

ARKANSAS

Maxine Payne Caufield

I was raised in a poor rural town in Arkansas by my grandparents. They were both uneducated. My grandpa couldn't read. My grandma married when she was nine years old. She picked cotton and had babies—eleven, of whom only four survive. My family lives in houses that are on two wheels. I went to the same public school from kindergarten through 12th grade.

I've been in Iowa now for two and a half years, in graduate school, but I cannot get the South out of my veins. The miles make no difference. My work has always been about the South, primarily because it is what I know, but also because I feel I have to uncover my past in order to chart my future both artistically and emotionally. I consider myself an installation artist, working with mural-size photographs and creating collages with found objects and smaller images which are stitched, taped, glued and painted on.









