

Susan Yingling
Akron Traction

Collector, picker, hunter and gatherer - all might apply to an assemblage artist who sees potential in the objects others are quick to discard. A piece of wood becomes a canvas, an eyeglass lens becomes a laser-engraved protector for a polymer clay dome, optometrist samples hold clay disks and gears surround an old type piece identifying the Northern Ohio Traction & Light Company. Unseen by the viewer is a photo of my grandfather as a young man who worked for the Dayton Interurban Traction. I imagine the passenger looking out a window as the green leaves pass by, traction car sitting atop newfangled gears, excited for time to pass more quickly, moving into a more modern era.