Whitney Toutenhoofd

“Anatomy”

$750

**Image Description:** This image is part of my current series, "School Shootings." For students in this country, school shootings are an ever-present threat. In these still life photographs, I explore the theme of mortality, a fundamental aspect of still life painting historically. Motifs such as gun casings and references to skeletons create disturbing dissonance in such a quiet and serene environment.

**Location of Image:** Boulder, CO

**Type of Camera and Lens Used:** Olympus, lens - Olympus 12-40 mm

**Camera Settings Used:** ISO 64, ⅓ of a sec at f/8.0

**Artist Statement:** In my recent photographs, I explore American school shootings through reconstructed imagery. For students in this country, school shootings are an ever-present threat. Because still life photography is often regarded as innocuous, it may seem to be an unlikely medium for such a violent topic. However, I’m interested in the theme of mortality as a fundamental aspect of still life painting historically, and with my work, I continue this tradition in a contemporary context. The work derives its “shock factor” from the incongruities it entertains. My compositions are simple, spare, and aesthetically appealing; in such a quiet, visually serene environment, symbols of school shootings create a disturbing dissonance.

**Website/Social Media Accounts:** @whitneybluephoto (instagram)