Ebony Patterson

Self, metaphor and the body are pertinent interests in my work. I seek to reference a beauty that is inherent in objectification while making specific references to the female body. For decades Feminists have sought to critique the representation of women within ‘visual culture’, through exploring notions of body and the feminine. They have challenged the so-called ‘male gaze’, perpetuated by white males within a patriarchal world as a reason for induced objectification of women. The feminist of the 1970s therefore sought to use female imagery as a means to empower and to validate the value and position of women within society.

While I empathize with the position taken by 1970s feminists, my interests in objectification articulate a different assessment. I seek to claim objectification as a position that may be asserted by the ‘female gaze’, while making clear references to the female body as objects. My explorations are excavations and observations that feed my own concerns with my own objectification. I find great appeal in decomposition, disease, female scatology, Jamaican obscenities, and environments that induce bodily objectification.