how to find some beauty in even the most horrible things. The death of my first love at the age of 13 was what set me on this path, as it inspired the music and art that allowed me to heal. Today, I've been compelled to capture the impact of stray bullets left behind from real shootings and violence in and around New York City, and turn them into wondrous images that appear to show how one tiny thing can radiate outwards to effect absolutely everything else in the universe. I present these as large-scale Vibrachrome laser-etched prints on somewhat reflective silver aluminum, which allows the viewer to situate a reflection of their own head and shoulders right where the bullet holes have entered the image, providing a sense that we are all simultaneously victims, witnesses, and perpetrators of the world we've created for ourselves. It can be astonishingly beautiful, but only if we choose to make it so.





"By" | From the series, STRAYS

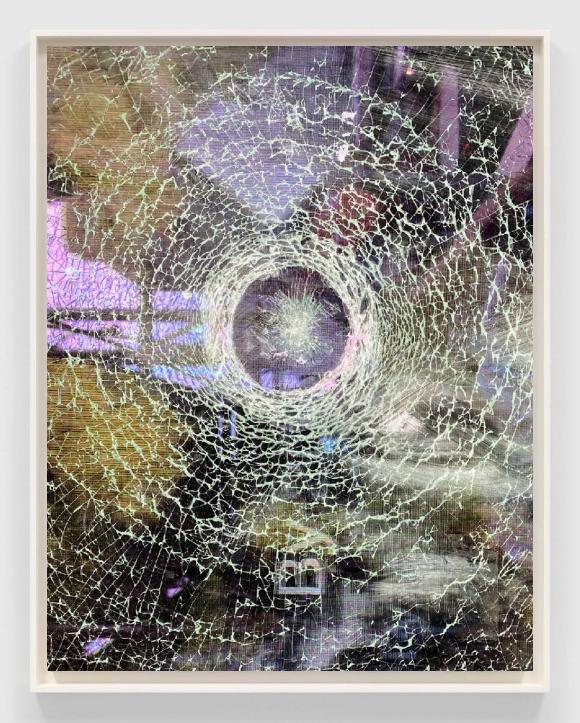




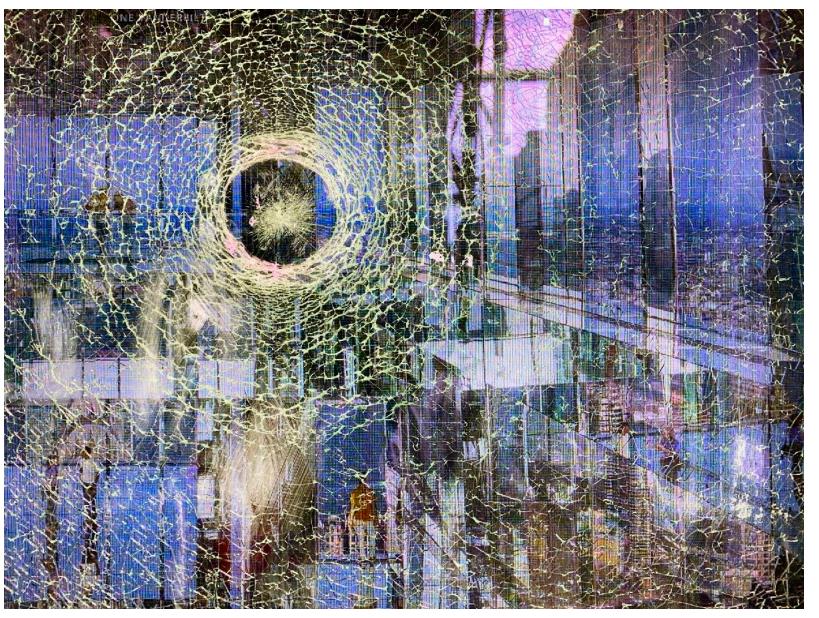
"Us" (vertical) | From the series, STRAYS



"Palm" | From the series, STRAYS



"Dead Center" | From the series STRAYS.



"Shattered"

ICASSO SAID ARTISTS do things to find out why they did them. That couldn't be more more true in my case. My art is an attempt to find out, understand, codify, and express what is causing it to emerge.

As far back as I can remember, I worried the creative 'nudges' I was getting were coming from a source outside of myself. Many artists feel that, and perhaps I was just especially attuned to it. By my teens, I figured these nudges must either be some kind of mental illness, or some kind of 'gift'. I didn't know which was more frightening. So I keep my creative life secret. Which is why few people have ever seen it before.

What I knew, though, was to document everything. Not just in diaries but in the veiled languages of art and music—hiding it in plain sight—so that, if I ever got the nudge to share my story, I'd have a beautiful, verifiable, time-stamped way of expressing it.

All of this wants to culminate in a multi-media codex —a single work combining visual art, music, and a work of literary non-fiction. All three elements of this life work are at various stages of completion. The different series sharing here form visual parts of that larger whole.

Ultimately, my work is about what it feels like to tread the alarmingly thin line between giftedness and mental illness, spirituality and creativity, and the fear of falling off on one side or the other.

For more, visit https://www.bryanhamiltonchadwick.com/

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