

Gallery 14

Photography

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Gallery hours: Sats. & Suns., 12-5 and by Appointment

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For Immediate Release

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Gallery 14 February Exhibits

February 11 – March 13

Reception February 11, 6 – 8:30 PM

Meet the Photographers, Sunday, February 13, 1–3 PM

Gallery 14 is pleased to announce a group exhibit by its newest members during February. These are four Associate Members who have recently joined this photographic cooperative to increase their experience and exposure in the photographic community, showing a diverse selection of their work as the gallery continues to grow in its 10th year.

Ann Mark's work represents a coming to terms with her own heritage. She was born in China, raised in Taiwan, and has been using her photography to bring her personal past there to her present world here in this exhibit entitled "**Not Here, Not Now**". She is a skilled observer of personalities and presents those insights here in a series of portraits and views that reflect her insight into the world of her heritage. The portrait "Woman, Gannan, China" is an example of her ability to capture the essence of a personality, while everyday life is seen neatly encapsulated in the "Shanghai Street Scene" which is an environmental portrait. Her photography is about freezing a special moment forever. Perhaps it's a moment of sorrow or joy; perhaps it's a moment of loneliness or merriment. It's not here and not now – it's boundary-less and timeless.

Richard Trenner has also traveled and photographed extensively worldwide, but also finds good subject matter close to home—from industrial landscapes in Essex County to old gardens in Somerset County. His work tends toward abstraction as seen in his photograph "Broken Birch", or his selection of only the graphic elements of a classic sailing scene, "Light Air". In making these photographs entitled "**Light Years**", in places as varied as Telluride, Princeton, and Newark, he has tried to achieve two main effects. The first is to organize such visual information as lines, forms, and tones in order to inspire him and viewers to do what he calls "slow looking." The second effect is to transfer onto paper a record of scenes that, for the most part, join natural elements with old human-made objects (for instance, sunlight falling on a church window in Scotland) in order to evoke a sense of time's relentless

passing. As he notes: “One of the reasons I, like many photographers, make pictures is to try to stop the past with light. That task is both impossible and essential.”

Valerie Chaucer-Levine strikes a very different note than this in her figure studies. Using the human figure as a point of departure, she seeks out closely cropped compositions rendered in stark black and white that explore the graphic quality of contrasting skin tones, the rich interplay of line and form, and a complexity of pattern as displayed in abundantly tattooed limbs. This group of photographs contrasts with her exploration of the elements of color, movement and time with close-ups of swirling, adorned figures captured as they dance.

The fourth exhibitor is Simon Laufer, who is showing his experiments with a photographic subject new to him, the human body in a series of diverse photographs both color and black and white.

These exhibits open on February 11 and continue through March 13.

Gallery 14 is a cooperative photography gallery now in its 10th season. It was established in 2001 by a small group of photographers as a center for regional photographers, a place where photographers can come to meet their public and their peers and exhibit their work, many for the first time. This is a gallery where experimentation is encouraged, and where photographers can grow into their own artistic selves by exchanging ideas, by experimentation and by having their peers respond to their experiments.

The Gallery is run by its members who manage, create and exhibit at the gallery along with guest photographers of local and international reputation. Its members encourage guest photographers to exhibit developing projects, based on a portfolio review. Gallery 14 is also the site of a monthly meeting of local photographers who share their work and invite discussion and criticism to increase their understanding of their own and others' photographic work.

There are two levels of Membership: Full and Associate. For further information about membership please contact the Gallery or visit during exhibit hours to talk to one of the members.

Exhibits usually open with a Friday evening reception for the public at the gallery, with a “Meet the Photographers” event usually during the first weekend of an exhibit. The Gallery is open Saturdays and Sundays from 12 to 5 PM and by appointment.

You can join the Gallery mailing list at www.photogallery14.com.