Points of Contact
Points of Contact explores the human desire and need to physically engage, or more simply put, “touch” the world around us. It’s a reaction to the ever more prominent use of sensors, virtual reality and the disconnect from manual engagement. As Matthew Crawford explains, “America is becoming a nation of disembodied brains, skilled in reading the social cues of a managerial culture, but divorced from the joy of knowing things empirically from the process of ‘analyzing’ them with our hand.” These photos, taken from around the Palouse, illustrate the cracks, oil, dirt and scars left on skilled laborers who work in shops, who are mechanics, who are welders, who sculpt and choose to work with their hands. They have a physical, emotional, or mental desire to understand the world around them through physical contact.

These working environments are reciprocal in nature - the user affects the space and in turn the space affects the users.

*Shop Class as Soulcraft: An Inquiry Into The Value Of Work* by Matthew B. Crawford