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Democracy Dies in Darkness

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In the galleries: Bodies that are more than flesh and bone

By **Mark Jenkins**
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Maureen Minehan

It's clearly not prime beach time in the photographs in "At Water's Edge," Maureen Minehan's show at Multiple Exposures Gallery. Perhaps these evocatively bleached-out images were made at daybreak or twilight, before or after the crush. Only a few people are visible, and just in some of the pictures. But crowds are expected, as can be seen from the inanimate objects in "Trash Line" and "Anticipation."

The latter features a procession of umbrellas that stand in for the humans who will later use them. The red canopies also offer a vivid contrast to the photos' tans, whites and barely-there blues. In mysterious pictures such as "Topless," in which a pier fades into the mist, the seaside seems a place where civilization might simply evaporate. Only the umbrellas and trash cans, with their defiant primary colors, declare that humanity won't be absorbed back into the ocean.

Maureen Minehan: At Water's Edge On view through July 31 at Multiple Exposures Gallery, Torpedo Factory, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. 703-683-2205. multipleexposuresgallery.com.