

Gallery 14

Photography
14 Mercer Street,
Hopewell, NJ 08525.
609.333.8511

Information: www.photogallery14.com
E-mail: galleryfourteen@yahoo.com
Gallery hours: Sats. & Suns., 12-5 and by Appointment

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Contacts: **Michael Paxton**, 908-766-9216
alanmichaelpaxton@mac.com

Martha Weintraub 908-359-

mjweintraub@yahoo.com

Gallery 14 January Exhibits

January 7 – February 6

Opening Reception January 7, 6 – 8:30 PM

Meet the Photographers, Sunday, January 9, 1–3 PM

Monks of Burma and Laos, Michael Paxton

This exhibit provides a window into the daily lives of the monks of Burma and Laos.

Both countries have preserved something that has been lost elsewhere and which contrasts dramatically with the materialism that drives western societies. In the face of prevailing political realities people have long soothed their minds through an abiding and encompassing Buddhist faith.

Monks and nuns rely entirely on the lay community for all food and possessions. Their day begins before dawn as they prepare to start their alms rounds. It continues with monastery chores, classroom learning, contemplation, meditation and devotions.

The photographs present images beyond the ascetic and devotional. Given free access to the monasteries, the photographer has captured the humanity of both novices and older monks as they go about their day.

The monks are not a curiosity. They, together with the Buddhist faith, form a central and cohesive strand that provides both resilience and hope among the people of both Burma and Laos.

Voids & Vanitas, Ania Gozdz

VOIDS & VANITAS is a series about nothingness, a rich and layered nothingness. The images represent a number of literal voids; metaphoric vacuums. Flat as they are deep, the work strives to represent what Homi K. Bhabha has called an “exteriority of the inward.” The images, consumed by black space and featuring abstract renderings of light through various mediums, are a reductive rumination on the most basic aspects of matter itself. Picturing indefinable transparent objects or phenomena, they are insinuated instead by light, vapor, and other atmospheric elements. Materials act as conduits for meaning within this work, becoming emblematic of time, emptiness, and the vast unknown.

VOIDS & VANITAS was inspired by the Vanitas, the still-life painting genre that flourished in seventeenth century Dutch art. Hand blown glass "lenses" were created in a glass hot shop, and when combined with photography practices, created the literal, visual voids within this series. These metaphoric vacuums reference death, longing and transient, subliminal spaces.

VOIDS & VANITAS is continually inspired by the idea of thresholds, the "in between" space of matter and time, be it found in the surface tension of an image or metaphorically, in the life cycles we inhabit.

Gallery 14 is a cooperative photography gallery now in its 9th 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.