

CARRIE HENZIE

By Jodi Schachowskoj

Carrie Henzie is a third year Concordia University student, studying photography as part of the BFA program. She has a BA in cultural studies from McGill University and a certificate in New Media Design from Centennial College. Her focus is creating new meanings through her subjects and landscapes. She comments on the changing views of our world and communities and how outside influences and circumstances alter perspectives. Henzie is also passionate about examining elements of religion and the impact on perceptions (i.e. Adam/Eve/Lilith, Garden of Eden). She does not manipulate her photos - she chooses simple portrayals to create a greater impact on the viewer.

Her series *The Seven Deadly Sins* is a commentary on religion itself and the ideals that are prescribed to followers and the public. By using a known subject matter, Henzie wants to examine the stories/fables told through religious readings and re-examine the iconography that accompanies it. She uses simple images of children, with few elements to focus the viewer on her seemingly simple portrayal and message. She is making a comment on the idea of original sin - that we are all born sinners and must seek redemption. By using children, a symbol of modern innocence, she makes a direct accusation towards this religious construct. This is especially prevalent in the work *Pride*, featuring a young girl transfixed by her own reflection. Children are not associated with this trait and through this image, she attempts to challenge and provoke the audience, playing on, what she considers to be the perceived fallacy of original sin. She also plays with the idea of the angel/ devil child and the circumstances of that occurrence. Henzie questions religious theory and how it impacts people and their perceptions of life. She seeks to confront those ideals and examine the validity of the concept of original sin and others set out by Christian doctrine.



Carrie Henzie. *Pride*, from the series *Seven Deadly Sins*. 2010. 43 x 57 inches. Photograph.