

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean Ratliff' in a cursive, stylized script.

Sean Ratliff (°1970, Rockyford, CO USA) makes photographs and media art. By investigating visual language on a meta-level, Ratliff creates with daily, recognizable elements, an unprecedented situation in which the viewer is confronted with the conditioning of his own perception and has to reconsider his biased position.

His practice provides a useful set of allegorical tools for maneuvering with a pseudo-minimalist approach in the world of photography: these works resound and resonate with regional cultural narratives. The work is cool and neutral, yet vibrant in hues.

His work urges us to renegotiate photography as being part of a reactive or – at times – autistic medium, commenting on oppressing themes in our contemporary society. With a subtle minimalistic approach, he tries to grasp at visual language. Transformed into art, language becomes an ornament. At that moment, lots of ambiguities and indistinctnesses, which are inherent to the phenomenon, come to the surface.

His works focus on the inability of communication which is used to visualize reality, the attempt of dialogue, the dissonance between form and content and the dysfunctions of language. In short, the lack of clear references are key elements in the work. Sean Ratliff lives and works in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

[seanratliff.website](http://seanratliff.website)