

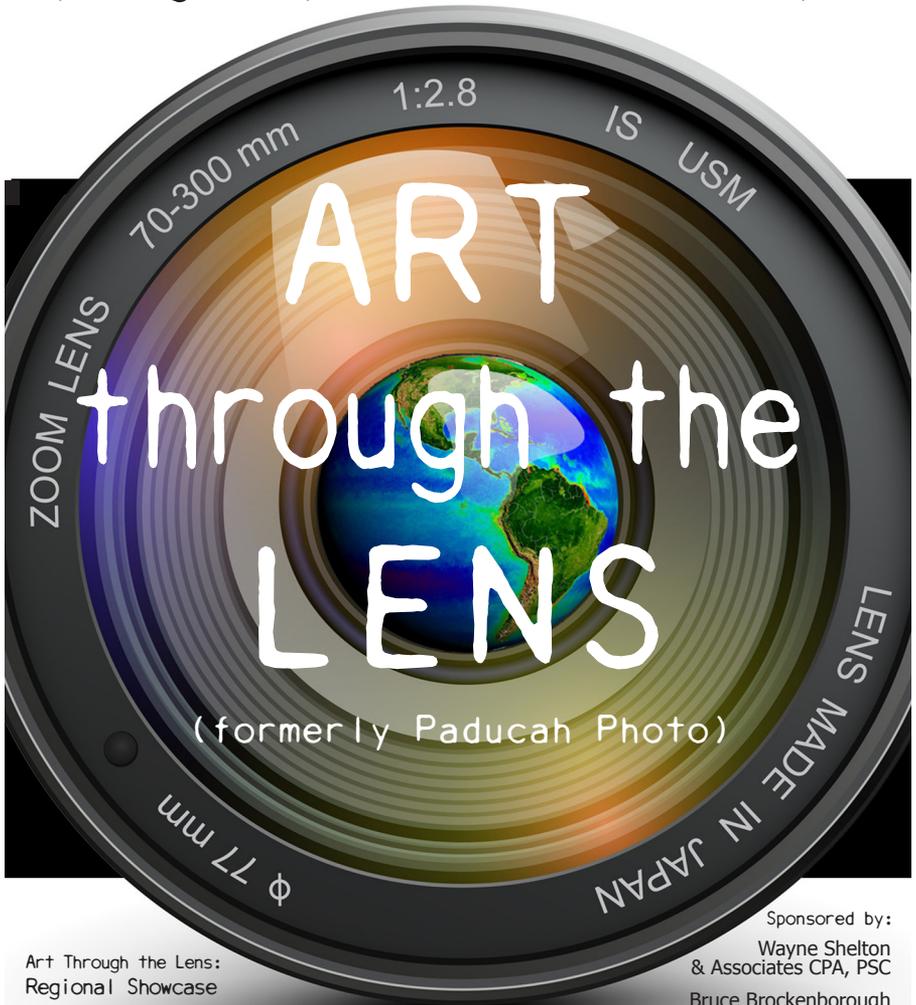
Yeiser Art Center

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June 20 - August 1, 2015

Opening Reception: June 20, 5 - 7 p.m.



ART
through the
LENS

(formerly Paducah Photo)

Art Through the Lens:
Regional Showcase

on display at

Maiden Alley Cinema Lobby
112 Maiden Alley

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www.theyeiser.org/events/art-through-lens

2015 Art Through The Lens International Juror



Sarah Sudhoff is a photographer, educator and former photo editor for Texas Monthly and Time magazines and was most recently hired as the new Executive Director at the Houston Center for Photography. She established and served on the board of the Austin Center for Photography and Photohive-non profits dedicated to enriching

the lives of photographers within their community. In 2013, she received an artist grant from the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation and her series *Wired* appeared in the December issue of *Cabinet* magazine. In 2012, Sudhoff was an artist-in-residence at Artpace, San Antonio, Texas and Anne Strainchamps interviewed Sudhoff on her series *At the Hour of Our Death* for a segment titled *Minding Mortality* for the program *To the Best of Our Knowledge*. In 2011, Sudhoff became the first artist-in-residence at the Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender and Reproduction. Sudhoff's work interweaves themes of gender, science and personal experience through photographs both staged and found. She holds a Master of Fine Arts in Photography from Parsons the New School for Design, NY and a Bachelor of Journalism from the University of Texas at Austin.

Juror's Statement

Jurying photography competitions inspires my own artist practice but most importantly, it allows me to recognize photographers whose work speaks directly to my sensibilities as an artist and curator. I have my own unique vision and interests within the medium. Therefore, I challenged myself to contemplate work outside the themes I personally am devoted to with surprising results. I selected many works for their craft, composition and photographer intent. I choose photographs which I had an immediate response to or images which raised questions requiring further research into the artist and their work. I was deeply moved by the visions and voices of the five selected winners and feel humbled to have shared in their stories.

***2015 Art Through The Lens* Regional Juror**



Antonio Martinez is a visual artist and educator working in photography and video at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL. He received his B.A. in Studio Art with an emphasis in Painting in 2001 from the Creighton University. In 2005 he completed

his MFA in Photography from East Carolina University's School of Fine Art and Design. Martinez's work has been exhibited nationally and internationally in museums, film festivals, galleries and art fairs. Martinez's *Near the Egress* experimental video has been exhibited at Blue Sky Gallery, SFMOMA, Portland Museum of Art, along with being featured on lensculture.org and in *PDN* magazine. He is currently completing his much anticipated series, *How to Hug and Other Sublimation of Men*, about local cagefighters and the spiritual sorrow and praise imbued within the sport.

**Yeiser
Art
Center**

**200 Broadway
Paducah, KY 42001
Market House Square**





Peter Aldrich
Boonton Township, NJ
peteraldrichphotography.com



Urban Elemental 13



Discordant Views-Nebraska

Bio:

While majoring in communications design at Pratt in the early 1970's my coursework included advertising, graphic design and photography. My interest in photography as an art form continued to grow and became the medium of choice for my personal work. Upon graduating with a BFA in 1975 I embarked on a career in graphic design and have operated my own studio for the past 27 years serving a corporate clientele while continuing to be interested in photography. Since 2005 I have exhibited my images in solo as well as national and regional juried group shows at galleries, art centers and alternative venues. My work is included in private collections.

Statement:

The combination of exploration and discovery is at the core of what inspires my photography. I enjoy the process of looking, thinking and reacting intuitively to what I see around me especially in areas that are new to me. The image ***Discordant Views-Nebraska*** is from an ongoing series examining the aesthetic consequence of the random, undesigned arrangement of markings, objects and structures by humans. The image ***Urban Elemental 13*** is from a series concentrating on a minimalistic interpretation of urban environments as viewed through the interplay of their lines, forms and patterns.



Natural Bridges



Danielle Arduino
San Jose, CA
daniellearduino@hotmail.com

Bio:

Danielle was born and raised in Orange County, California, but she currently lives and works in the heart of the Silicon Valley. She is a full-time student at San Jose State University in the department of Art and Art History, where she is pursuing a B.F.A. in Photography. The goal of her photography is to remind people that the planet we live on is beautiful. We should give ourselves the time to explore it, as well as protect it.

Statement:

Mapping California is the newest body of work I am working on. The concept is based around the idea that giant paper maps are beginning to disappear.

I take pictures at any given place in California. Later, I go home and find the exact location on a map, stick a pushpin on the spot, photograph the map. After, I went into Photoshop and overlapped the images on top of the other and reduced the opacity on one so you can view both of the images. I put the pushpin over the darkest part of the image so that it can be seen.

I am hoping to transform this body of work just a little so that I can use it as my BFA show next spring at San Jose State University.



Christian Arrecis
DeKalb, IL
christianarrecis.smugmug.com



Ritual II

Bio and Statement:

Christian Arrecis is an artist residing in Chicago, Illinois. Using found photographic and drawn imagery from books and periodicals, as well as camera-less photography, his work references legend, superstition, and mythology in an attempt to synthesize science and magic and the accidental and the serendipitous.

This body of work relies on expired black and white photographic paper to create unconventional photograms (“lumen prints”). Lengthy exposure to the sun or other UV sources bypasses the need to develop a latent image and the dependence on usual darkroom processes. Imagery is “teased” out using the sun, moisture inherent in organic materials and other found objects that are drawn, cut, poked or otherwise manipulated and used as a “negative”. Essentially, traditional black and white photographic paper are treated as printing out papers.

He has exhibited in a number of shows including grey matter gallery in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Spokane Falls Community College, Washington; James Madison University in Virginia; Washington-Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania; and most recently Peoria Art Guild, Peoria, Illinois. His work is in a handful of collections including Wright State University and Target Corporation.

He is co-curator and founding member of the Exhibition Project. He received his MFA from Northern Illinois University and has taught photography at various institutions including a current appointment at Waubensee Community College.



Panicle



Cordelia Bailey
Houston, TX
cordeliabaileyphotography.com

Bio:

I have been an artist all of my life, although I've earned a living doing a host of jobs, from waitress to college professor. I have taken hundreds of hours of coursework in photography and Photoshop, as well as training in fine printmaking. My artwork has won numerous awards, has been exhibited in galleries across the US, and is in many private collections.

Statement:

"Contrasts in nature" was the subject I selected for a day's work of photography in the desert. When I saw this plant, the first impression I had was of the hard light and shadows on the spikey leaves. Then I focused on the amazing contrast between the leaves and the central stalk, the panicle. When I first began to work with the image, I saw it as a B&W, but quickly came to realize that the subtle shades of red are as alluring as the form of the plant.



Dog Day Afternoon



Lynn Bartlett
Benton, KY
lynngbart@gmail.com

Bio:

Lynn Bartlett, originally from Belleville, Illinois, I moved to Benton, Ky after spending 32 years in Tucson, Az. Having more free time after moving to Benton, Ky, I took up photography as a hobby, turned obsession. I love the moment when I capture an image that tells a story.

Statement:

Dog Day Afternoon is that image for me. Taken in Corbin, Kentucky, this is part of my Images of Western Kentucky Series.

In April 2015, my photography coffee table book, ***Tobacco Barns of Western Kentucky and Things Along the Way*** was released by Acclaim Press. It is available at the Yeiser Art Center, Ice House Gallery in Mayfield, Kentucky, Land Between the Lakes Visitor Center and many of our Western Kentucky State Parks. I have a Tobacco Barn Photography Exhibit opening at the Ice House Gallery July 1st thru July 24th.



Marti Belcher
Vienna, VA
marti@martibelcher.com



Tattooed Woman of Naga 04

Statement:

In 2008, I was planning a trip to Burma/Myanmar. In the Lonely Planet guidebook there was one sentence that spoke of the existence of tattooed women in the state of Chin. Being an ever-curious person, I decided I needed to go there. The tour company was surprised at my request but was willing to work it out. It was an arduous journey over unpaved roads for eight hours and worth every bump in the road. These incredible women seen in my portraits belong to another vanishing culture that most of the world knows nothing of.

I am an adventurer, a lover of color, culture and the bewitching. My path has taken me to Asia, particularly India and Myanmar. I learned to appreciate the everyday events and the emotions that make us human. Today, I photograph ordinary people and ordinary situations on the other side of earth.

Bio:

I was born on my grandfather's dairy farm in upstate New York. My parents, Eleanor and Percy, made TV antennas for a living. The tranquility of agrarian life, the nitty-gritty of the factory environment and now, the speed and sterility of the age of technology, have each provided me with an uncommon vantage point from which to observe and record the human condition.

Curious by nature, I remain always a student. In 1981, I moved to Virginia to complete my education at Georgetown University. My time at Georgetown afforded me an opportunity to question my basic beliefs, examine new philosophies and to grow into a fuller human being.

After working for many years in the federal government, I went back to school to study interior design, art history and graphic design. In 2003, this led me to the study of photography. From the moment I picked up a camera, I knew that I had found my creative outlet.



Reflecting Pool



Distant Island

Jan Bell
Bowling Green, OH
www.bellimages.com



Bio and Statement:

Since early childhood I have been inspired by the natural world. Growing up on a farm in the flatlands of northwestern Ohio instilled an appreciation for the land. This innate passion has continued into my adult life and translates as the work you see today. Whether it's a plant, a landscape, or a manmade structure, each of my photos represents an opportunity to consider the subject -- almost apart from the meaning or function of that subject -- in terms of the beauty of its form.

Whether it be the inner folds of a plant, a secluded canyon, or a sand-swept dune, I focus on an intimate view, narrowing the scope and allowing the eye to see only elements of my subjects.

I attribute my clean sense of design to a 30-year career as a graphic designer. Seeing the world through the eyes of a designer influences one's aesthetic, particularly one's compositions. What I reveal in my work is the world that surrounds us, but is often overlooked in the course of our hurried lives.

I am an avid adventurer, and trek throughout the U.S. in search of subjects. It is this time in the wilderness that provides the opportunity to connect with the land and compose my images. While a majority of the images derive from these remote areas, others are photographed in busy urban settings. Both provide the makings of an image that have a remarkably similar feel.

My work draws on traditional photography methodology, blended with current digital standards, to achieve prints that rival silver gelatin prints. Images are processed in Photoshop and printed using archival pigment technology on museum grade fine art paper.



Ruins



Old House on a Gravel Road



Larue Farm

Bob Bell
Benton, KY
bobg.bell@gmail.com
holdthepresses.com
flickr.com/photos/bobgbell/

Bio:

Bob Bell is an archaeologist and right of way agent, living with his family in rural western Kentucky.

“I often work ‘on the road,’ and the pictures that I take reflect that fact. I shoot what I like at the moment.”

Many of Bell’s pictures reflect his interest in archaeology, history and historic preservation. Most of the images capture landscapes featuring historic structures, houses and barns that are quickly disappearing from the rural countryside.

Statement:

Old House on a Gravel Road: This photograph was shot in rural Hancock County, IL.

Ruins: This photograph was taken in rural Washington County, IL.

Larue Farm: This photograph was taken in the Ginseng community of rural Larue County, KY.



Cary Benbow
Greenfield, IN
carybenbow.com



Bio:
Cary Benbow is
a fine-art photog-
rapher based in

Glare Greenfield, Indiana. His work has been exhibited in gallery shows nationally and in online exhibitions. He holds a BFA in photography from Ball State University.

Statement:

By documenting my immediate world, I am creating visual metaphors for common themes of life and the experiences we all share. I try to reveal something about myself to draw in the viewer and invite them to tap into their own life experiences to see parts of themselves, to compare my images to their own memories, and create a feeling of commonality.

Glare is a construction of people and place; The interaction of humans and our reconstructed “nature”, and the surreal tension created.



Matthew Brown
Johnson City, TN
matthewbrownphotographs.com



Bio: Matthew J. Brown was born in 1992. He is a B.F.A. candidate at East Tennessee State University. He lives and works in Johnson City, Tenn.

22

Statement: 22 is an image from the “Orientation” series.

This project was prompted by the three years the artist spent as a photographer, editor and director of the university’s student newspaper. The work is analyzing institutional environments and office culture on the university campus. The project addresses how employees and students indirectly interact with and conform to the spaces as well as to describe the absurdity and irony that exist within the confines of higher edu-



Linda Bunk
Mount Airy, MD
wholelotofbunk.org



A Grieving Mother

Bio:

Linda Diane Bunk was born and raised in the Baltimore area. Her early childhood was full of arts and crafts to keep her hyperactivity in check. During middle school art classes, she found art was her voice to utter the unspeakable. Although, being labeled unable of educating by the director of child psychology at a local influential clinic, she went on to the University of Maryland Baltimore County to complete a bachelor's of arts in Visual and Performing Arts, emphasizing in Photography. She flourished at UMBC, but her time at MICA has allowed her to feel the sun on her face. Her earlier work explored the dangerous relationship between childhood and racism, but now her work is fueled by the hidden aspects of living with mental illnesses. She graduated from Maryland Insitute College of Art in 2005 with a Masters of Fine Art in Digital Imaging.

Statement:

Since 2010, I have traveled eight times working with orphans, the elderly, disabled and poor families. During these trips I photograph the people I meet. Ukrainians still love real photographs, so my first intension is to make a keepsake gift for them. This past January, I met these two ladies. ***A Grieving Mother*** shows the raw emotions after losing her daughter six months ago. She takes care of her four grandchildren and has a very difficult time meeting their basic daily needs. Subconsciously, these portraits are a lot like Dorothea Lange's portraits of people affected by the Great Dust Bowl. They are un-posed and capture a segment of time. These portraits are a part of new project entitled ***People of Ukraine***.



Marianna Chambard
Shasta Lake, CA
mchambard.com



Echo

Bio:

Marianna Chambard is a currently MFA Candidate at California State University, Chico. She received her Bachelors of Fine Arts in Photography and Bachelors of Art in Art History – Visual Culture and Criticism from San Jose State University in 2011. In the last few years, she has received various award such as *Honorable Mention* from 35th Annual College & High School Photography Contest, Photographer's Forum, and the Ken & Donna Morrow Memorial Scholarship at California State University, Chico.

Statement:

The black and white composite photograph, ***Echo***, is from a larger series of work titled Shattered. These photographs were taken in an abandoned town in the Trinity Forest. The town was deserted just right after the gold rush when gold was becoming scarce. Only a few structures remain such as the post office, where a bat flew up around us while I was photographing the model and our screams filled the room, and three houses. I began with the intention to create a haunting place with a forgotten bride.

This photograph depicts the bride fluffing her hair getting ready in this soft focused room. The light was from the only door and provided just barely enough light to fill the room. The overlay of her face looks down with her lips slightly parted, as she was about to speak. Her screams are silent. No one is around to see her cry and plead.



Tim Christiansen
Greenville, NC
astrowimp.com



Orion & Running Man

Bio:

My name is Tim Christensen. I am a Molecular Geneticist and a professor at East Carolina University. I completed my undergraduate degree in Biology at the University of Utah and my PhD in Genetics and Development at Cornell University. My avocations are numerous: entomology, genealogy, woodworking and astronomy. Sharing my sense of wonder through my teaching, research and art brings me joy.

Statement:

Each of my works begins with careful planning. As the earth moves around the sun, different objects in the night sky become visible. Dodging the moon and clouds, I collect hours' worth of exposures using separate color filters. I carefully select a subset of these exposures and "stack" those using software and algorithms to increase the signal in the images. An infinite series of different pictures is possible from each data set. Finding a path to my final images is a complex choreography of math, my sensibilities as an artist/scientist, and the subtleties of the subject: Orion & Running Man nebulae.

This two-panel mosaic spans the Orion and Running Man nebulae found in the sword of the Orion constellation. These are among the brightest nebulae in the sky. This is one of our nearest star-forming regions at a distance of 1400 light years away. The red colors are from the emissions of excited hydrogen atoms, and the blues are the reflected light of super-hot stars.

Technical details: Photons captured in Simpson, North Carolina, in November 2014. The image is 2 stitched panels collected over a total of 8.4 hours exposure time.



Cassandra

Alexis Marie Chute
Edmonton, Canada
AlexisMarieChute.com



Bio:

Alexis Marie Chute is an artist, photographer and writer. She has garnered an international reputation, receiving over 30 awards and recognitions for her work. She was named an “Emerging Canadian Photographer” by PhotoLife Magazine and a “Top 40 Under 40” by Avenue Magazine. Her most recent distinction is the John Poole Award for Promotion of the Arts, 2015, which she received at the Mayor’s Celebration of the Arts in Edmonton. She was also the Artist in Residence at Harcourt House Gallery and Artist Run Centre.

Alexis Marie received her Bachelor of Fine Art from the University of Alberta in 2007 and studied at Media Design School in Auckland, New Zealand.

Statement:

The photograph, catalogued as **Healing #14**, features a woman named Cassandra who volunteered to be a part of the large body of art called **The Quiet Rebuild**. The theme behind **The Quiet Rebuild** is the resiliency of the human spirit. Photographer Alexis Marie Chute lost her son, Zachery, shortly after his birth; an event which became the impetus behind the conceptual portraits. An important part of Alexis Marie’s healing was the public sharing of her story, which has expanded to support others, now photographing the journey of volunteers as well. All of the portraits in the collection are of individuals who have endured profound struggles and hardship, yet who inspire viewers by their sheer will to press on. **Healing #14** tells Cassandra’s story of heartache after the death of her father when she was a teen and how music brought her through that difficult time.



Gary Dufner
Orlando, FL
garydufner.com



Halee in the Middle

Bio:

Raised in the 1980's without computers, Dufner spent hours each day in his room drawing comics and listening to heavy metal. After graduating SVA in New York City in 1991, Dufner was no longer interested in making comic books. When computers became easily accessible he dove into web art and graphic design, and has taught these subjects at the International Academy of Design and Technology in Orlando for the past 12 years. He graduated UCF in Orlando, Florida, with a Master in Fine Art in April 2015.

Statement:

I enjoy interviewing the women who are my models and thinking up concepts with them to further my artistic ideas. There is also a stronger bond that strengthens a personal relationship that may have just been an acquaintance. Brainstorming with Halee, she wanted to show herself surrounded by her own paper woman with the feeling of claustrophobia.

I do an initial photo session with the model, then bring the images into Photoshop to desaturate and add a Ben-Day Dot filter (i.e., Roy Lichtenstein). I print the images life size for the actual photo shoot of the artwork. In this piece I pinned the life size paper women to the wall (i.e., Yves Klein). A blue light is cast onto the pinned paper women and the real woman to approximate the blue paint on Klein's female models. I also use the blue light cast onto the real woman as a metaphor for the woman turning into paper, which is another way to desaturate the flesh of its color. I use blue light as Klein used blue paint--because bright blue is not often seen in daily life. We are familiar with white and yellow lights in our houses and work, so the saturated blue suggests fantasy and abstraction.



Sanibel Causeway



***Bridge at St.
George Island,
Florida***

Kevin Court
Benton, KY
kevincourt.com

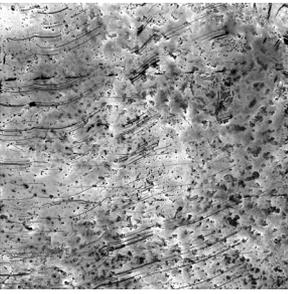


Bio and Statement:

Kevin Court specializes in architectural photography.

Highlighting form, function and lighting of structures with a unique vision, I am able to create images perhaps not otherwise imagined when viewed by the casual passerby. After years spent exploring other types of photography, I eventually realized that my passion and creativity always peaked when I spent time photographing structures. Finding the ideal angle, composition and lighting of a building and the surrounding environment is often a challenge, but most rewarding for me.





Gary Engle
Fairview Park, OH
ge@garyengle.net



Obsessive Emulsion Disorder: Palimpsest

Statement: The series ***Obsessive Emulsion Disorder*** consists of dark-room photographs from handcrafted negatives. Black and white sheet film exposed to a bare light bulb produces a solid black negative. Soaking the negative softens the gelatin releasing the silver halide, which migrates on the film plane. I can intervene to influence the redistribution of the silver by tilting the film plane or blowing on it through a fine straw, but I generally intervene as little



Obsessive Emulsion Disorder #58

as possible. I prefer to think of myself not so much as redistributing the silver as allowing the silver to redistribute itself, which it seems happy to do in a surprising variety of ways. Different degrees of viscosity influence how the silver moves. Evaporation eventually re-hardens the gelatin and fixes in place the redistributed silver. I produce black and white prints using an enlarger in the traditional darkroom printing process.

I believe digital imaging has released film photography from any documentary obligation, thus freeing me to explore the darkroom as a medium of pure abstraction. Though often whimsical, these emulsion disorders fulfill my need for art to serve as a spiritual activity. I believe creativity is largely inspirational and intuitive. Intrigued with processes that suppress consciously intended outcomes, I am always open to the accidental image, the image that uses me to express itself rather than vice versa. My experience with this process convinces me there is no way to predict the outcome, no matter how hard one might try. When the result holds attention over a sustained period of time, I feel I have achieved something spiritual—a heightened awareness of aspects of reality previously unseen.



American Landscape 1
First Place Regional



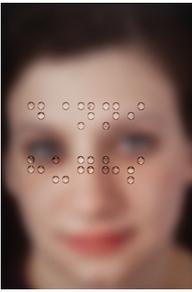
Michael David Farrell, Jr.
Carbondale, IL
tilt-swing.com



**Cades Cove Main Road,
6-9pm, Great Smokey Mtn
National Park**

Bio:

South Carolina native, M. David Farrell, Jr. earned a BA in Media Art and Photography at the University of South Carolina before earning a Master of Fine Art at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. His primary interests are split between documentary and landscape photography using traditional methods. His masters thesis portion of which is represented here, **Cades Cove Main Road, 6-9pm, Great Smokey Mtn National Park** and **Main Boardwalk, 11-1pm, Congaree National Park**. He uses landscapes and still lifes to explore the contemporary notions of the natural world and our relationship to them. Newer projects explore the construction of masculinity in the Boy Scouts of America, the contemporary American landscape, and the notion of safe spaces. When photographing and making art, he frequently hikes and backpacks to explore the spaces that he is documenting, often with his favorite companion, Diesel, a 8 year old Weimaraner. For more examples of his available work and work being displayed in other galleries, please see the Zenfolio link on his website.



Mary Fashbaugh
South Bend, IN
maryfashbaugh.com



***Vulnerability inVisibility* First Place International
Bio:**

Mary Fashbaugh (b. 1987 Ironwood, MI) is a visual artist who uses photography, video and sculpture to call attention to the ubiquity of photographic representation within our culture and to explore the implication of vulnerability through being seen. She received her MFA from the University of Notre Dame in 2014 and her BFA from the University of Michigan-Flint in 2011. She currently resides in South Bend, Indiana where she continues to work and teach courses as an adjunct instructor at Indiana University-South Bend. Her work has received recognition both nationally and internationally.

Statement:

This photograph is part of a larger series titled ***Vulnerability inVisibility***. The work explores expectations and limitations of the senses in regard to human interaction. As Western culture grows more and more touch-averse, we rely on visual representation to navigate a majority of our communication. Loss of a more physical engagement with others and the world around us provokes me to explore personal boundaries and to question the integrity of sight.

Humans have a primal longing to connect and share intimacy, which can induce a feeling of vulnerability. Therefore, we also have a conflicting desire to remain disconnected, anonymous, and un-touched. I challenge the notion of “to see is to know” by asking an individual who is blind to describe the physical identity of several sighted persons, lessening their vulnerability by giving them a sense of invisibility. By creating synthetic viewing experiences, I reveal complexities of the internal world of sight versus the external world of touch and the disparity in the level of engagement and intimacy between them.



William Daniel File
Manchester, MO
wmdanielfile.com



Past Years, Past Winters...

Bio:

Wm Daniel File was born in Decatur, IL, attended high school in Charleston, IL, attended undergraduate school at Eastern Illinois University, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Education degree with a major in Theatre and a minor in English. He received a Master of Fine Arts degree in Scenography with a minor concentration in Photography.

Mr. File worked as a free-lance scenic & lighting designer in the Twin Cities area until being hired at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, MI, and University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights, KY, and Washington University in St. Louis.

Statement:

The original photo was taken on High Speed Ektachrome film. The date of the original exposure is not known, but is probably sometime between 1970 and 1980. It was taken just after a winter storm on my wife's family farm in East Central Illinois. Relatively recently I had been doing some historical research on the 8x10 view camera and the wet-plate exposure and printing processes. I re-purposed the original Ektachrome slide by digitizing it, and then using digital software to create what I could reasonably call a 'simulated' wet-plate print, assuming the original was decades old. The more I worked on the image, the more I became engaged with the memories and emotions of something basic about the family living on their farm and what is being lost as more and more land is being farmed by people who do not live on the land anymore but merely travel to it like any other job.

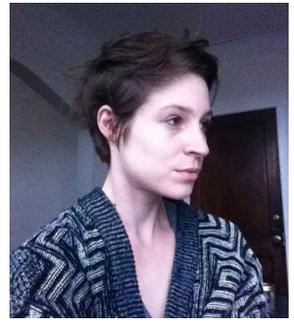


Soap Painting

Brandy Fisher

Chicago, IL

[cargocollective.com/
brandyfisher](http://cargocollective.com/brandyfisher)



Bio:

Brandy Fisher (b.1985, Richmond,VA) is a Chicago-based artist who received a BFA in photography from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2011.

Statement:

Soap Painting is a neglected soap dish. The surface of the cave-like structure became miraculously complex, with rich markings from hands digging into it, carving out the soap that lined the walls. It embodies my interest in the circular nature of such dichotomies as the past and present, the extraordinary and quotidian, and it suggests that my search for truths by looking closely, is not in vain.





Night Trees 4

Jay Friedmann
Los Angeles, CA
jayallanfriedmann@
outlook.com



Bio:

I was born in Brooklyn, New York, and spent most of my formative years in Los Angeles, California. I was first inspired by the works of Pollock, Kandinsky, Mondrian and Stella. I studied Ceramics with Jim Romberg at The Sun Valley Center for the Arts and Humanities in Sun Valley, Idaho, and with Sculptor Jan Van Leeuwen in the Netherlands.

In 1980, I attained a Bachelors Degree in Illustration from The Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. My professional background is in commercial art having worked first as an illustrator and then as a background painter, concept artist and 3D production artist. After spending 8 years at the Walt Disney Company, I left the world of entertainment art and began my explorations of fine art photography and digital print media.

Statement:

Night Trees number 4 belongs to a series entitled ***Passenger***. I spent several years hitchhiking throughout The United States, Canada and Western Europe. The highway is the thread that connects these images. This series portrays the experience of being in transition both literally and figuratively. It is also about contemplation during transition and it is a study of the space between where you were and where you are going. I am drawn to simplification and reduction seeking imagery that has fewer and fewer visual cues and minimal narrative detail. The challenges of creating a more lasting print image, one that has a physical presence in the real world are where my interests lie. That being said, I am not adverse to using the digital environment to manipulate and refine the pictures that I take.



Milton Garay
Aubrey, TX
milton.garayinfo@
gmail.com



Water Me

Bio and Statement:

Milton Garay is a Dallas-based photographer, who's work explores inner emotional conflicts and personal stories. ***Water Me*** came from the idea of growth; that even if one feels weak and small, one can grow from such moments.



On the Great Miami

Erin Geideman
Cincinnati, OH
eringeideman.com



Ian on Bloodstained Bed

Statement:

The series, ***I Can See Right Through You***, follows the lives of some of my closest friends as they struggle to face the aftermath of a traumatic event. On August 20th, 2010, my best friend Ian was shot in the stomach on the stoop of his brother's apartment building. The ramifications of that night have continually lingered in the years following the incident. By using staged and candid photographs, I have created a family album that is laden with themes of intimacy, alienation, and pain

In this series, photographs of children play an important role. By showing them camped in a barren and winter worn landscape I allude to a loss of innocence in my work. My despoiled best friend Ian, whose life was changed by one unfortunate event, is mainly who suffers this loss.



Lola



Cody

Hirania Gonzalez
Modesto, CA
hiraniagonzalez.com



Bio: Born and raised in the small town of Modesto, California, Hirania first became interested in photography after purchasing her first digital camera in high school. While experimenting with both analog and digital mediums, Hirania's style and concentration has shifted over the years from street photography and candid portraits, to studio and environmental portraits that are primarily influenced by feelings of anxiousness. Hirania received her Associate of Arts degree in Photography in 2012 from Modesto Junior College and graduated cum laude

from San Jose State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography in 2015. Hirania's work titled **East Parking Lot** was displayed at Modesto Junior College's Gallery in the 2011 Celebration For The Humanities juried show, her series **Modesto** was exhibited in a group show for Image and Idea in 2013, at San Jose State University's Gallery 3, her work **Untitled** was exhibited in a group show for Advanced Studio Lighting in 2014, in San Jose State University's Gallery 5, and her recent series **Mental Repose** was displayed in a solo exhibition in 2015, at San Jose State's Herbert Sander's Gallery.

Statement: When I feel anxious or need to be alone, I tend to gravitate towards particular places. These places are comfort zones that serve as somewhere safe to relieve stress. I have found that others also have somewhere certain they like to escape to. Each person photographed in this series took time out of their busy schedules to show me where their place of comfort is. Each location is intimate to the person and possesses certain stories and memories that are meaningful to them. These portraits are the result of each person stripping off their burdens and allowing their place to wrap them in comfort. My pieces **Lola** and **Cody** are both part of this series titled **Mental Repose**. I spent two days with each model; the first day we visited and I photographed their location, and the second day I photographed them in the studio. The portraits are taken while the image of the model's location is projected onto their body. All photographs were taken on 120mm color film and digitally printed.



Abigail Gorden
Brewster, MA
abigailgorden.com



Free

Bio:

My name is Abigail Gorden and I am a 20 year old from Boston, Massachusetts. Photography has been my passion since middle school, and as a result I decided to attend art school at Virginia Commonwealth University, majoring in photography. I recently made the decision to pullout from VCU and pursue photography on my own. I feel there is so much about the art form that I can learn in the real world, tempting me to take a chance. I have been shooting almost everyday since I left school, and most likely will for the rest of my life.

Statement:

Free for me was about establishing my independence. I had just made a huge life decision and instead of feeling scared, I felt alive. So alive, in fact, that I was daring enough to rip my top off at a popular beach. I had even forgotten my tripod that day, but decided I would not let that hold me back. I propped my camera against my backpack, and with adrenaline pumping through my veins, **Free** was born.





Brian Gorman
Hoboken, NY
brian@briangormanphoto.
com



Steven Midlands: 1215.219

Statement:

For as much time as we spend looking at ourselves in the mirror (and looking at others in person, in photographs, and in the movies) we spend very little time actually seeing. As a gay man, I have always been fascinated by the male body. But unlike many other photographers, my fascination is not with the “perfect” body. Rather, my fascination is with the incredible diversity and mystery of this surface within which we live.

Bodyscapes is an exploration of the male body, perhaps much as the Lilliputians might have explored a naked Gulliver. It is an exploration that brings us to familiar places, and to locations that wait to be identified. It is an exploration that challenges our imaginations, and that calls on us to see anew.

Bodyscapes Portraits are comprised of two or more bodyscapes of the same person. Just like our memories, these portraits don't reveal the total experience. Rather, they capture fragments; our imagination is left to fill in the rest.

Bodyscapes are produced as limited edition digital fine art prints. They are printed on traditional Japanese Washi paper (Moab Moenkopi Kozo). Individual photographs are available in two sizes: 15” x 10” (edition of 12), and 48” x 32” (edition of 5). Portraits are available either 10” high on 14” paper (edition of 5) or 32” high on 44” paper (edition of 2). Portrait width is dependent on the number of images. Images within the portraits are not available separately.

This is an ongoing project; the exploration of the male body as landscape continues.



Making History

Hazel Grant
Carbondale, IL
hjsg108@yahoo.com



Bio:

Hazel has studied photography seriously since she and husband Jim moved from California to the Midwest in 2006. Two of her works have previously been selected for the juried Paducah Photo Competition. She placed first in the Friends of Crab Orchard nature competition. Two of her photographs are also on permanent display in the office of Southern Illinois Health in Carbondale, having been chosen for that competition's theme "What I Love About Southern Illinois."

Statement:

This work is a panorama created from several images of the work of Mt. Vernon artist Katrina Bauer as she created the mural ***Mt. Vernon from Past to Present***. "When I saw her working on the mural," Hazel says, "I was caught up her color and image transitions. Catching her at this particular time in the process presented a completed past (black and white) that was working toward a colorful, vibrant present." The mural is now complete and can be seen at the corner of 10th and Jordan in Mt. Vernon, Illinois.



Robert Hale
Port Matilda, PA
HickoryHollow.
businesscatalyst.com



Road Kill

Bio and Statement:

I am currently a professor emeritus at Penn State University. Photography is a hobby of mine. Primarily, I am a fine art photographer specializing in figure photography. My preference is to either use film or make my images using wet plate techniques. I find that slowing down the creative process leads to more expressive images than snapping hundreds of digital photos. This particular image (***Road Kill***) was made using a 4x5 pin-hole camera. The F-stop was approximately 250, and the exposure was approximately 20 minutes. The film used was Ilford Delta 100, developed for 6 minutes using ILFOSOL 3. The image was inspired by that particular dead deer lying next to the highway that I drove every day to work. Every day I was forced to think about the slaughter of wild life that takes place along our highways.





The Main Line

Charles Hammond
Eldorado, IL
cfhmkh@frontier.com



Bio and Statement:

I became very interested in photography during my time in military service. Returning to the states and being discharged, I took advantage of the GI Bill and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Photography from SIU, Carbondale. This was a switch from a degree in art, I have been in several local and regional shows. Taught photography classes at Southeastern College, Harrisburg, Illinois. Have also done the photographs for a few books or have had photos included in the books.

Restoration and shows were done with the Dr. W. S. Swan collection of glass negatives, John Foster's negatives and photographs that are mainly of the Shawnee National Forest several years ago and a collection of photos from the Spanish American War. At present, I am working on the L. O. Trigg collection. He is considered by many to be the person that brought the Shawnee National Forest into being. I plan to continue with this thing called photography.

This Photograph was inspired by Mississippi Fred McDowell's version of ***Jesus is on the Mainline*** and my Grandfather who preached many a sermon at small country churches.



David Hammond
Goreville, IL
davehammondphoto.com

“Love Birds” Honorable Mention Regional

Bio:

I was born in Mt. Vernon & raised in Ina, Illinois (with the exception of living a year in Wyoming while my father was working there); graduated from Mt. Vernon Twp. HS in 1968. I attended Rend Lake College and graduated from St. Mary’s School of X-Ray Technology in Centralia, IL (School now located in Kaskaskia College). I worked at Western Baptist Hospital in Paducah, Ky. and Carbondale Clinic, before changing careers and working 29 years for the Honeywell Corp. in Metropolis, IL. I have lived in Goreville, IL over 33 years and am married and have 2 sons, 3 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren.

I am primarily a self-taught photographer and have worked professionally for over 25 years. I started doing weddings and portraiture, but that was never my photographic passion, so a few years ago I stopped doing that type of photography and started concentrating on my true love of nature/landscape photography. My primary portfolio of work is titled: ***Everyday Miracles*** and is meant to focus on the beauty of the earth that our Lord has given and continues to give to us.

I currently have over 100,000 photographs in stock and am continually adding to these. To see more, please check my website.



Garrett Hansen
Lexington, KY
garrettohansen.com



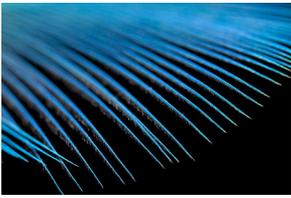
Void

Bio:

Garrett graduated from Grinnell College, where he studied economics and political science. He completed his MFA in photography at Indiana University and has taught at several universities in the United States and in Asia; he is now an Assistant Professor of Photography at the University of Kentucky. Garrett's work is a reflection of our world. Garrett has had numerous solo and group exhibitions in the United States, Europe, Indonesia, and Japan.

Statement:

Roughly 40% of the population in the US owns a gun and there are enough guns - approximately 300 million - to arm nearly every man, woman, and child in the country. At the core of this project is a desire to consider these facts and to create a set of images that speaks to their implications. Each of the images is created from a single bullet hole. While shooting is fundamentally a destructive act, by bringing these holes into the darkroom, enlarging them and then processing and printing the results, I am able to balance this destruction with creation. The viewer is presented with something that speaks to the sublime — they are both attractive and terrifying at the same time. In many ways this reflects our own opinions of guns in America, a country where the debate between rights and controls continues to rage.



James Henderson

Columbia, SC

jimmy@jimmyslens.com



Feather; Lovebird

Bio:

South Carolina native James Henderson began “photographing with intent” while attending the University of South Carolina. Working in both still and motion pictures, he enjoys both documentary and fine art and doesn’t see a reason to be wholly in a single domain. He has made a photographic journey along the entire length of US 1 (from the Canadian border in Maine to Key West, Florida), and has documented the final two space shuttle missions, which he describes as “profound.”

Statement:

In the Broadway musical, ***Mary Poppins***, Mary asks the question: “When will you learn to look past what you see?” Similarly, a bird feather is often taken for granted or dismissed out of hand. We humans find them on the ground or floating casually on some unseen breeze. But how often do we actually look at them? It is the photographer’s mission to look at everyday things in a new way, and I have striven to do that with this image. Using a macro lens to photograph this feather very closely, I have examined it in ways impossible with the unaided eye and found it beautiful and interesting—a different kind of beauty than seeing it in one’s hand or worn by a bird in flight. I have sought to not only see in a new way, but to bring that vision to an audience that otherwise wouldn’t be able to experience it. Seeing a feather at such magnification allows a unique perspective, and I have brought my own sense of elegance to the task.



Rhonda Henson
Benton, KY
taxesbyrhonda@bellsouth.net

Sibling Love

Statement:

This image is a portrait of the artist's grandchildren.





A Woman's Work

Andrea Hoelscher
Ferdinand, IN
ahoelscher@usi.edu



Bio:

Andrea Hoelscher was born in Marshalltown, Iowa in 1968. She has used straight film-based darkroom techniques, collage and paint, as well as digital alterations in her photography-based artwork. Hoelscher completed an MFA at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 1994. She has had solo exhibitions at the Sloan Fine Art Center, Lockhaven, Pennsylvania; the Schmidt Art Center, Belleville, Illinois; Manifest Gallery in Cincinnati; the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, E3 Gallery in New York City; and UC Berkeley in San Francisco. She has also exhibited her work internationally in Poznan, Poland, and Berlin, Germany. In 2014, Hoelscher received a grant from the Individual Artists' Program of the Indiana Arts Commission. She

Statement:

A Woman's Work is from a series entitled ***Little Women***, which I have worked on since 2011. In the photographs, I stage scenes populated by tiny female figurines. The world these tiny figurines encounter is created from the items in my kitchen drawers and bathroom cabinets. Sponges and laundry piles loom like buildings, and a muffin tin becomes a sticky trap. Instead of actually doing housework, or grooming, or cooking, the women encounter these objects as the basis of the very world they explore. The sight of these tiny women trying to cope in such an absurd, out-of-proportion world is uncanny, even ridiculous. Their adventures, struggles, and escapades offer a break from and a critique of the routine of everyday reality.



Dots & Car, Florida



Ryan Hoover
Loudon, TN
ryanhooverart.com

Bio:

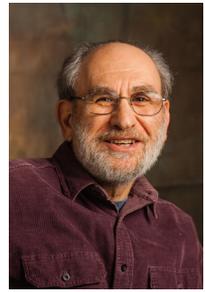
Ryan Hoover is an interdisciplinary artist, photographer, and musician originally from Michigan. He earned a BFA degree in Drawing, Painting, & Photography from the University of Michigan, an MFA degree in Electronic Integrated Arts from Alfred University, and also spent several years studying and working in Japan and South Africa. He will be teaching cinema and video

Statement:

Dots and Car, Florida was taken near Indian Rocks Beach, Florida, in the winter of 2014, on one of several “walkabout” photo sessions during a three month period of staying there. This image is one in a series highlighting some of the uniquely odd and interesting aspects of the area. The print was created



Don Jacobson
Portland, OR
donjacobsonphoto.com



Wakeena Creek #4

Bio and Statement:

The world of photography and the world of the natural wonders of the Sierra Nevada opened to Don Jacobson simultaneously. His degree is in electrical engineering and he worked in that field for three years. Working for the defense industry became more of a contradiction with his political views initiating a search for a desperately needed creative outlet.

For the next twenty-eight years, he worked as a glassblower and the Corning Museum included a piece of his in their 1986 collection of 200 international glassblowers. He is currently a member of the Portland Photographers Forum and the Interim Group, a critique group originally formed by the influential photographer Minor White. He led trips for the California Native Plant Society, the Native Plant Society of Oregon, Bark, Oregon Wild (formerly ONRC) and Portland Audubon. For sixteen seasons, he was a naturalist/guide for the Middle Mountain Foundation, leading hikes in the Sutter Buttes of the Sacramento Valley in California. ***Beauty of the West***, a book of his photographs was published in 2007, ***Owner Decorated Vehicles*** in 2009, ***Alaska!*** in 2010, ***An Intimate View of Japan*** in 2011 and ***Pacific Northwest Architecture - A Photo Essay*** in 2012.

The camera, which narrows the field of vision, has actually expanded my vision. Now, I know my perception is enhanced and enriched from my pursuit of photography. An already dynamic and interesting world has become more so. I am delighted by quality of light, vibrancy of color, unexpected and often unnoticed detail. The stunning structure of an orchid, the intricate ornamentation on an older building, or dishes stacked in a dish drainer are fascinating to me. Abstractions and patterns are richer and invite investigation. My subject matter is limitless. Anything that appeals to my eye is fair game for my camera.



KY Dam at Night



The Conservatory



View of the Smoky Mountains

Rachel Jones
Paducah, KY
racheljonesphotography2013@gmail.com



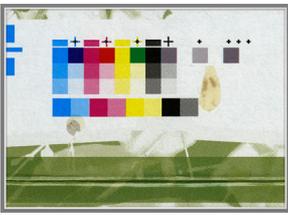
Bio: I have been playing with a camera since Mom and Dad bought me a disposable camera in middle school. My love for photography was cultivated in college when I learned the mechanics of the camera and how a darkroom worked. Since then, photography has been a hobby that provides me an outlet to center myself and forget the stresses of life; all I have to focus on is my immediate surroundings and the moment I want to capture. Recently I started taking photos of people and it's a challenge I am enjoying.

Statement:

The Conservatory: This was taken at the Biltmore Estate on a gorgeous day in July. The building was beautiful, the sky was perfect, and the flowers were thriving under the sun. I was immediately drawn in by the colors and the way they worked together. It just made me happy.

A View of the Smoky Mountains: This was also taken at the Biltmore Estate in Ashville, NC. I can see why the Vanderbilts chose Ashville as their vacation home. Even in July, when this photo was taken, the weather was beautiful and the views were stunning.

Kentucky Dam at Night: Night photography is my favorite. I was on my way home, after capturing a gorgeous sunset at Lighthouse Landing Marina, when the dam caught my attention. It is so industrial and not normally something that attracts my eye, but I was compelled to stop and take the picture. Fortunately, I had my tripod with me. I opened the shutter and the aperture and let the camera do its thing. I was really pleased with the results.



Dean Kessmann
Washington, DC
kessmann@gwu.edu



Safeway Softly Facial Tissue #1

Bio:

Dean Kessmann's work has been included in exhibitions at Furthermore, Washington, DC; Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, FL; White Flag Projects, St. Louis, MO; Miller Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA; American University Museum, Washington, DC; MASS MoCA, North Adams, MA; Museum of Contemporary Religious Art, St. Louis, MO; and Photographic Resource Center, Boston, MA; among others. His exhibitions have been reviewed in the *Huffington Post*, *Art Papers*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and *ARTFORUM*. In 2009, he was an artist-in-residence at Light Work. Finally, Kessmann is an Associate Professor at George Washington University where he teaches undergraduate and

Statement:

My interest in the swatches of colors and patterns in Utilitarian Abstraction developed through the banal process of breaking down cardboard boxes to be placed into the recycling bin. In this project, my focus turns to commercial packaging materials, primarily cardboard boxes from grocery store shelves. While the exteriors of the boxes are covered with photographs, graphics, and text meant to get our attention, graphic designers carefully place the tiny grids of colors and patterns that are the subject of this work in areas that are out of sight, generally on the box flaps. The original purpose of these utilitarian marks is to enable printers to match the colors specified by their clients and keep the text and images in registration throughout the printing process. However, the final pieces carefully re-present this functional imagery in order to expose the ways in which the graphic design and printing industries have usurped the visual language of fine art, and vice versa.



Stephen Kleinatland
Dover, TN
kleinatland@gmail.com



Moscow Breakfast Table

Bio:

Stephen Kleinatland served his community as a professional firefighter and arson investigator for nearly 20 years before retiring in 2004. Having a lifelong interest in art and photography, he began studying photography and art history at Murray State University in January 2012 and graduating in May 2015. Mr. Kleinatland has found success with many photographs being accepted into juried exhibitions and shows across the country and Moscow, Russia, winning many awards and having a photograph from the Moscow Flat Series purchased for McNeese University's Permanent Art Collection.

Statement:

During Soviet rule, many larger flats were broken into smaller one-room flats sharing a common bathroom and kitchen. The effect of such a policy was that whole families would be living in a single room and needed to find a way to co-habitate with strangers. These apartments survive to this day wherein the single rooms are owned like condominiums. Whole families still live in the single rooms and the occupants must still find a way to peacefully share the bathroom and kitchen facilities.

Moscow Breakfast Table shows a simple breakfast meal of coffee and tea with milk and a couple of 'бутерброды' or sandwiches of salami on french bread with garlic butter. The breakfast table expresses the unpretentious life of a normal Russian family living in a one-room flat.



Ariel Levine
Lititz, PA
arielrebeccalevine
@gmail.com



Long-Necked Sweater

Bio:

Ariel Rebecca Levine received her MFA in Fiber from Cranbrook Academy of Art, and holds undergraduate degrees from Skidmore College not just in studio art, but also in art history. This emphasis in research and writing has continued to be integral in her practice as her work has spanned various media including, but not limited to, online video curation, textile objects, photography, GIFs, and sound installations.

Statement:

Garments hold a subtle, yet powerful, influence over us. We wear them all the time, at times not paying them any attention, and at others, focusing on them as the sole representation of ourselves. We believe that through them, we can control ourselves, control the way others see us by what we wear, but just as easily, clothes can wear us. My sweaters take this control to an absurdest end. They change the way their wearers carry themselves, the way they interact with others, and the way they participate in daily tasks. The acknowledgment of this power is physically forced through their design.



Adam Long
Kansas City , MO
adamjlong.com



Ricky and Esther

Bio:

Adam J Long was born in Washington State in 1978. He studied photography in Los Angeles, California (BA), Sunderland, England (MA) and Hartford, Connecticut (MFA). His photographs have been exhibited internationally and are in the permanent collection of The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, The Hirsch Library – Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and the Colorado Photographic Arts Center. His photobook, ***Kenwood Avenue***, traveled to various international exhibits in conjunction with the Fotobook Festival Dummy Award 2014. He currently resides in Kansas City, MO, with his wife and three children.

Statement:

Kenwood Avenue: We put up a façade and seem to exist comfortably within our space, yet we are dealing with a variety of things that complicate this veneer. We collectively experience one another in varying degrees of intensity - many relationships barely break the surface of humanity. These photographs are a discovery of my neighborhood and they allude to its psychology. The image ***Ricky and Esther*** shows a man who (on the outside) is tough as nails yet his embrace, which gently contains the girl, softens his appeal. Paradoxically, this young girl, who's posture is that of a beauty queen, sits with a strength one expects from the man.



See the Forest

Melissa Lynn
Denver, CO
melissalynnphoto.com



Bio:

After eleven years in New York City working as a professional documentary and portrait photographer, I now live in Denver, Colorado where I continue to pursue my artistic passions as a fine art photographer. My photographs have been seen in many prestigious newspapers, magazines, and galleries. I have a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Kansas with continuing education classes at the International Center of Photography (ICP) and School of Visual Arts in NYC.

Statement:

My ***Sublime Mysteries*** series explores spirituality and mysticism across different cultures. The images examine how individuals attempt to unravel the mysteries of life by connecting with a higher consciousness. The collage images, created from my photographs, are inspired by legends and mythologies about creation, life, and the afterlife. I am fascinated by ancient ancestral beliefs and traditions that still influence personal and cultural identities in the modern world. This concept is an underlying theme throughout the work.



Ray's Kitchen



Cynthia Matty - Huber
Livingston, MT
www.crmattyphotography.com



John Holland on His Couch Honorable Mention International

Bio:

I really love what I do and I spend a lot of time refining, perfecting and even obsessing over my work, it is a passion. I have spent a lot of time perfecting my "style" of photography. Style comes with time and is a difficult thing to force. I think more important than style is being aware of the literal nature of the image I see and striving to go beyond that in an aesthetic sense to create a captivating image. My unique blend of style is developed from a broad range of artistic and photographic experience. I recently graduated from MSU Bozeman in film and photography and find I am comfortable and relaxed in both the studio and shooting on location. Born and raised in New Hampshire, I currently live in Livingston, Montana.

Statement:

I am intrigued by the Montana rancher who digs their life's work out of the land, day in and day out, 365 days a year. I photograph to convey the rugged life these ranchers endure, barely getting by, at the mercy of the elements, the cost of raising healthy animals a constant threat; I wonder what keeps them going. This series is a testament to these hardscrabble individuals who sacrifice their life to the western landscape.



Joseph O'Leary
Minneapolis, MN
jdro.com
ofbeardsandmen.com



***Nicholas_K84 from the series
“Of Beards and Men”***

Bio: Joseph D.R. O'Leary was born and raised in Green

Bay, Wisconsin. In 1992, immediately after receiving his BFA in Graphic Design at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, O'Leary opened Veto Design, a small, yet prolific design studio. Veto Design clients include a variety of cultural, arts, and educational organizations and institutions, including the Walker Art



***Nick_L49 from the series
“Of Beards and Men”***

Center, American Craft Council, the San Francisco Symphony, Northern Clay Center and Highpoint Center

for Printmaking. For more than 20 years O'Leary has been designing artist's catalogs and books, and directing photo shoots for a variety of clients and organizations. His days — and years — are filled with creating design for aesthetically savvy clients.

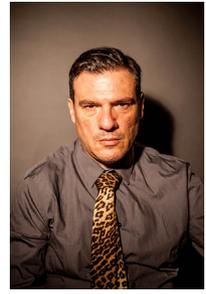
Statement:

As a photographer, I have often turned to myself as the subject of my work. In self-portraits, I explore my own identity and create personas that I feel I play in my own life. Each self-portrait illuminates and amplifies some element of who I am. I find great comfort in this focused process of self-exploration.

The “Of Beards and Men” project pushed me out of this comfortable position. I chose to work with men who wear facial hair for two reasons — the pride of men who grow facial hair, and because facial hair is a visible and unique difference between the sexes. Viewing this series as a whole, it is an interesting exploration of the spectrum of masculinity in contemporary society.



Adar Or Yosef
Tel Aviv, Israel
adaryosefstudio@gmail.com



Bio: Adar studied for one year in Avni Art School in Tel Aviv. He moved to New York and stayed there for 5 years and was an assistant in Louise Bourgeois studio for 3 years.

Statement: *Portrait of Louise Bourgeois* that I took has been published on the cover of the catalogue *Blue Days and Pink Days*. Portraits of Louise Bourgeois and Jerry Gorvov have been shown in the exhibition of Louis Bourgeois in Tate Modern in 2007. Portrait cover of the book of Niva Yosef, *Coffee of European Flavor*, 2011. Participated in the catalogue of the New York Center of Photographic Art, *Portraits 2014*.



Human Objects Series: Untitled Third Place International



Amy Parrish
Westerville, OH
amyparrish.com

Bio: Amy Parrish is a photographic artist, often employing alternative mediums and processes within her work. She has a fondness for 19th century photographic practices and pairs historic techniques with modern technology.

Stinging. Showing.

Statement: The Human Objects series takes a satirical look at how we objectify humans and humanize objects. This artwork offers a reminder to recognize the uniqueness within each of us and to remain mindful of our relationship with technology.



Vanessa Powell
Wasilla, AK
vanessapowellphotography.
com



A Thousand Mornings

Statement:

As a photographer, I work to develop a vision that speaks both to others and to myself about the singular beauty of discovery, devotion and emergence. My creative process has many facets, but is often grounded in literature, music and poetry. I do not want to retell stories in literal ways, but instead render stories down into a gesture, a dusting of light, and a touch of the unbelievable. With each photograph I create, I breathe life into imagination and craft memorable characters that are often familiar, yet strange and engaging.

A Thousand Mornings is a photograph born of my love of self discovery and emergence. I am drawn to the idea of being lost in experience and deeply inhaling the moment. ***A Thousand Mornings*** was photographed in an open field on a chilly Alaskan spring morning. My model Maggie and I met in the field at sunrise to play in the chill of late April and to capture something innocent, beautiful, and feminine. I love the energy in this image and the sense of playful experience.



Untitled (from the series "The Gulf")



Untitled (from the series "The Gulf")

Camilo Ramirez
Jamaica Plain, MA
camramirez.com



Bio: Camilo Ramirez was born in Santa Monica, California, and was raised mainly in Miami, Florida. He received a B.F.A. in Photography from Florida International University and an M.F.A. in Photography from Massachusetts College of Art and Design. His work has been exhibited in New York, Massachusetts, Florida, Texas, Louisiana, and Colombia. He was a recipient of a Massachusetts Cultural Council Grant in 2009, a Photolucida Critical Mass

finalist in 2014, and is selected for Review Santa Fe in 2015. His work has been featured in publications such as *The Boston Globe*, *3200k*, and *Ain't Bad* magazine. Camilo is currently based in Boston, MA, where he works as Assistant Professor of Photography at Emerson College.

Statement: This work explores the entire length of the U.S. Gulf Coast and the way its varied history, economics, environment and culture intertwine to reveal a simultaneous reverence and abuse of its fetishized natural resources.

As I photographed along the southern edge of the Gulf Coast states most affected by the oil spill during the BP oil spill of 2010, I saw the contradictions in the economic, environmental and social landscape of the area as it coped with the negative impact of events created by an industry on which it depends. It was my intent to find and photograph the most prevalent emblems and that are perpetuated throughout the region. In my view, the traditions, attitudes and livelihoods that are passed down through multiple generations are wound tightly into the fabric of the place and are often visible as evidence of the history, political attitudes and lifestyles of those who live there.



Gate III



Gate II

Ibai Rigby

Austin, TX

ibai_rigby@hotmail.com

Bio:

Ibai Rigby is an architect and photographer, trained in Spain and in Switzerland. He has worked the realm of heritage preservation and tourism development in different locations in Europe and in the Middle East, having lectured in different universities around the world. His early interest in photography and landscape representation has led him to believe that architecture goes beyond the construction of buildings, engaging also in the construction of imaginaries through drawing, photography and film-

ing. Ibai's visual works include a large amount of architecture photography in the developing and emerging countries, with a special interest in the how the production of contemporary landscapes is reaching a point of sameness across global borders. His images have been used in various publications and presented as part of theme exhibitions in events including the Architecture Venice Biennale and the Bamako Photography Encounters.

Statement:

In traditional Chinese landscape design, it is hard to find panoramic points from which one can contemplate a whole garden with one single glance. Placing the gates appropriately is important, as they frame the view of the visitors, allowing for the contemplation of a series of composed scenes.

However, if gates were important in the traditional landscape design as frames, today they play a completely different role, apart from that of controlling access through a wall. In a country where massive urbanisation has led to the construction of dwelling units of unimaginable dimension, the small gates at the community entrances or in public gardens are one of the few elements of human scale one can perceive, helping to feel a sense of belonging in an otherwise hostile landscape.



***Lord of Harvest Celebration1-
San Miguel De Allende, Mexico***



***Lord of Harvest Celebration2-
San Miguel De Allende, Mexico***

Phyllis Russell
Paducah, KY
phyllisrussellfineartphoto-
graphy.zenfolio.com



Bio: I am an avid amateur fine art photographer. I have devoted countless hours to the study and practice of photography by taking classes at the Paducah School of Art & Design and attending workshops out of town. My images have been featured in "Kentucky Monthly Magazine", P is for Paducah, Paducah Counts, and I have been commissioned by

several businesses in Paducah and my photographs now hang in their offices.

I have won several awards in regional contests including third place in the 2013 Paducah Photo Regional Showcase, second place at the Murray Art Guild, and second place in the 50th annual Dogwood Festival Photo Contest. I received the Best in Show in photography at the Paducah School of Art and Design for 2014. I won third place in the Proofs Photography show sponsored by the Murray Art Guild in the fall of 2014.

I received an Honorable mention in the 35th Annual College and High School Photography Contest, an international competition featuring student photographers from around the world totaling 17,000 photographs. The contest is co-sponsored by Serbin Communications and Nikon. My work will appear in the hard cover publication *Best of College and High School Photography* 2015, published by Serbin Communications. I received an Honorable Mention in the Orphan Train Photography Contest for my portrait entitled 1 of 250,000 Orphans at West Kentucky Community & Technical College.



Maddie Honorable Mention Regional

Elliot Schiff
Paducah, KY
eschif_92@hotmail.



Tranquility

Bio: Elliot is a student at Paducah School of Art and Design. Upon finishing his degree in the spring of 2016, he will pursue his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree at Kansas City Art Institute.





Dana Schmerzler
New Paltz, NY
danaschmerzler.com



Untitled Honorable Mention International



Untitled

Bio:

Dana Ariel Schmerzler (b.1992) is an artist working in photographic media. Her photographs have been featured in various group exhibitions, including The Annual Student Show at The Photography Center of the Capital District in 2014, Exit at ARTBAR Gallery in Kingston, NY, VideoFreee: The Art of Guerrilla

Television at The Samuel Dorksy Museum of Art and The Annual Photography Exhibition at Greenpoint Gallery in Brooklyn, NY in 2015. In 2014, Schmerzler group curated the exhibition Selections from the Permanent Print Collection at the Center for Photography in Woodstock, organized Exit at ARTBAR Gallery in Kingston NY in 2015 and curated The Tipping Point in April 2015 at The Center for Photography at Woodstock. Dana Schmerzler has work included in The Samuel Dorksy Museum of Art's Permanent Collection and won an honorable mention at Greenpoint Gallery's Annual Photography Exhibition. Dana Schmerzler currently resides in Hudson Valley, New York and received her BFA in Photography from SUNY New Paltz in May 2015.

Statement:

Dana Schmerzler's current work reflects on her family's history in the Holocaust in comparison with contemporary religious conflict. Through straight photography, Schmerzler focuses on her personal journey with faith and questions the worth of religion in the face of inequality, terrorism and suffering. Through this reflection, she hopes the viewer will take a moment to contemplate his or her own personal experiences with religion.



Untitled 2



Untitled 3

Bio: A recent graduate of Paducah Tilghman High School, Lily Shapiro will begin her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at Savannah College of Art and Design in the Fall of 2015. Lily is the youngest accepted artist in Art Through the Lens.



Passion Flower



Amaryllis

Bio: Bob Shapiro is a photographer who has traveled the world in pursuit of his images. He was instrumental in the organization and continuation of the Art Through the Lens exhibition as it has evolved over the past 40 years. He also serves on the board of directors for Maiden Alley Cinema.

Lily Shapiro
Paducah, KY
lilyshapiro23@gmail.com

Robert Shapiro
Metropolis, IL
robertshapiro69@gmail.com



Lauren Sharpton
Corvallis, OR
laurenusher.com



Persistence

Statement:

I believe that everything matters. I use recycled material as my canvas, combine it with both familiar and unrecognizable imagery in an attempt to communicate that every event from the past has created the world we see and experience today. I am obsessed with exploring the many layers of relationship from the intimate to the unknown, human-to-human, past-to-present, and human-to-nature.

My art expresses my ideas about chaos and coincidence. From the extreme mundane activities of eating, sleeping and brushing one's teeth, to dramatic and historical events that for centuries later we will continue to hear about, they all hold meaning. They are what connect us with one another—with our past and with the future.

Persistence, 2015: As an Oregon contemporary photographer and fairly new mom, I've enjoyed diving deep into a new personal photographic project entitled, ***Evoking Memory***.



Stephanie Shively
Columbia, SC
shivesphoto@gmail.com



Backache (From series Motherload)
Second Place International



Sneezed and Peed My Pants (From series Motherload)

Bio: Stephanie Shively, a native New Yorker, earned her BFA in Photography from the State University of New York at New Paltz. Shively's work is fueled by her personal experiences and innermost fears, which she transforms into a universal visual lan-

guage through hand-bound photo books. She has taught photography at the Santa Fe Boys & Girls Club in New Mexico, the Photographic Center Northwest in Seattle, Washington, and the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina. Shively is passionate about book arts, pushing the boundaries of photography, and nonprofit outreach that focuses on youth and the utilization of art as a mechanism for social change. She currently resides in Columbia, South Carolina with her husband and son, where she is working towards her MFA in Studio Art at the University of South Carolina.

Statement: *Motherload* is an exploration of the growth and overwhelming change that manifests when expecting. Pregnancy, in spite of its awkward, uncomfortable, and stressful glory, presents itself with certain expectations. We imagine the ideal couple entering this phase of life to be full of joy, smiling carelessly while creating a baby registry and caressing a lovely round belly. Any doubts, worries, leaky nipples, and urinary incontinence should be ignored and kept private. Pregnancy is certainly a beautiful experience, but it scales a complex emotional gamut that is not honestly represented in our culture. Through these photographs, I seek to capture the complexity of my own pregnancy and its impact on my relationship with my husband, Tim.



Francesca Simonite
Brooklyn, NY
francescasimonite.com



Untitled



Untitled

Bio:

Francesca Simonite was born in San Antonio, Texas, and is currently living in Brooklyn, New York, pursuing her MFA in Photography at Brooklyn College. She received her Master of Arts in Teaching at Trinity

University and spent a semester abroad at the School for International Training in New Delhi, India, where she also studied photography. She was a finalist in Photographer Forum's "Best of Photography 2010" and won "Best of Show" and first place in the "People" category in Trinity University's study abroad photo contest. She received second place for the School for International Training's study abroad photo contest for the Asia and Pacific region. Francesca's work can be seen in Olana Group's Collection in San Antonio, Texas.

Statement:

My desire to cut, rearrange, and sometimes obscure the photograph is what drives my process. This manual manipulation is done in an effort to interrogate the ubiquity of photography and its essential nature to be reproduced. I have become less concerned with technicality and with the actual subject of the images and more interested in why I take the photographs I take and how photography influences the way I see and experience the world. I am using the medium to challenge its own reproducible nature and to recycle and explore the photographs I take that may or may no longer work on their own. Archiving photos down to their very scraps allows for the opportunity to repurpose and reproduce my own work infinitely.



Bucking Bronco



Welcome to Nebraska

Paul Sisson
Arvada, CO
PaulSissonPhoto.com



Bio:

Paul Sisson is a 2013 Bachelor of Fine Arts in photography graduate from the University of Colorado, Denver. Originally from Minneapolis, MN, he currently resides in Arvada, CO, and has had his work exhibited at a variety of important venues over the past several years.

Most recently, he has been a part of shows at the Griffin Museum of Photography, Masur Museum of Art, MPLS Photo Center, Colorado Photographic Arts Center, and the Midwest Center for Photography. He is represented by Michael Warren Contemporary and is also a member of Ice Cube Gallery in Denver, CO. Paul's ongoing body of work, ***Not So Far From Here***, can be found on his website.



The Sintenel

Nancy Smith
Smithland, KY
nancyg1126@gmail.com



Delving into Darkness



End of the Line

Bio:

Nancy Smith is a native of Bremen, Kentucky, but for the last 22 years has lived in Smithland, Kentucky, where she was an art teacher in both the middle and high school level. She recently retired after a successful career in the Livingston County school district. She is a graduate of Western Kentucky University where she received both her BA and MA in art education.

She also earned her Rank I at Murray State University with an endorsement in Environmental Education. Nancy has always enjoyed photography but it wasn't until she purchased her first digital camera that her love for photography became a passion. Nancy has exhibited in numerous juried competitions including the Paducah Photo International Competition in 2014. She also has placed first in the Murray Art Guild's Visual Evidence and took Best of Show honors in the Proofs Juried Exhibition. She had her first Solo Show at TriBeCa Gallery in the fall of 2014. She is currently exhibiting work at Discovery Park of America where she was selected to exhibit work in a semi-annual juried show sponsored by Northwest Tennessee Photography Club.



The Gateway

Michael Smith
Paducah, KY



Exhibit "C"

Bio: Michael Smith is a Paducah resident and photography enthusiast.



Little Big Tree

Denise Tarantino
San Francisco, CA
roadsidecaching.com

Bio:

Denise Tarantino is a Fine Arts photographer and avid cross-country road traveler. She specializes in capturing the hidden treasures within offbeat objects, roadside stops, and urban environments. She achieved a BFA in Design & Photography from Kutztown University. She later continued her photographic studies at International Center for Photography, Continued Education, New York, NY.

Statement:

My Roadside Caching series is about the juxtaposition of people and the serenity of nature, add to that angles, shadows and light, and mystery, irony and humor come together in a single photograph. ***My Roadside Caching*** series is a tribute to the blending views of nature and the offbeat and inspirational designs of its people.



Andrea Underwood
Paducah, KY
andreaunderwood.zenfolio.
com



Soul Shine



Sunday at the Movies

Bio:

I am a portrait and fine art photographer who focuses on images that challenge our definition of “beautiful” and draw attention to the beauty I find in the aging of people, buildings and everyday objects. My philosophy toward portraiture is to capture each person’s unique personality instead of churning out images that simply mimic those in fashion magazines. From Paducah, KY, I am a full time marketing director, with a daughter and a husband of 25 years who often wait with incredible patience while I take “just one more shot”.



Francine Weiss
Maynard, MA
francineweiss.weebly.
com



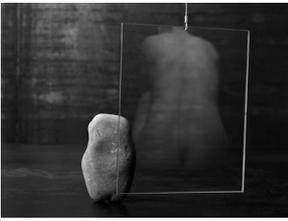
First Sunny Day

Bio:

Francine Weiss is an artist and photo historian. She has exhibited her photographs at the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University, Plymouth Center for the Arts, and School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Working in digital and alternative processes, Francine makes portraits and self-portraits that focus on family, relationships, identity, and motherhood. A curator and educator by profession, she has worked at the PRC and National Gallery of Art. She currently teaches in the MFA program at the New Hampshire Institute of Art and the arts administration program at Boston University.

Statement:

I became a mother at forty and found myself caught up in a whirlwind of joy, exhaustion, difficulty, and excitement. As I began recording my son's "first's"—first words, steps, etc.—I also began noting my "first's" as a mother. On Mother's Day 2014, I made my first self-portrait with my son, entitled ***First Mother's Day***. This photograph evolved into a series by the same title, in which I realistically portrayed my first year of motherhood. A collaborative project, the photographs relied heavily on my son's personality, mood, and age. A photograph in this series, ***First Sunny Day*** captures my son and I on the first sunny day in Massachusetts after a long and arduous winter. More broadly, it represents hope and wonder.



Back Torso

Frank White
Houston, TX
fswphotography.com



Pelvis

Bio:

Award winning commercial photographer, Frank White, creates meaningful photographic images for use in web, collateral, and advertising applications. He specialized in three areas: creating images that communicate the message and evoke the desired response, transforming ordinary subjects into images that capture the interest of the viewer and providing practical and cost effective solutions to challenging photographic problems.

Statement:

Throughout my career, I've focused on creating images that differentiate my clients from their competitors, images that communicate with substance in a style that reflects their brand identity. My projects are efficiently managed. My images are subjected to exacting production values that enable them to reproduce with clarity across all media categories.



Marisa White
Alexandria, VA
whitesparksphotography.com



Bedroom Conversations

Bio:

Marisa grew up in a house full of scientists. With both her parents circling the medical field and her sister following suit, she often found herself alone in her room drawing or painting whatever the emotion of the day required. While attending college at the University of North Texas, she discovered the full capabilities of the camera. It wasn't long before she began combining photographs with her paintings, creating mixed media collages. Today her work has evolved from the physical realm of collages to the digital world, focusing on the beauty, darkness and depth of conceptual photography. Her images are personal, like old friends, the kind you can't shake no matter how long they stay. But also the kind you miss when they're gone. Sometimes autobiographical, sometimes not; there's an element of relativity in each image that has a tendency to make the viewer stop and take a second look.

Statement:

We all have a story to tell, a past consisting of a journey of twists and turns that brought us to the very place we stand today. It's the stories that relate us to one another, finding that common thread and forging an acquaintance into a friendship. I share my own narrative through my art, inspired by happenings, lyrics and emotions, often creating settings touched by nuances of surrealism. Like with any memory, recalling it exactly as it happened is nearly impossible. And when we age and the ticking clock take over, memories soften and curl around the edges. So I hope to pause specific moments in the time, as I see them, to look for the promise of tomorrow and to reflect on days long gone. To create images that reflect the human condition.



David's Room

Michael Young
Scarsdale, NY
michaelyoung-photo.com



Bio:

Michael Young (b. New York, 1979) is a New York-based photographer and teacher. He earned a BA from Yale University and an MA from New York University. His work has been included in regional and New York City group shows.

Statement:

David's Room is part of an ongoing series of color photographs documenting the abandoned buildings and surrounding areas of the Graham School District in western Kentucky. This image is significant because it was in this classroom when David, a relative, heard about the shooting of John F. Kennedy.

**Yeiser
Art
Center**

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