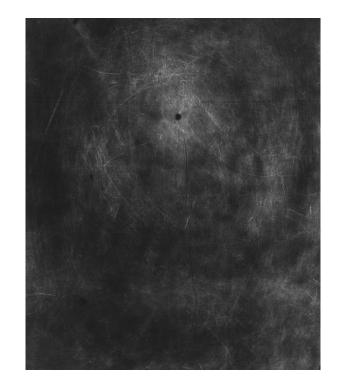


## Brandon James. *Photographs*. Volume 1, Number 2 (Fall 2011)

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## Brandon **James**



Text by Joshi Radin Special Thanks to Jordan Kessler Cesco Light 6 Brandon James **B**RANDON JAMES is a romantic with equanimity. Weighed down with an 11 × 14 camera, he leaves behind the visual clamor of the digital age and hikes into the woods to shoot landscapes. Ponds. Trees. Sand.

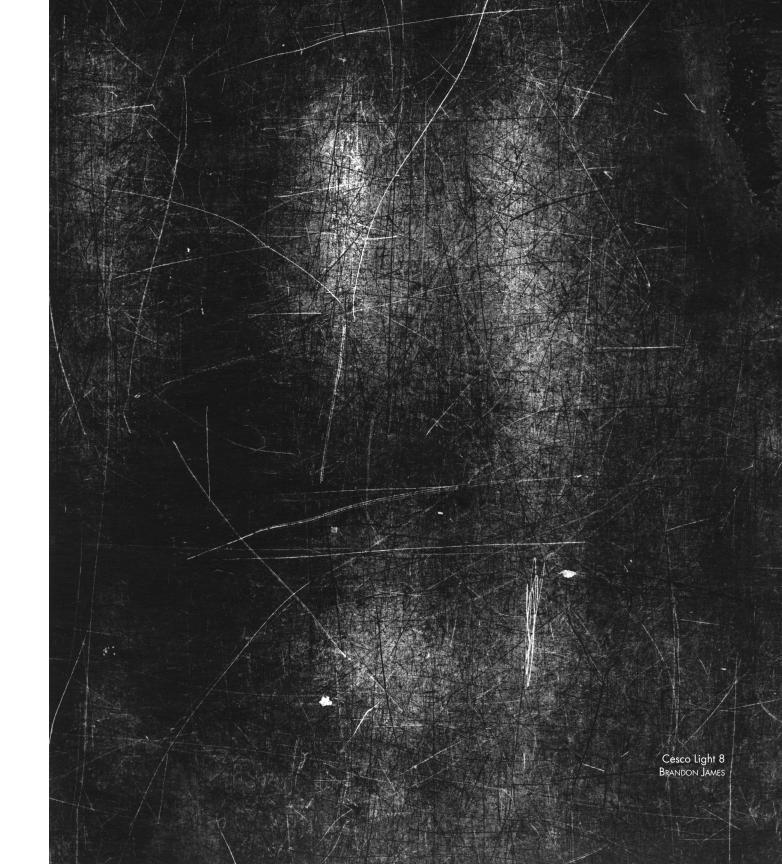
He quietly thrives on the technical challenges inherent in the photographic process, whether it's perfecting chemistry blends to achieve a perfect black, building a better print washer, or using a  $20 \times 24$  stationary camera to photograph chemical residues.

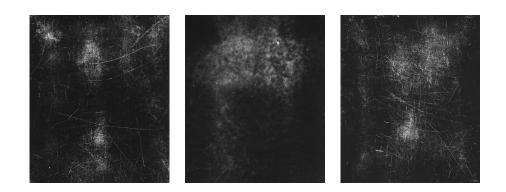
Inspired by the pioneering nineteenthcentury photographers who went out to California carrying plates of glass to capture awe, adventure, and the newer spaces of a young country, James brings this sense of exploration to concerns closer to home.

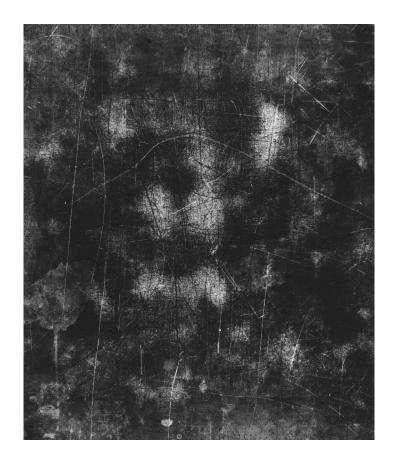
No part of bringing out these compositions is simple. From moving a threehundred-pound camera (requiring its own room to serve as the film back), to developing the final prints, the process takes a wealth of dedication, patience, and a love for the journey.

The *Cesco Light Tray* images are dark, rhythmically illuminated by scratchy highlights or softer, cloudier grays. Abstracted from all scale and context, they achieve a generative ambiguity.

In the void of the obvious, we bring our own sensibilities to bear, and the images – photographs of histories of photographs-in-the-making – come to be something that is as much about what the viewer brings as anything the artist reveals in the textured forms.

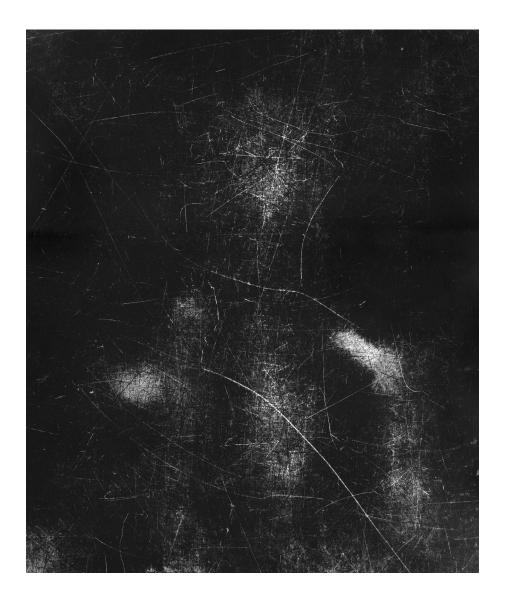






Cesco Light 2 Cesco Light 4 Cesco Light 3 Brandon James

Cesco Light 1 Brandon James





Cesco Light 5 Brandon James Cesco Light 7 Brandon James