The River Rock Variations are images in which I digitally combine portraits of my wife Allison and myself. I tiled this series of combined portraits after the place where we first met. The results are fictional character portraits, indiscernibly forged; representing the unseen ways that influence weaves its way through our lives. This work was initially inspired by the ways that one can lose sight of oneself in a marriage.

Through this series, I am blurring the boundaries of gender, individuality and personal identity in a process of exploration. The images describe real relationships between my wife and me. At the same time, these images subvert the basic utility of photography as a recorder of visual reality in the most fundamental way. It is creating a visual clash between fact and fiction, while blurring the boundaries between my art and life.

Jake Rowland received his BFA in photography from the School of Visual Arts, New York and lives and works in New York City. His photography has been exhibited and published internationally. In France, he was one of 2005's selected photographers for the International Festival of Fashion and Photography at Hyéres. In New York, his work was selected for the Art+Commerce Festival for Emerging Photographers in both 2004 and 2005. His photography has been exhibited at ClampArt and the Jen Bekman Gallery, published in PDN, Capricious, The Independent and The British Journal of Photography and reviewed in the Village Voice and The New Yorker.

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HABE CREDITS JAKE ROWLAND, UNTILLED FROM THE SWER ROCK VARIATIONS, 2005, ARCHIVAL INKLET PRINT, 30 X 49"







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