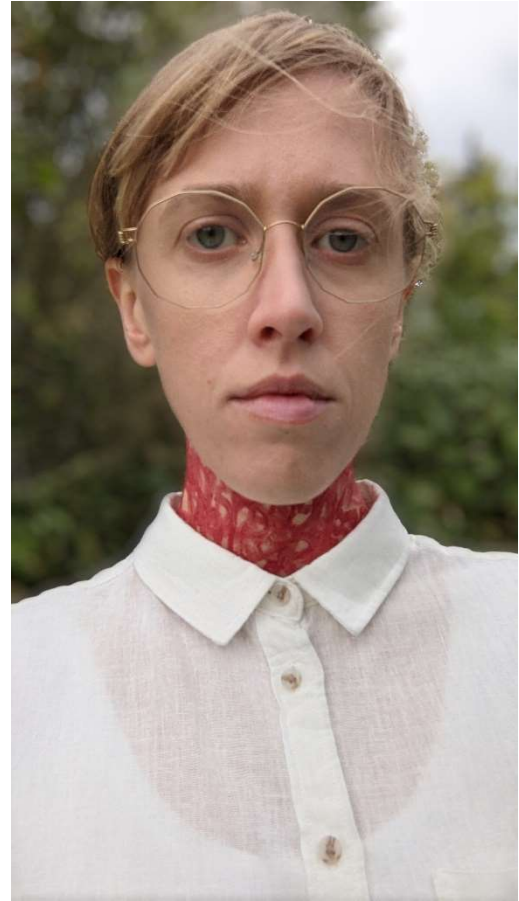


# OUR ART OUR REGION OUR TIME



## ***My Queer Redneck***

9 x 11 in

Photography/ self-portrait on paper

\$300

## **Amber Imrie**

[www.amberimrie.com](http://www.amberimrie.com)

@amberimrie

### **Bio**

Amber Imrie was born and raised off-the-grid in the Ozark Mountains of Northwest Arkansas. Largely homeschooled throughout her childhood, Amber attended school for three years before testing out at age sixteen.

Amber has a BA with honors from UC Berkeley and was awarded Excellence in Sculpture upon graduating. Amber has a MFA from Stanford University and was awarded the Anita Squires Fowler Award in Photography. From 2014 - 2017 Amber founded and was curator of Venison Magazine, an online contemporary art magazine, and Camp Venison, an art micro-residency. Amber has been an artist in residence and exhibited work nationally and internationally. Imrie was awarded the Murphy Cadogan award in 2017 to foster further exploration of her artistic potential in hybrid practice. She was a finalist for both the Summer SOMA residency and the Headlands Graduate Fellowship Award in 2018.

Amber became a founding member of The Alternative Art School in 2020. In 2023, Amber was awarded the Creative Exchange Fund Spectra Grant as a curator/artist, the Artist 360 practicing artist grant, and was invited to speak on a curator panel at the ArtBo International Art fair in Bogota, Columbia and at Expo art fair in Chicago, USA.

### **Artist Statement**

I was raised in the illusion of a house where the separation of interior and exterior was not distinct. Parts of our home were unfinished, leaving sections exposed to the elements. Wild animals regularly penetrated our attempt at domestic bliss, mingling with our furnishings. I was born into the utopian back-to-the-land movement, but the romanticism of off-the-grid living was far from the often uncomfortable and isolating reality.

As a female, I understood my feral body in this rural landscape, where my identity and manners developed away from urban sexualization and gendered restrictions.

In coastal urban centers, I encountered strict binary gender norms and a homogenous view of my southern homeland. This led me to expose the diversity of the rural South, starting with my community. Recently, this has been through performative video and textile works investigating Rural Southern Culture and the inherent queerness in nature.

My work explores rural living through a queer feminist lens, intersecting with gender, domestic life, class, and environmentalism. Through auto-ethnographic research and photography, I position the personal as political, the unique as universal, and the traditional as temporal, questioning the stability of our environmental and communal lives.