

# JOB SECURITY

Voices and Views from the American Security Industry



Danny Goodwin  
Edward Schwarzschild

University Art Museum  
University at Albany  
State University of New York

*Job Security: Voices and Views from the American Security Industry* explores the contours of the ever-expanding American security industry – its people, places, and ideologies. This exhibition of photography, text, and video installations is a culmination of an eight-year collaborative research project by artist Danny Goodwin and writer Edward Schwarzschild and draws on elements from their book *Job/Security: A Composite Portrait of the Expanding American Security Industry* (MIT Press, 2024). Taking the breadth of their research beyond the printed page, *Job Security* calls into question what we mean when we speak of security – Security for whom and by whom? In an era defined by national and global conflicts, widening ideological divides, and increasing political polarization, *Job Security* seeks to ask these questions through an individualized, nuanced approach.

The personal impetus for Goodwin and Schwarzschild's research was their experiences of growing up with fathers who worked in security and the secrecy that often shrouded their lives. As a result, the unknown or unseen is a major theme in *Job Security*. With their father's portraits as a starting point, the first floor focuses on people Goodwin and Schwarzschild photographed and interviewed: workers and officials in government organizations and the private sector, targets of security operations, and critics of the industry.

In new video installations, abridged transcripts of interviews with six of the senior security industry officials and critics whose black and white portraits appear elsewhere in the exhibition are read by the next generation of security professionals: graduate students in the University at Albany's College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security, and Cybersecurity. Goodwin presents the videos in pairs of vertical monitors facing each other, placing interviewees in a virtual "conversation" even though they might never speak to each other in real life. Standing between two monitors, the viewer hears two voices speaking at once and must move closer to one speaker or the other to hear each perspective clearly.

For Schwarzschild, who conducted the original interviews, an interview is essentially two people sitting down with each other, trusting each other, shifting perspectives, and simultaneously sharing and concealing information. Schwarzschild's wall diagram begins to visualize the labor required to uncover the many voices heard in the exhibition. Framed facsimiles of redacted interview transcripts in the exhibition show that not everything is revealed in these seemingly candid interviews, compelling us to consider what is on the page and what is not on the page.



Danny Goodwin  
Fatema, Boston, MA, 2022



Danny Goodwin  
Dan, Dallas, TX, 2018  
Bill, Philadelphia, PA, 2023



Further exploring questions of concealment and deception, the color photographs on the second floor are the latest by Goodwin, who for more than three decades has worked on photographic projects related to issues of surveillance and secrecy, often calling into question assumptions about photographic "truth" and reality. Goodwin received special authorization to photograph the State Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany, NY. His straightforward photographs of the site, shot with a 4x5 view camera, present its vacant, generic 3D facsimiles of American "Main Street" towns used to train security personnel for emergencies and disasters. Other images are constructed in the studio. To visualize the invisible, Goodwin has made photographs of his convincing tabletop paper models of sites to which he was not granted access. For other constructed studio pictures, Goodwin printed low-resolution landscape elements, such as pixelated trees culled from Google Earth, assembled them in a diorama, and photographed the resulting landscape.

As we look at Goodwin's constructed studio pictures, and try to puzzle them out, we see through the fissures of taped and glued cardboard and are asked to think about ethics, history, and the complexity of deciphering reality. They become a model for approaching all of Goodwin and Schwarzschild's work, which calls for deep listening and prolonged looking while also encouraging critical, skeptical readings of the narratives presented.

### About the Artists

Danny Goodwin is Professor and Chair of the Department of Art and Art History at the University at Albany, SUNY. His photographic, video, and installation work has been featured in numerous solo and group exhibitions and published extensively in the United States and Europe.

Edward Schwarzschild is Professor and Director of Creative Writing in the Department of English and a Fellow of the New York State Writers Institute at the University at Albany, SUNY. He is the author of three works of fiction, *In Security*, *The Family Diamond*, and *Responsible Men*. His writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Believer*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, and elsewhere.

*Job Security: Voices and Views from the American Security Industry* is organized by Corinna Ripps Schaming, Director/Chief Curator, and Robert R. Shane, Associate Curator at the University Art Museum, University at Albany, SUNY.



Studio documentation of the making of *Tarmac*, Reagan Intl. Airport, Washington, DC, 2019



Danny Goodwin  
Recorder, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA, 2016

## Exhibition Checklist

All works courtesy of the artists.

### Portraits

- Danny Goodwin  
*Redacted Portrait*, 2024  
 16 x 20 inches
- Bill, Philadelphia, PA*, 2023  
 16 x 20 inches
- Dan, Johnstown, NY*, 2023  
 16 x 20 inches
- Hasan, Queens, NY*, 2023  
 16 x 20 inches
- Adrian, El Paso, TX*, 2022  
 20 x 16 inches
- Carla, Boerne, TX*, 2022  
 20 x 16 inches
- Chauncia, Tampa, FL*, 2022  
 20 x 16 inches
- DeeDee, Albany, NY*, 2022  
 20 x 16 inches
- Diana and Dan, Bhutanese Temple, El Paso, TX*, 2022  
 20 x 16 inches
- Eyal, New York City*, 2022  
 20 x 16 inches
- Fatema, Boston, MA*, 2022  
 20 x 16 inches
- Francisco, Pima County Municipal Cemetery, Tucson, AZ*, 2022  
 16 x 20 inches
- Unidentified Migrant Grave, Pima County Municipal Cemetery, Tucson, AZ*, 2022  
 16 x 20 inches
- Vic, El Paso, TX*, 2022  
 20 x 16 inches
- Terri, Worcester, NY*, 2021  
 20 x 16 inches
- View Inside Terri's Home, Worcester, NY*, 2021  
 16 x 20 inches
- John, Loudoun, VA*, 2019  
 20 x 16 inches
- Larry, Reston, VA*, 2019  
 16 x 20 inches
- Dan, Dallas, TX*, 2018  
 16 x 20 inches
- Jim, Albany, NY*, 2018  
 20 x 16 inches
- Pablo, CT*, 2017  
 16 x 20 inches
- Pablo's IED Workshop, Location Classified*, 2017  
 16 x 20 inches
- Cyndi, National Cathedral, Washington, DC*, 2016  
 20 x 16 inches
- James, National Cathedral, Washington, DC*, 2016  
 20 x 16 inches
- Recorder, Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA*, 2016  
 16 x 20 inches
- Rick, Langley, VA*, 2016  
 16 x 20 inches
- Tom, Arlington Memorial Cemetery, Washington, DC*, 2016  
 16 x 20 inches
- Archival pigment prints, editions of 4

### Videos

- Danny Goodwin and Edward Schwarzschild  
*Border Patrol Reflections (Barak Hussein Reading Francisco Cantú Interview Excerpt and Violetta DeRosa Reading Carla Provost Interview Excerpt)*, 2024  
 2 screen installation, 4K videos, 14:35 and 9:36 minutes, black and white, sound
- CIA Reflections (Vasuda Trehan Reading Diana Bolsinger Interview Excerpt and Mahsa Goodarzi Reading James Steiner Interview Excerpt)*, 2024  
 2 screen installation, 4K videos, 10:45 and 8:48 minutes, black and white, sound
- Military Reflections (Ryan Swift Reading Pablo Arroyo Interview Excerpt and Travis Brodbeck Reading Col. James Vizzard Interview Excerpt)*, 2024  
 2 screen installation, 4K videos, 8:28 and 11:02 minutes, black and white, sound
- Dimensions variable

### Interviews

- Danny Goodwin  
*Ed's Notebook Replica*, 2024  
 Archival pigment print, unique  
 20 x 58 inches
- Ed's Notebook Replica*, 2024  
 Archival pigment print and PVA adhesive, unique  
 7½ x 5¼ inches
- Pablo's Broken Right-Hand Rolex Submariner Replica*, 2024  
 Archival pigment print, acid-free cardboard, PVA adhesive, unique  
 2 x 2 x 3 inches
- Pablo's Working Left-Hand Rolex Submariner Replica*, 2024  
 Archival pigment print, acid-free cardboard, PVA adhesive, unique  
 2 x 2 x 3 inches
- Pint of Beer Replica*, 2024  
 Archival pigment print, PVA adhesive, unique  
 8 x 4 x 4 inches
- Stack of Raw Transcripts (Redacted)*, 2024  
 Archival pigment print, acid free cardboard, PVA adhesive, unique  
 23 x 23 x 20 inches
- Tascam Digital Recorder Replica*, 2024  
 Archival pigment print, PVA adhesive, unique  
 6 x 3 x 1½ inches
- Danny Goodwin and Edward Schwarzschild  
*Here in the Pentagon, Redacted Transcript 11/19/16*, 2024  
*Is There Something We Should Have Asked You, Redacted Transcript 11/18/16*, 2024  
*It's a Crazy World, Redacted Transcript 11/19/16*, 2024  
*Perfect, Redacted Transcript 11/18/16*, 2024  
*Redacted Transcript 10/15/18*, 2024  
*Redacted Transcript 10/15/18*, 2024  
*So That's That, Redacted Transcript 11/18/16*, 2024  
*That Happens in Academia, Redacted Transcript 11/18/16*, 2024  
*You Don't Really Know What That Means, Redacted Transcript 2/23/19*, 2024  
 Archival pigment prints, editions of 4  
 11 x 8½ inches each
- Danny Goodwin and Edward Schwarzschild  
*Standard Interview Flowchart*, 2024  
 Inkjet on vinyl, unique  
 52 x 74 inches

### Color Photographs

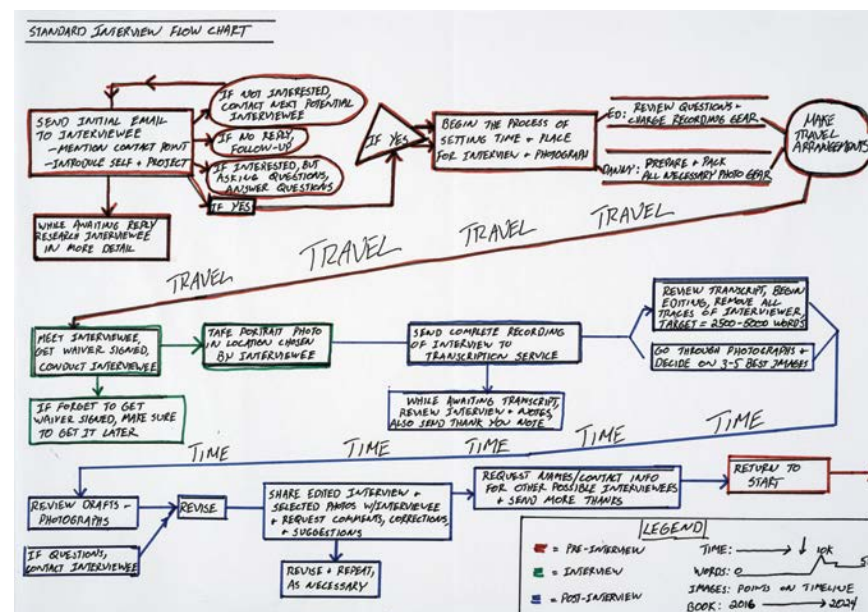
- Danny Goodwin  
*Ambos Nogales*, 2022  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches
- Border of El Paso, TX and Ciudad Juarez, MX*, 2022  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches
- Meadowhaven, Dallas, TX*, 2020  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches
- Bean County Courthouse, Cityscape Simulator, State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany, NY*, 2019  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches
- City Drugs, Cityscape Simulator, State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany, NY*, 2019  
 Chromogenic print, edition of 2  
 87 x 72 inches
- First and Main, Cityscape Simulator, State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany, NY*, 2019  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches
- Rosterfield Motel, Cityscape Simulator, State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany, NY*, 2019  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches
- Swiftwater Simulator, State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany, NY*, 2019  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches
- Tarmac, Reagan Intl. Airport, Washington, DC*, 2019  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches
- Urban Search and Rescue Simulator, State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany, NY*, 2019  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches
- CIA Headquarters, Langley, VA*, 2018  
 Archival pigment print, edition of 4  
 44 x 55 inches



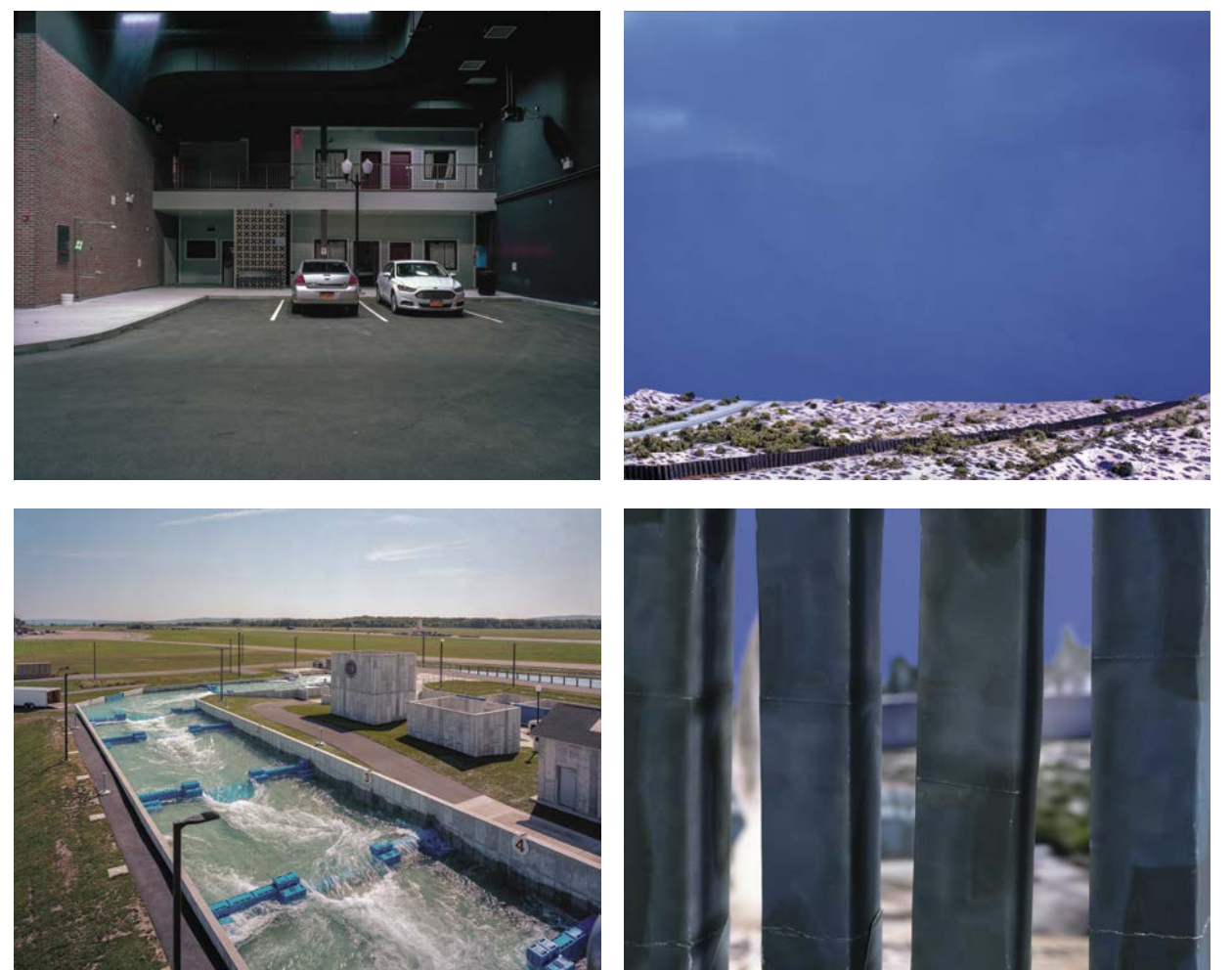
Danny Goodwin, *Hasan, Queens, NY*, 2023; *Eyal, New York City*, 2022; *John, Loudoun, VA*, 2019; *Terri, Worcester, NY*, 2021; *James, National Cathedral, Washington, DC*, 2016; *Adrian, El Paso, TX*, 2022; *Francisco, Pima County Municipal Cemetery, Tucson, AZ*, 2022; *Jim, Albany, NY*, 2018; *Diana and Dan, Bhutanese Temple, El Paso, TX*, 2022; *Redacted Portrait*, 2024; *Cyndi, National Cathedral, Washington, DC*, 2016; and *DeeDee, Albany, NY*, 2022



Danny Goodwin and Edward Schwarzschild, *CIA Reflections (Vasuda Trehan Reading Diana Bolsinger Interview Excerpt and Mahsa Goodarzi Reading James Steiner Interview Excerpt)* (stills), 2024



Danny Goodwin and Edward Schwarzschild, *Standard Interview Flowchart*, 2024



Danny Goodwin, *Rosterfield Motel, Cityscape Simulator, State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany, NY*, 2019; *Ambos Nogales*, 2022; *Swiftwater Simulator, State Preparedness Training Center, Oriskany, NY*, 2019; and *Border of El Paso, TX and Ciudad Juarez, MX*, 2022

Danny Goodwin and Edward Schwarzschild would like to thank the following individuals, departments, and offices for their essential support: Thomas Bass, Department of English and Department of Communication, University at Albany; Stephen Coulthart, College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security, and Cybersecurity (CEHC), University at Albany; Meighan Gale, Zone Books, Brooklyn, NY; Dean Robert P. Griffin, CEHC, University at Albany; Katie Helke, MIT Press, Cambridge, MA; Rick Mathews, Center for Counter-Terrorism Training, Albany, NY; Winifred Poster, Labor Tech Research Network, St. Louis, MO; College of Arts and Sciences, University at Albany; Department of Art and Art History, University at Albany; Department of English, University at Albany; New York State Writers Institute, University at Albany; the Office of the President, University at Albany; the Office of the Provost, University at Albany; The University at Albany Foundation; The Research Foundation for the State University of New York; and all the people photographed and interviewed for this project.



Danny Goodwin, *City Drugs*, *Cityscape Simulator*, *State Preparedness Training Center*, *Oriskany, NY*, 2019, chromogenic print, edition of 2, 87 x 72 inches

# JOB SECURITY

Voices and Views from the American Security Industry

Danny Goodwin  
Edward Schwarzschild



UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM  
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY | STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

UAM

***Job Security: Voices and Views from  
the American Security Industry***

August 12 – December 9, 2024  
1st and 2nd Floor Main Galleries

University Art Museum  
University at Albany  
State University of New York

1400 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12222  
518-442-4035  
[www.albany.edu/museum](http://www.albany.edu/museum)

The exhibition and public programs are supported by the Office of the President, Office of the Provost, The University at Albany Foundation, the University at Albany Alumni Association, the New York State Writers Institute, the University Auxiliary Services at Albany, the Ann C. Mataraso Fund, and the Jack and Gertrude Horan Memorial Fund for Student Outreach.

Copyright © 2024 University Art Museum

**Museum Staff:**

Darcie Abbatiello  
*Registrar/Collections Manager*

Jesse Asher Alsdorf  
*Technical Assistant*

Berly Brown  
*Education Coordinator*

Gil Gentile  
*Exhibition and Publication Designer*

Corinna Ripps Schaming  
*Director/Chief Curator*

Robert R. Shane  
*Associate Curator*

Christine Snyder  
*Operations and Finance Manager*

Christian Wechgelaer  
*Graduate Assistant*

Jeffrey Wright-Sedam  
*Preparator/Facilities Manager*

Cover image:  
Danny Goodwin, *Urban Search and  
Rescue Simulator, State Preparedness  
Training Center, Oriskany, NY (detail), 2019*