

**Jordan Biren**

Artist Statement

Two photographic groupings from 1989 embody the content of this box: Performance Relation, and Relation (Disuse). A simple box devised to consider specific relations: the performative in relation to performance, the performative in relation to materiality, the performative in relation to a photographic differential; and too, its relation to disuse, the performative collapsed into the material, the lexical, the photographic body. This brings me to another relation, that of this project to its moment. As I revisit this work so many years later, it is clear that its concept, approach, and material urge—contained herein in the manner of a box—are entirely owed to the relational presence of David Ireland in my life. Literal relations, David Ireland being the uncle of my wife. This box performs as much the formation of thought, of praxis, of processes, as it performs its other formation—an homage, an offering, and finally thanks to the proximity of this precessional, this fortuitous relation to the eloquent and instrumental voice of David Ireland's art.