



LIVES

disposable

For most of us the ageing of our current mobile phone, computer or car is nothing more than a mild annoyance. The resulting inconvenience and financial burden is always compensated with the possibility of an upgrade to a slicker, faster, trendier model. However, a look at some of these images from Seattle based photographer Chris Jordan may make you think a little deeper about the consequences of throwing away that outmoded Nokia. Jordan's images convey an anxiety over the excessive consumerism of Western culture and its faceless act of destruction. In his first series *Invisible Beauty: Portraits of American Mass Consumption*, he creates an unsettling juxtaposition between the humanity of everyday objects and the incomprehensible, yet somehow sublime scale of the desolation. His latest series *Laid To Waste: Portraits of Loss in Katrina's Wake* continues the theme of destructive consumerism, looking at how our actions as individuals can have a devastating effect on our environment, with issues such as global warming becoming more pressing than ever. Both bodies of work present a striking and thought provoking insight into our detached relationship with the disposability of everyday living.



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