

ISSUE **NO30** AUG 2017

LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

PUSHING PHOTOGRAPHY FURTHER



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Living the (Photo)-Artistic Life

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PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE**

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FRONT COVER IMAGE:

ANNA CZEKALA



AWAKE

Living the (Photo)-Artistic Life

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

SEBASTIAN MICHAELS

We choose the life we live.

I know it seems quite the opposite at times. It often seems as if the people and circumstances surrounding us determine our lives and pull us this way and that.

And sure, there are times when there's no avoiding it.

Life has its emergencies.

Things go off the rails now and then.

And family obligations (or family guilt) can bind us in ways we often can't comfortably escape.

But I still believe that AT CORE we can decide to limit these influences and CHOOSE what we want our lives to really be about, what we want to hold as our highest values, and what we allow to fill our days.

I think we too often forget just how much choice we have in these matters.

The average majority might never find (or create) a stray moment for themselves ... but I'm talking here about those of us who aspire to call our own shots and make our own way.

Whatever you're passionate about WILL find its way into your life. If that passion is real.

A dedicated musician will fill his nights with making music. An avid painter will fill her free time with paints and canvas. And an aspiring poet will opt for books and a journal more often than TV.

Those of us here — those of us wild about photography and photo artistry — will find time (will MAKE time) to capture images and explore the creative possibilities they inspire in us.

It's what we do.

It's what we choose to assign importance in our lives.

And visiting the pages of this magazine each month, lingering over the images and seeing what they have to tell us — that, too, is a choice we make.

It's part of the life we have decided we wish to live.

Others are into tennis. Or coin collecting. Or running marathons.

We choose beauty.

We choose the delight — the often exquisite mystery — of exploring imaginative worlds.

(And the delicious joy in creating those worlds ourselves.)

And each month we return here to these pages — to be entranced, to be captivated ... to fall in love all over again.

It's a grand life. A fascinating life.

It's ours to celebrate ... and to relish.

And no one can take it from us.

- Sebastian

<http://QuillAndCamera.com>



Releasing My Creativity

Julie Powell
(Australia)

<http://www.juliepowellphotography.com/>

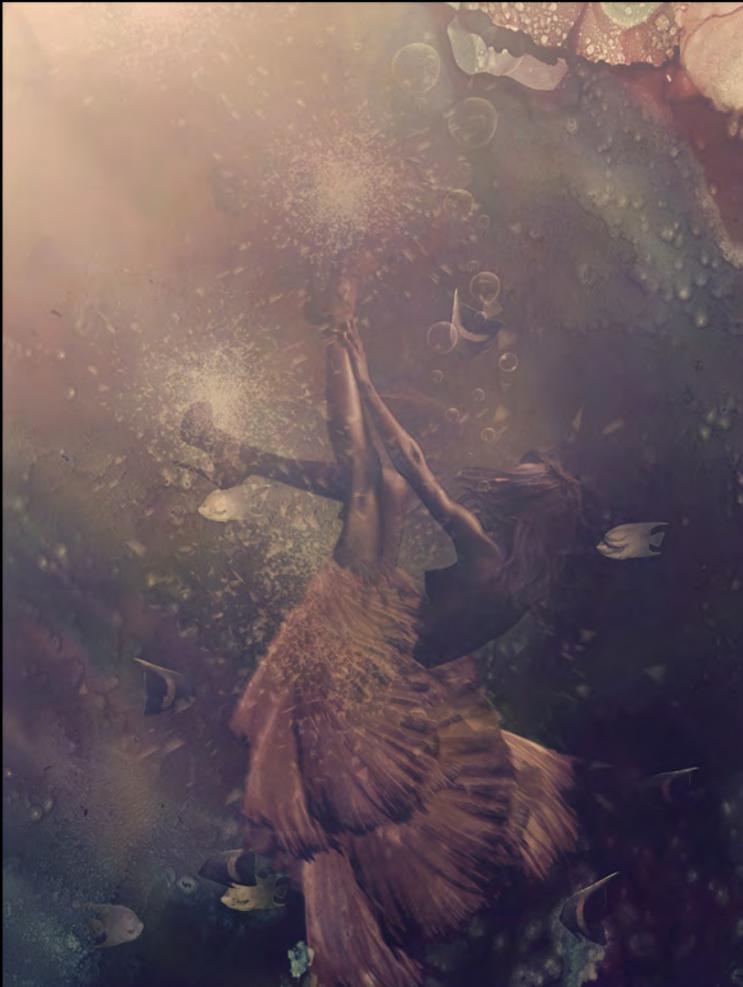


High Tea in Budapest

Jim Laskowicz
(USA)

<http://artboja.com/art/kgghxj>

Lost



Gentle Fall

Amelia Blanco
(Cuba)

<http://www.ameliablanco.com/>
<http://www.ameliabdigitalartistry.com/>



Alice Wandered
Out of Wonderland



Cathrine Blan
(UK)

Facing the
Storm



© Siegart von Schlichting Fotografie

I Don't Cry!

Siegart von Schlichting
(Germany)

<https://www.siegartvonschlichting.com/>



Miss Anna - The Book

Sue Masterson
(Australia)

<https://artboja.com/art/g6gt11/>



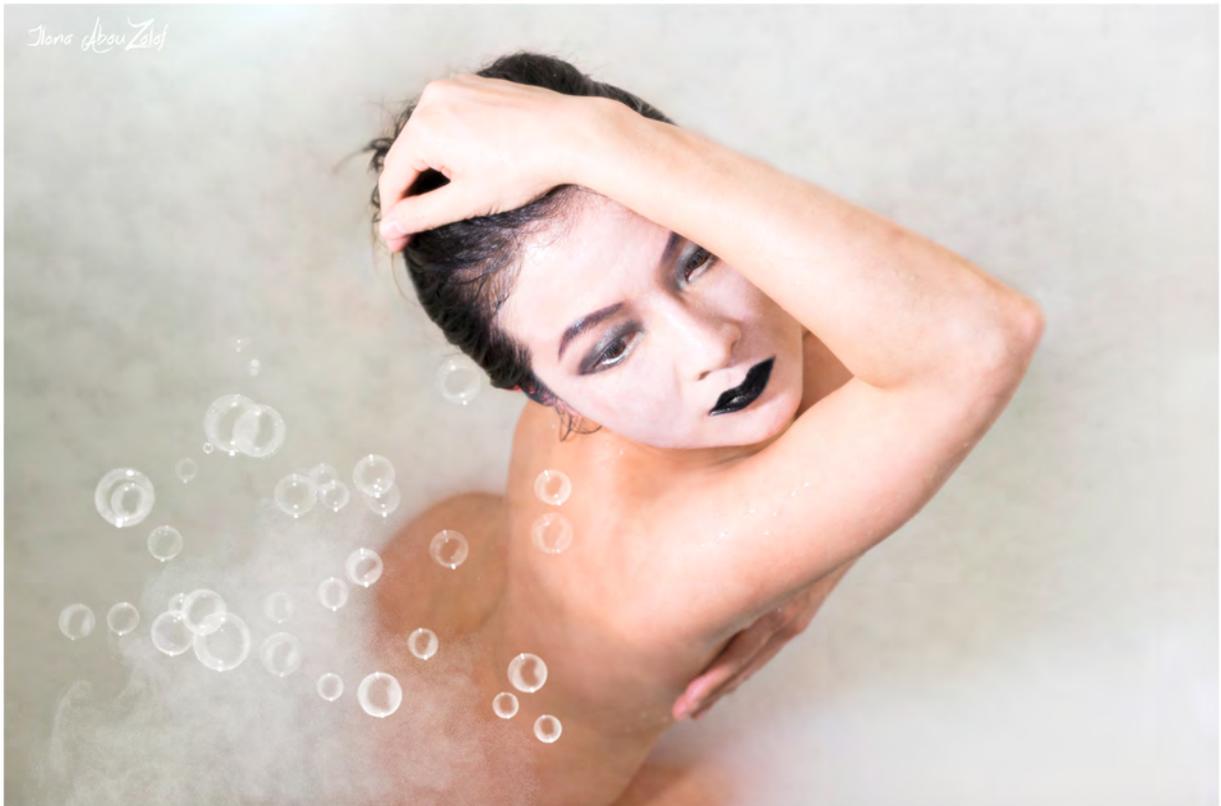
... Lost

Mary Doherty
(USA)

<http://www.mdoherthyphotography.com/>

Hot Dogs at Cloos'





Bubble Bath

Ilona Abou-Zolof
(Australia)

<http://www.ilonaabouzolof.com/>
<http://www.zolof.net/>

Steamy





Queen Mabe

Sandi Terry
SugarbushStudio
(USA)



Anke's Sister

Cindy Vondran
(USA)



Bronze Beauty

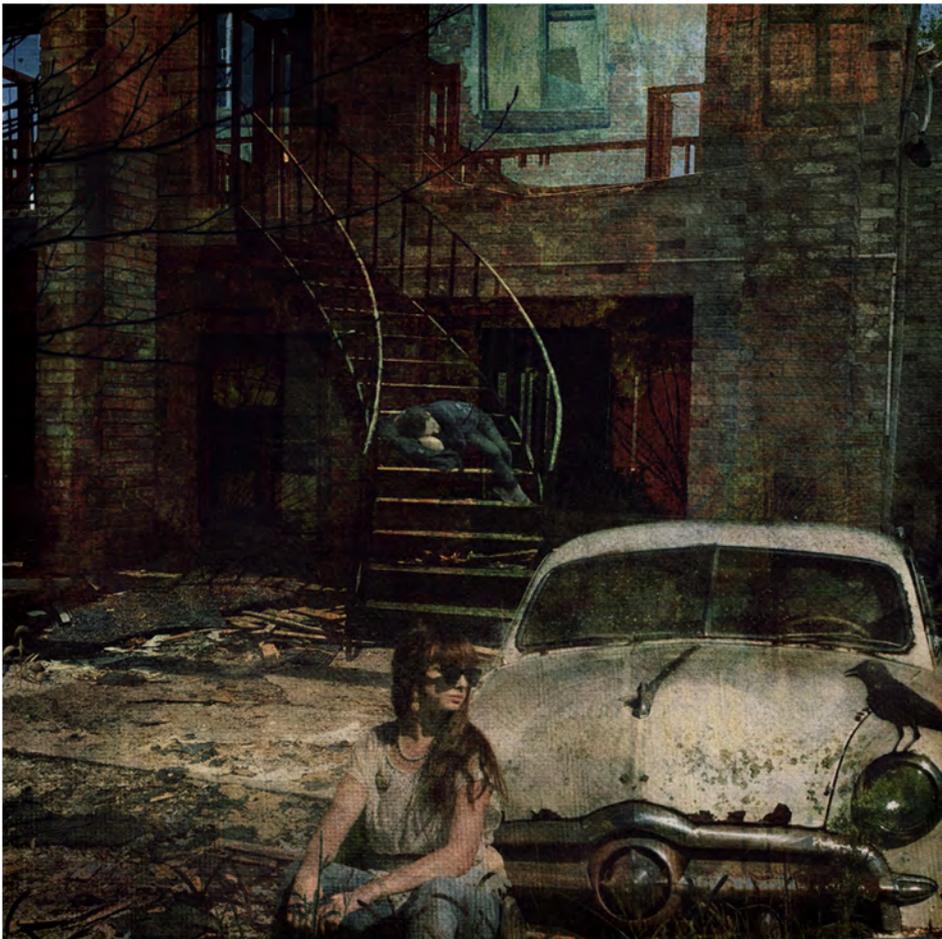


Deborah Braun
(USA)

Rose Garden



The Taxi Queue



Susan Crosby
(USA)

Between the
Rusted and
the Broken



I Saw the Light

Amy Ecenbarger
(USA)



A Cat's
Perspective



<https://artboja.com/art/uaoyol/>
<http://www.facebook.com/DigitDesignStudio>

Louise Campbell
(Australia)

In Trouble
Again





The Story of Lights

Maggy R. Thorvaldsdottir Pease
(USA)

<https://artboja.com/art/3d2tlc/>



Mea Culpa my Love

ALBaMass
(Australia)

<https://artboja.com/art/nsthnn/>



Heron Display

Lou Ann Goodrich
(USA)



The Dispute

<http://louanngoodrich-photoartist.com/>
<http://artboja.com/art/sheqeg>



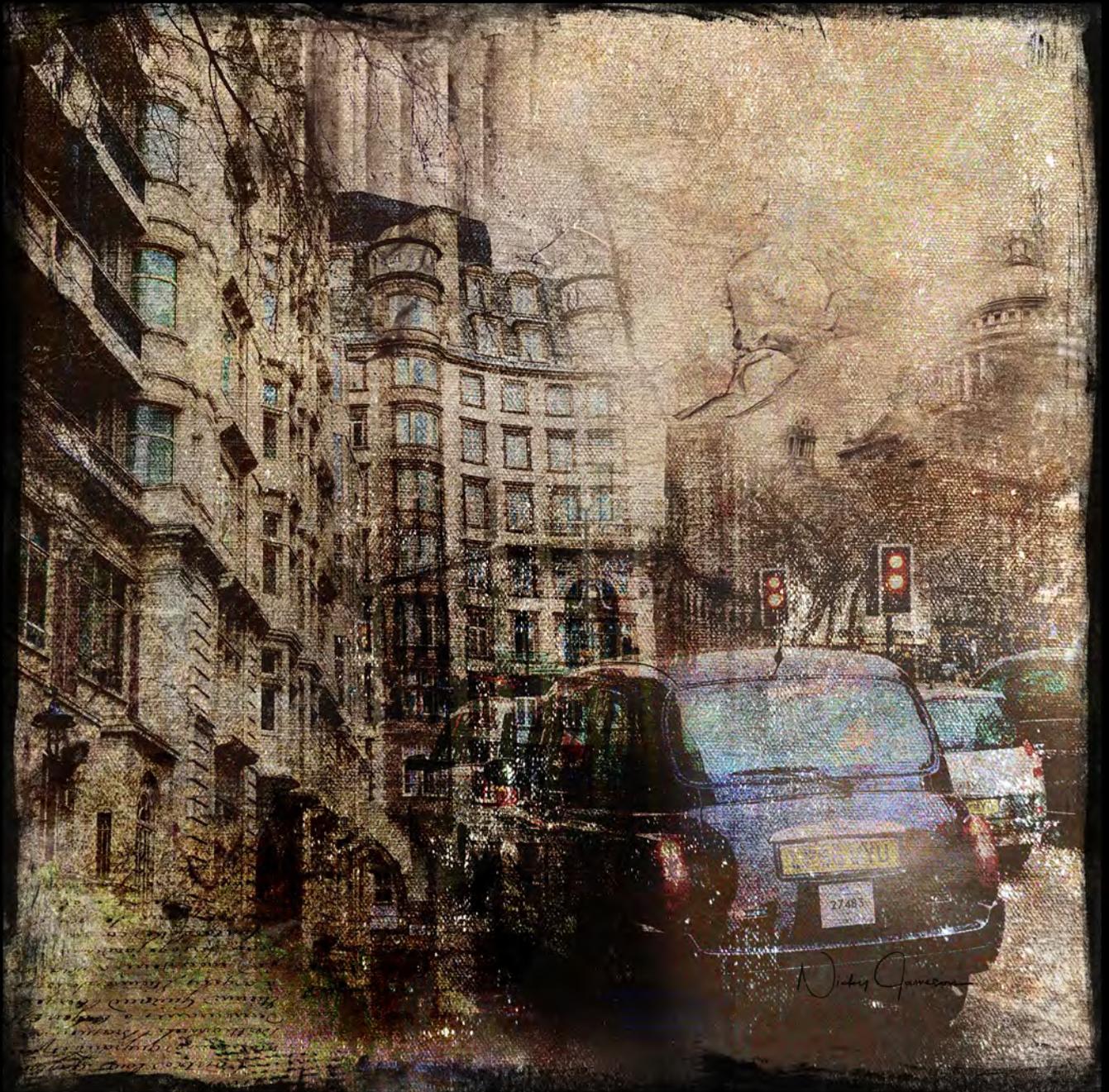
Pedestrian Way

Nancie Rowan
(USA)



Patent Medicines

<https://artboja.com/art/j98ilq/>



Rainy Day

Nicky Jameson
(Canada)

<http://nickyjamesonphotography.com/>



Fig

Lady Of The Lake

Ellen Gerberich
(USA)

<http://naturespalettephotographyart.com/>
<https://artboja.com/art/tgaai4/>



Desolation



August Naude
(South Africa)

My Space



Celtic Druid

Cindy Charles
(Canada)

Equine





Conjuring Hope

Charlene Maginn
(Canada)



The Other Side

Richard Strange
(England)



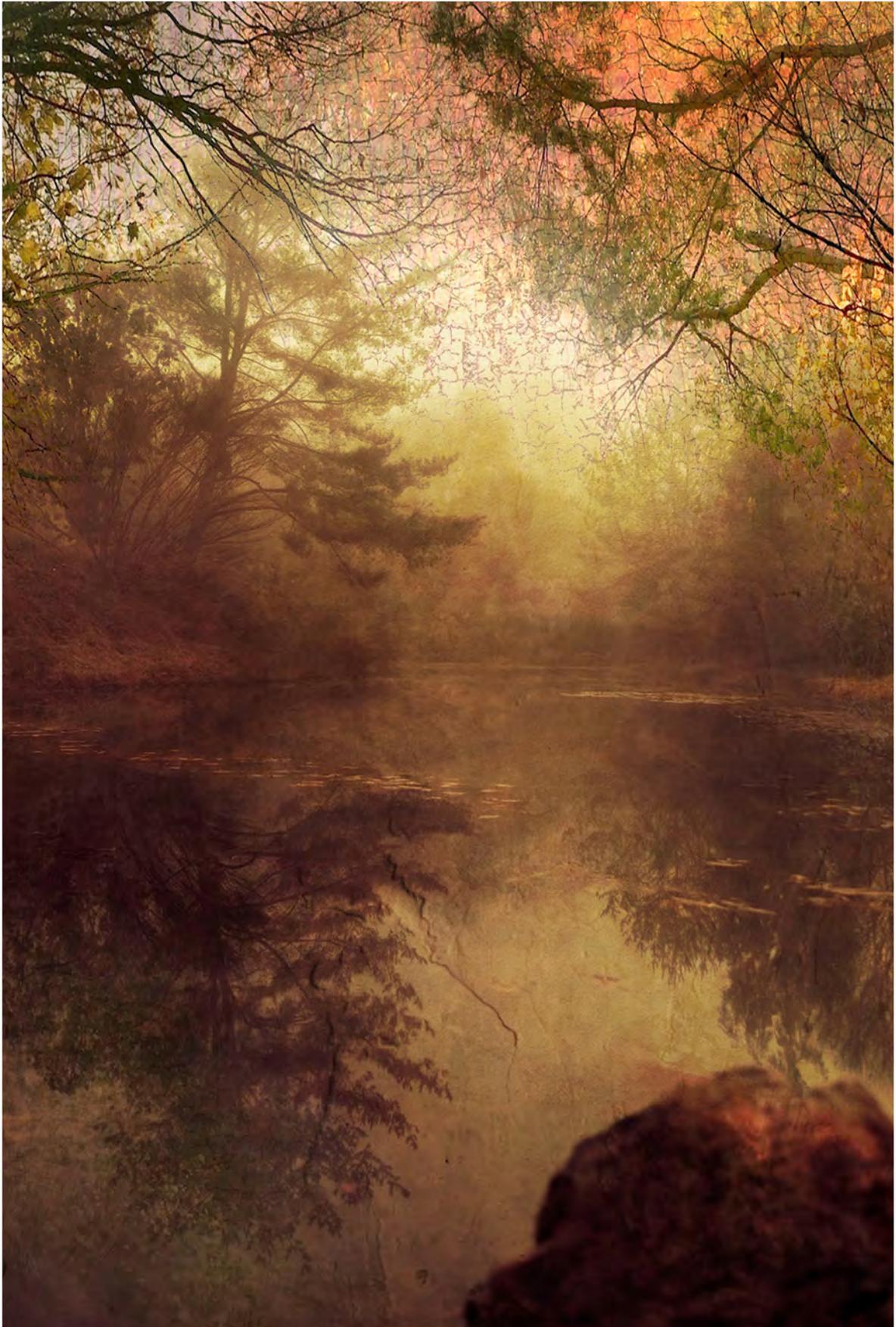
Hunted

Bethany Perron
(USA)



Sleeping Beauty

<https://artboja.com/art/hcrvyv/>



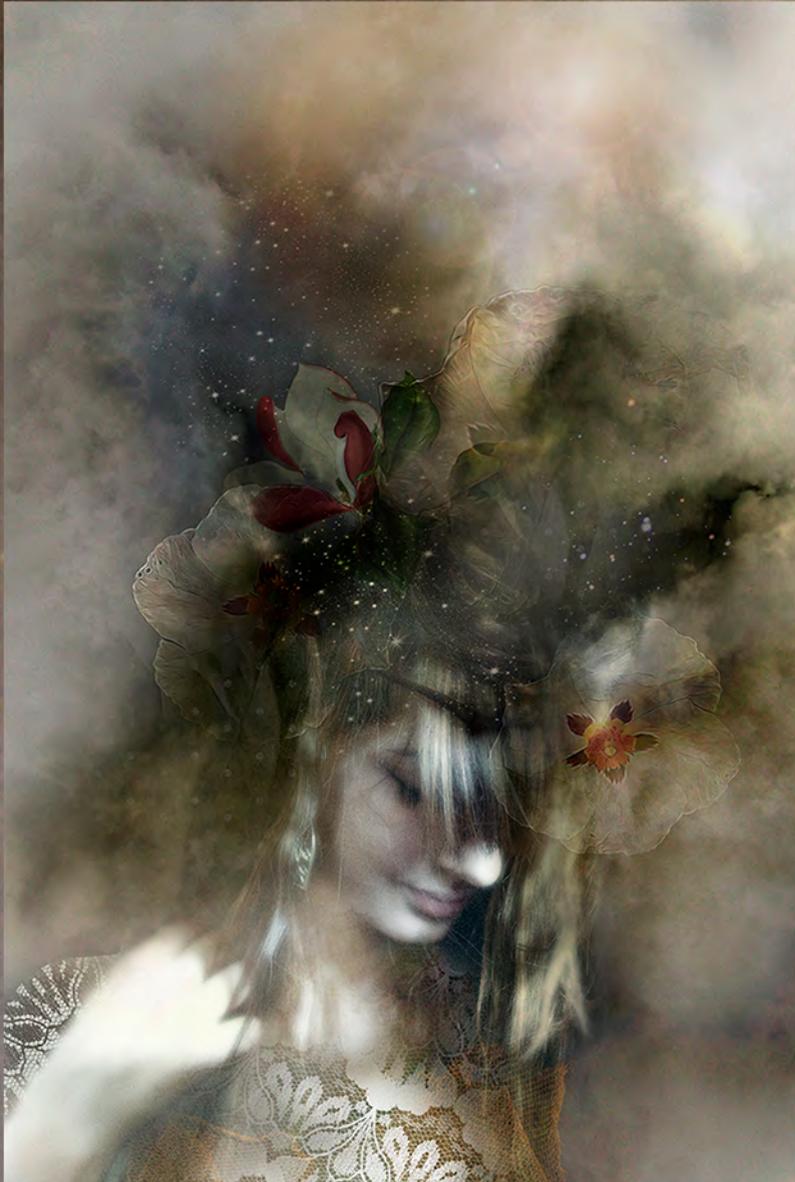
FEATURED ARTIST

ANNA
Czekalska



The Dreamer

“ Learning and experiencing new ways of doing or thinking has always been my roadmap to happiness, and, for me, living an artistic life is a way of seeing and enjoying life through self-expression, authenticity, imagination and awareness. ”



Thinking



Gaia

“ Being completely immersed in a creative process helps me to focus and quiet my mind, just as much as meditation. In both processes I experience similar stages of feeling connected or oneness with the activity, deep joy and peace ... ”





Ophelia

“ The blank canvas is my first breath towards endless possibilities. Layer by layer built upon each other, new paths emerge and ultimately create something unique and sometimes completely unexpected. Surrounded by a multitude of ideas waiting to come alive, that is when I feel the most whole in my workflow. ”



Melancholy



Life is a Carousel

ANNA
Czekalska (France)

<https://artboja.com/art/s7ovmw/>



The Rope
Swing

Ann Wehner
(Australia)

Atlantis





Wave of Fear

Leslie Schrader-Fagnan
(USA)

<http://www.artbeatimages.com/>



Released

Dan Lavery (Canada)

<https://artboja.com/art/gcjfzb/>

Happy
Flower



Susan Pulaski
(USA)

Blue Hydrangea



Shakespeare's Dog with Ruff

Catherine King
(USA)

<http://www.ckingfineart.com/>



You Next



The Artichoke

Judith Flacke
(Italy)



Green Cauliflower



Song for the End of the World

Nicole Wilde (USA)



The Sacred Howl of Being

<http://www.photomagicalart.com/>



Venice Reflections

Shelley Benjamin (USA)

<https://artboja.com/art/w6ytal/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/benshell/>



Lisbon Tram

Colin Killick
(Australia)

<http://www.driftingleaves.net/>



Feeling Fresh

Rebecah Thompson
(USA)



City of Dreams

<http://www.rebecahthompsondi.com/>
<https://www.artboja.com/art/qawqkh/>



Waiting

<http://www.lisazachimages.com/>

Lisa Phillips Zach
(USA)

Lost





Daisy Bush

Rosemary S Smith
(Australia)

<http://www.5-rosemary-smith.pixels.com/>
<http://artboja.com/art/pzhecr>



Escachar

Linda J Austin
(USA)

<http://www.lindajustin.com/>
<https://artboja.com/art/rd86ru/>



Lily



Contemplation

Viv Buckley
(Ireland)

<https://www.artboja.com/art/xkk5gq/>



The
Harbinger



Jo Wilmot
(USA)

<http://artboja.com/art/w6gxaq/>
<http://jowilmotartistry.com/>

Full of Ideas
But Alone



Full Moon

Bob Rude
(USA)



Bird And Bottle

Jean Hutter
(USA)



Soulful

<http://www.jeanmhutter.com/>
<https://artboja.com/art/wh7jv6/>



Siren of the Sea

Merrilee Soberg
(Canada)

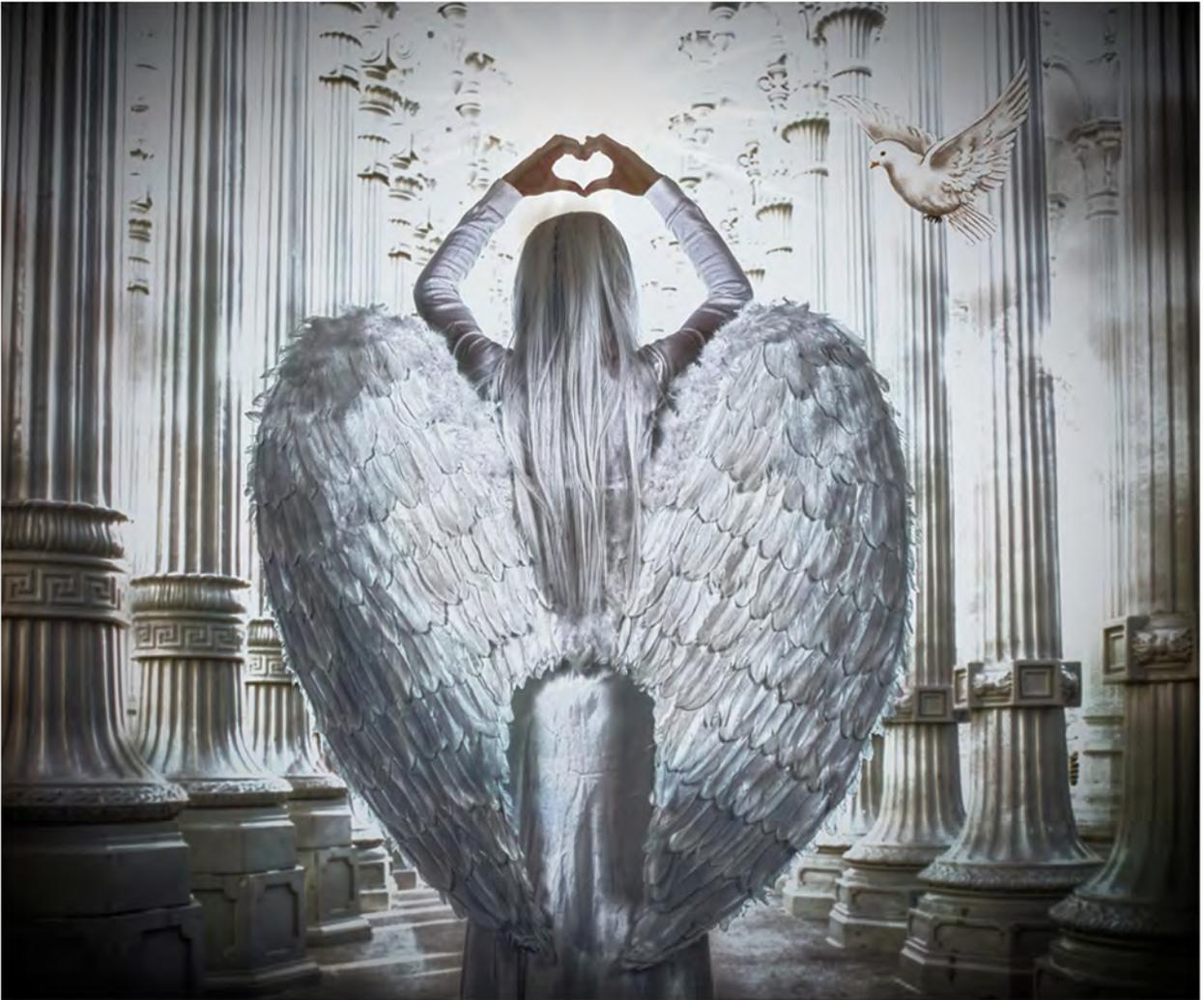
<https://artboja.com/art/p41f0u/>



Late Summer, Fitzroy

Viki Murray
(Australia)

<http://vikimages.com/>



Heavenly Love

Barbara A Lane
(USA)



Mardi Gras Masks

<http://www.barbaraalane.com/>
<https://artboja.com/art/y36pod/>

Get Out
Of Here!



Leanne M Williams
(Australia)



Oblivious

<https://www.facebook.com/leannemwilliamsimages/?pnref=lhc>



Coronation

Phil Clark
(USA)

<https://artboja.com/art/63a1fk/>

Flower
Delivery



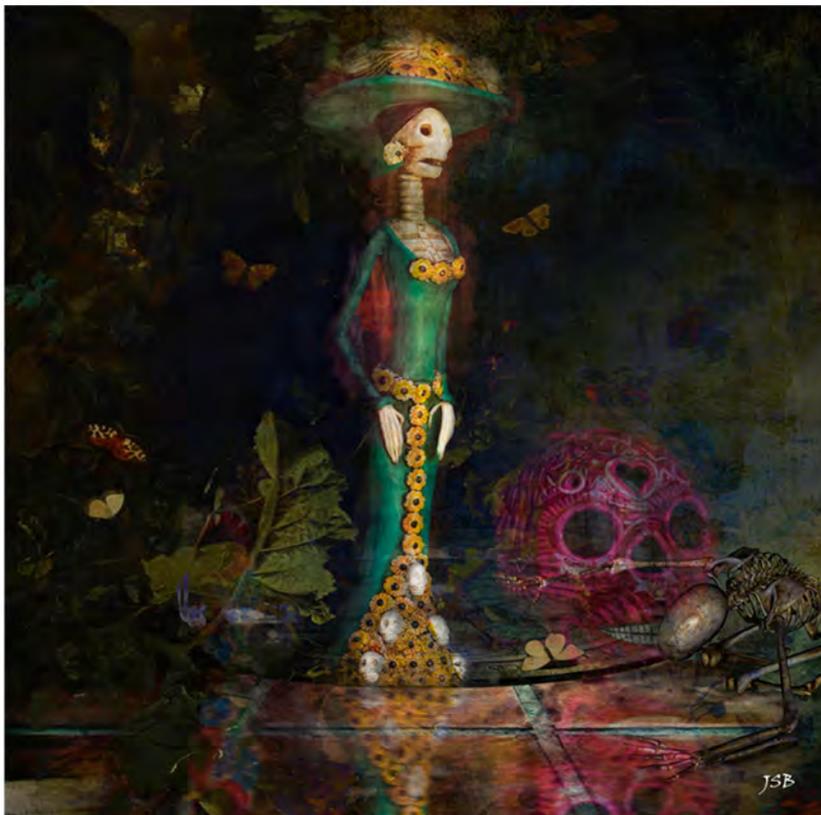
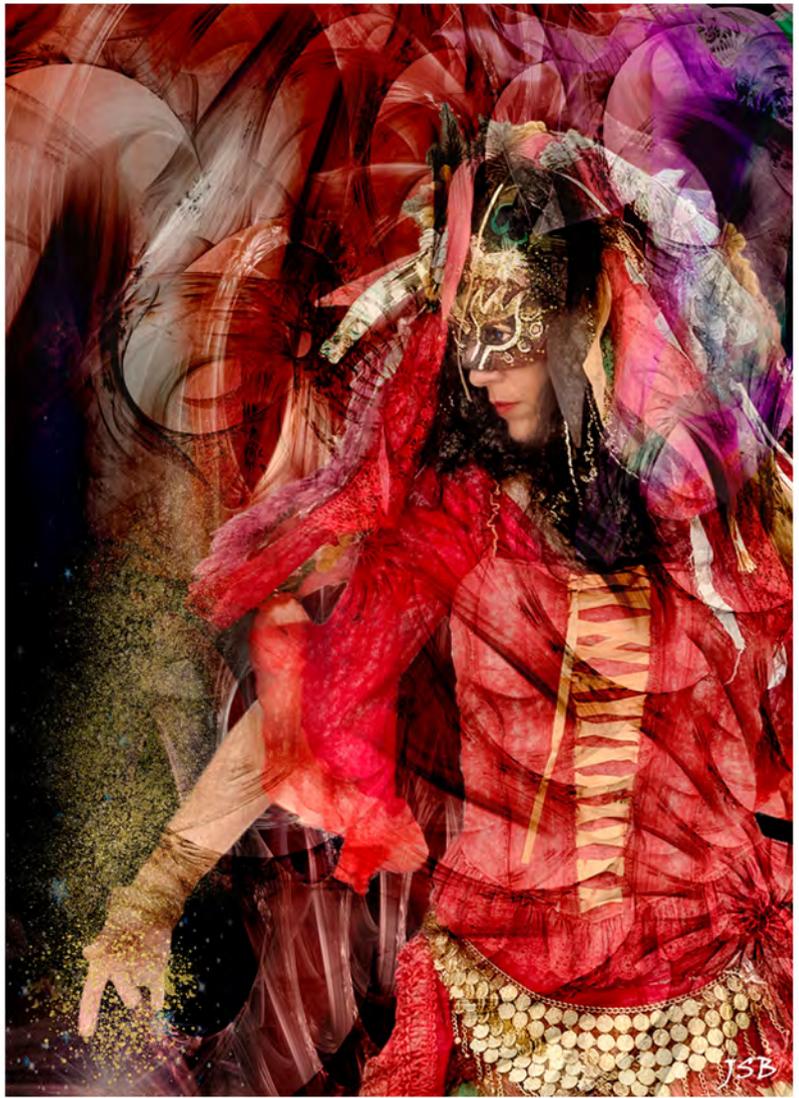
Ray Kingsbury
(USA)

<http://www.rk2studio.com/>

Blue Princess



A Tempest
in My Mind



Janice S. Batterbee
(Spain)

How Did I
Get Here?



City Life 2

Kristin Couch
(Sweden)

<http://www.kcfotos.se/>

<http://www.artboja.com/stinacc>



Andy Dench

Risen Anew

Andy Dench
(Canada)

<https://artboja.com/art/n9dlud/>



Musing



Come



No time

Gabriel Olude
(Nigeria)



Moonlight Sonata

Nina Irvin
(USA)



Grin and Bear It



The Inter-planetary Chapel

Nicholas Sweet-Rogers
(UK)



Billa Bozem
(Germany)

Elani

<https://artboja.com/art/8rn7ir/>



Sunset at the Beach

Doris Seybold
(Austria)



Savage World
(Genghis Khan)

Linda Lewis
(USA)

<http://www.lindalewis.net/>



Jezebel

Kathleen Greenwood
(USA)

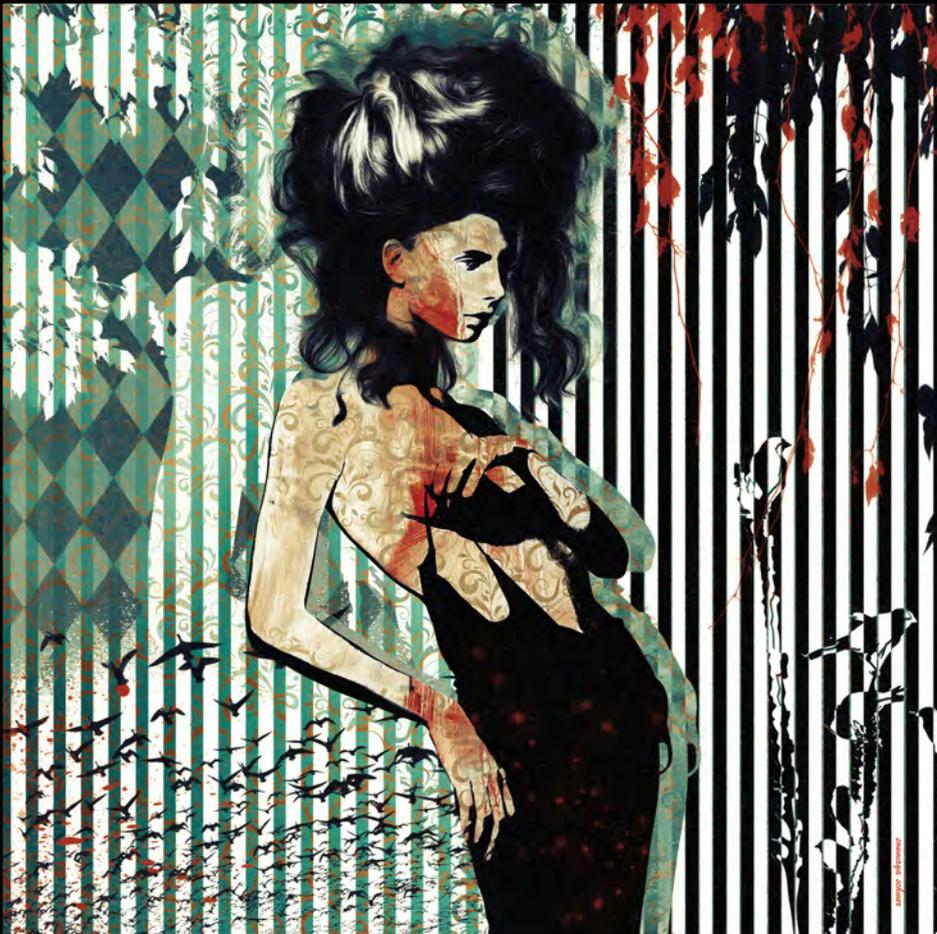


Memories

<https://artboja.com/art/j55odc>

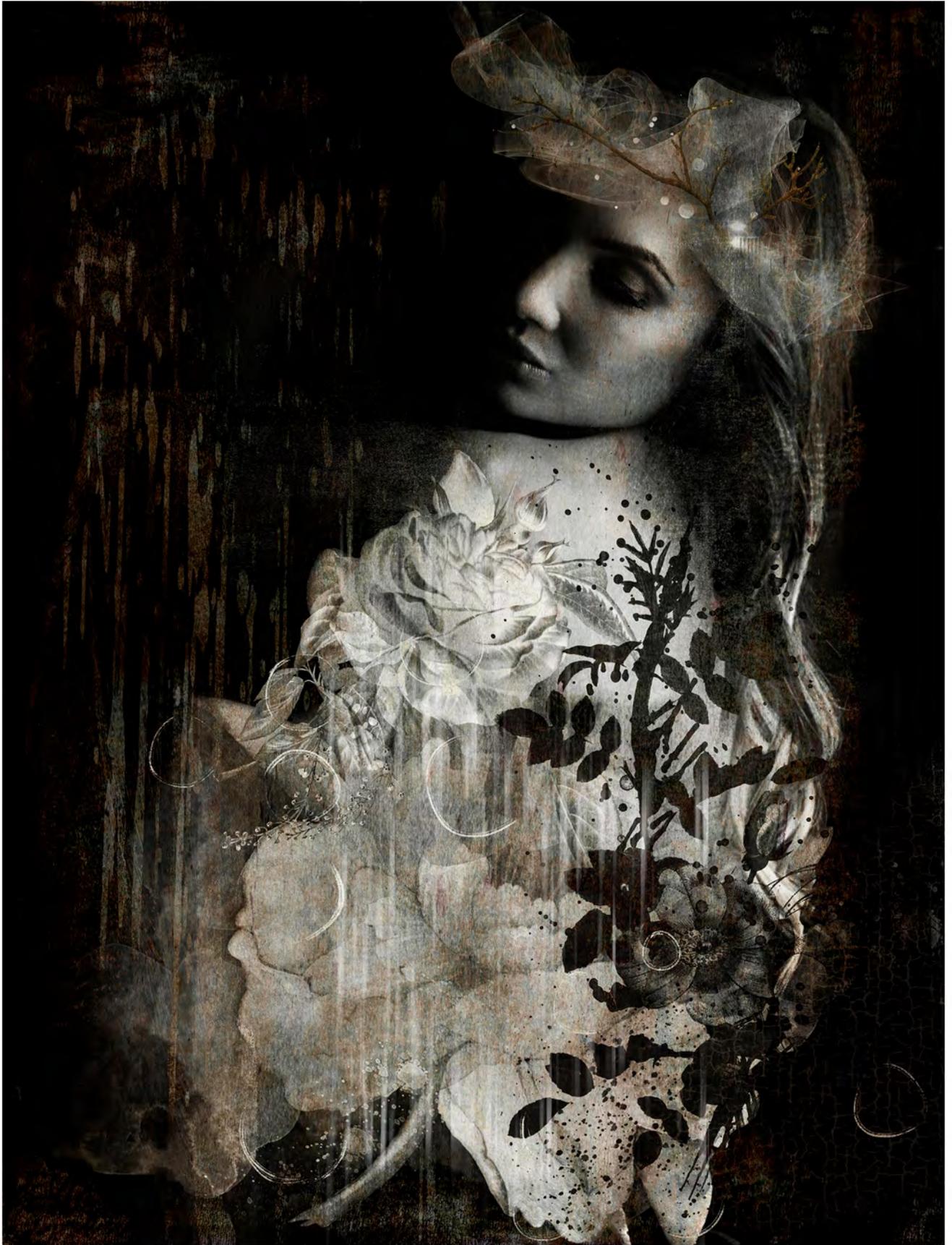


Modern



Soumaya Schnur
(USA/Morocco)

Collage #5



Fragility

Johanna Goudsblom
(New Zealand)

<http://assetimagery.zenfolio.com/>
<http://artboja.com/art/13enw6/>



The Potter

Myriam Kriel
(USA)

<https://500px.com/myriamkriel>



Freedom's Hand



Richard W Smith
(USA)

<http://artboja.com/art/1xdbzb>

Night Docking



Martin's Haven

David Walker
(UK)

Lion Cubs
Walking By





Shifa

Sandra Showalter
(USA)



Don't Cage Me In,
I need to fly

Christina Brunton
(Australia)

<http://www.christinabrunton.com/>



Laundry Hong Kong
Style

Jack McKenzie
(New Zealand)

Zimbabwean
Beauty





Bunny Manicure

Carol Ann Lang
(USA)

<https://artboja.com/art/is1313/>



Bunny Ears



Bunny Pedicure

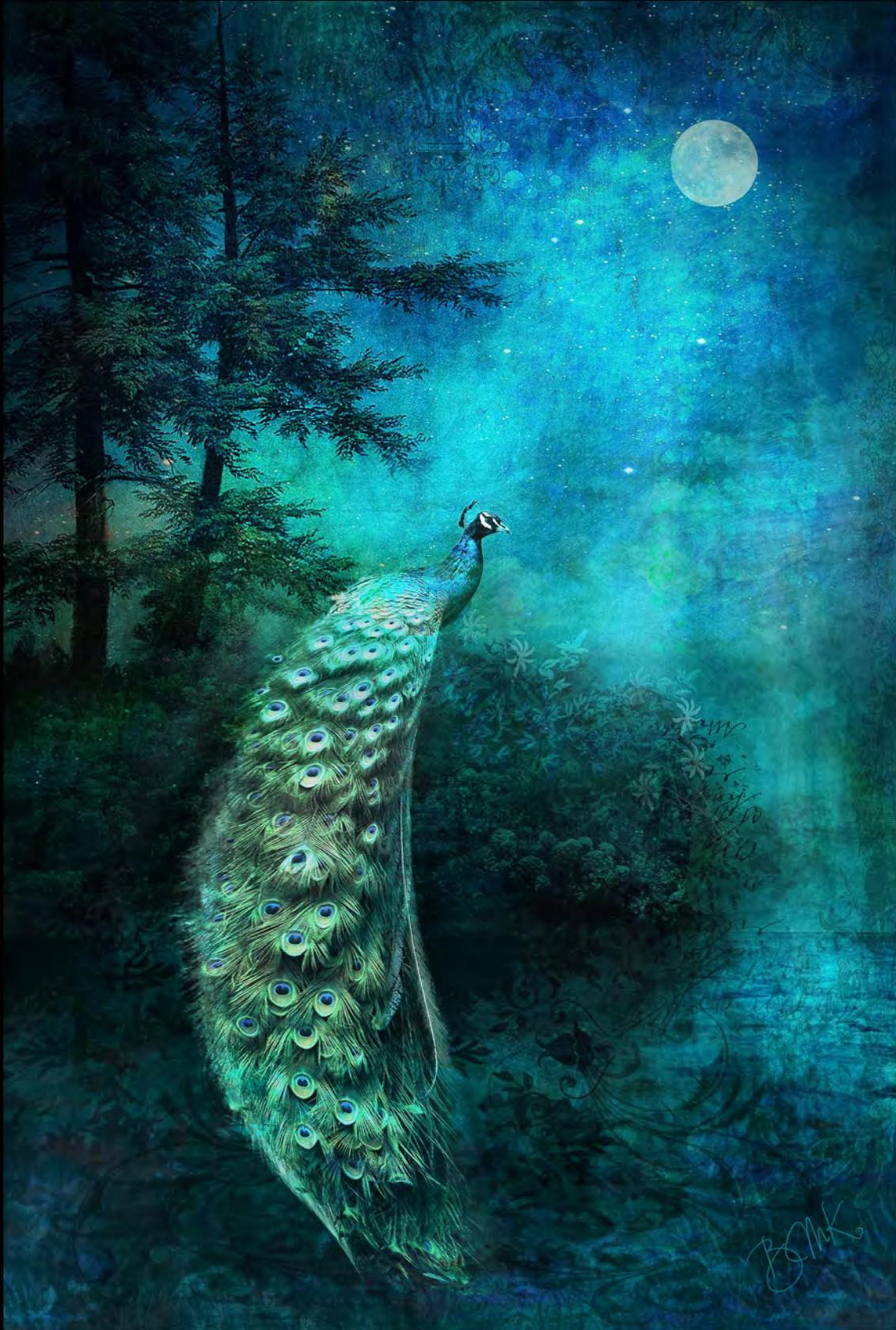


Marjut Korhonen
PHOTO ARTISTRY

Marked by Darkness

Marjut Korhonen
(Finland)

<https://artboja.com/art/ly66nh/>



Peacock Night

Barbara Mierau-Klein
(USA)

<https://artboja.com/art/0xmo9f>



Solitary

Laura Lipke (USA)



Endless

<http://www.lauralipke.com/>

<https://artboja.com/art/fmd6h2/>



Rag and Bone

Michelle Drummond (New Zealand)



Another Dimension

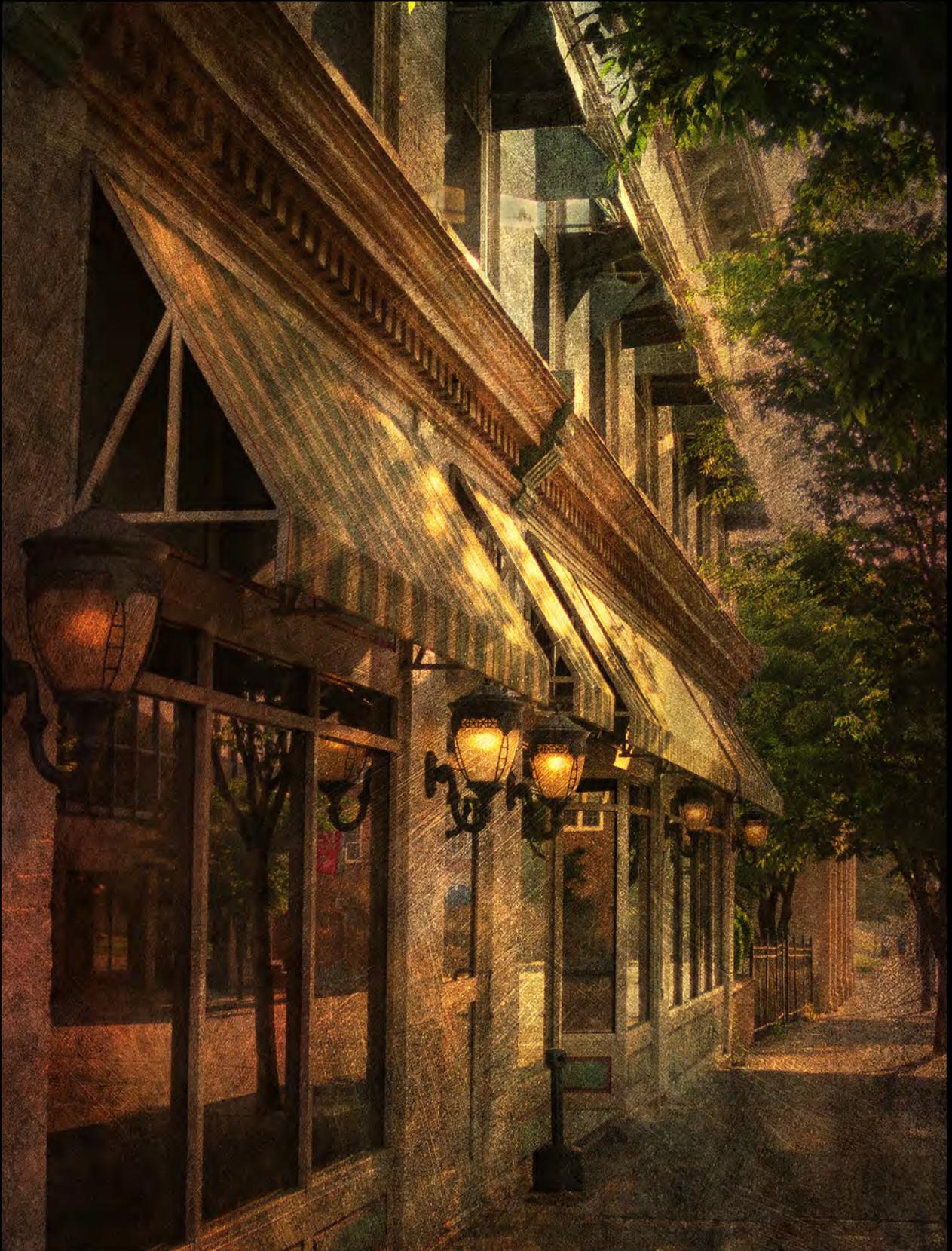
<http://enchanted-reality.blogspot.co.nz/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Whimiscal.Imagery/>



Enjoying Breakfast

Edwin Leung
(New Zealand)

<https://500px.com/elkynz>



Hometown

Ann Plantier
(USA)



WWII Saw

Helga Blanke (The Netherlands)



WWII Coffee Time

<http://www.helganl.nl/>



Gorgeousness

Sheri Emerson (USA & Canada)



Serenity

<http://www.photoartbysheri.ca/>
<http://www.sheriemerson.com/>



Sand Hill Crane

Walter G. Carlson
(USA)

<https://artboja.com/art/bibaou/>



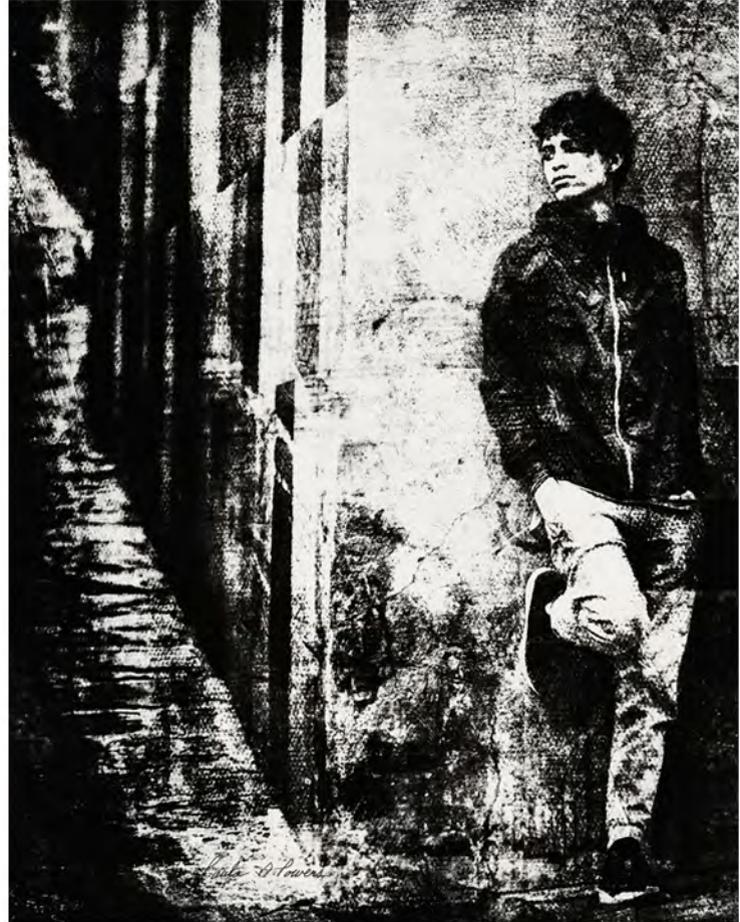
Winter

Margaret Hobbs
(New Zealand)

<https://margarethobbs.myportfolio.com/>



Rush Hour



Street Scene

Paula D Powers
(USA)

<https://artboja.com/art/2gjypp/>
<http://www.pauladpowers.com/>



Storytime With Grandpa

Sheila Tennes
(USA)



Untitled

Joan McLean
(USA)



Smokin'



Waiting for Sunrise

Tony Stephenson
(Australia)



Headland

<http://tonystephenson.photoshelter.com/>



Faded

Jill Booker
(Canada)

<https://www.behance.net/PrairieJill>



San Francisco Alleyway

Ingrid Pomeroy
(USA)

<https://artboja.com/art/grei4a/>



Circle of Stones

Bill Thomson
(USA)



Catching The Misty Breeze

<https://artboja.com/art/4mrbxa/>



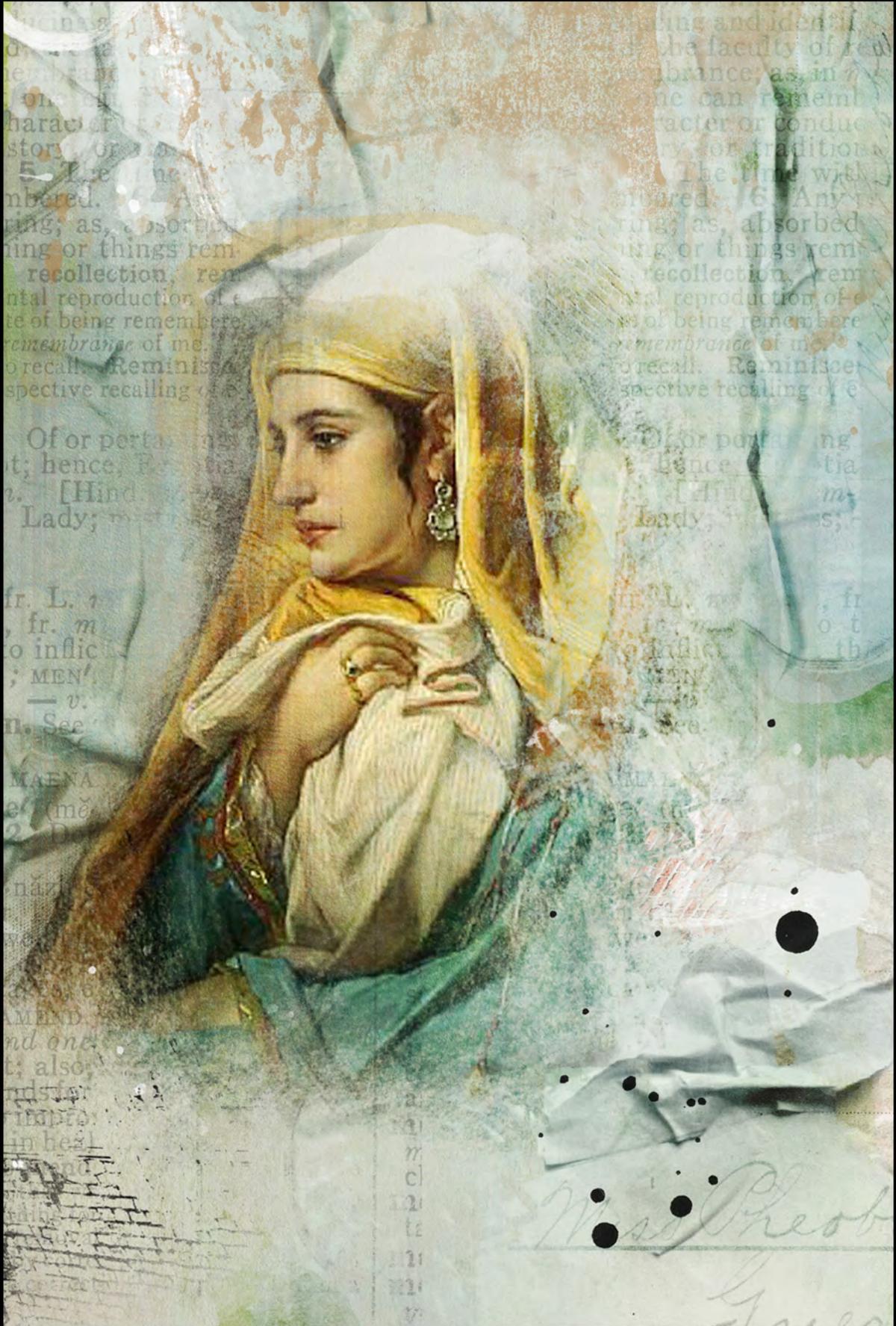
Orchid Study II

Patricia Griffin Brett
(USA)



Black-Eyed Susans

<http://patricia-brett.artistwebsites.com/>



Sheba

Trish Hoskin
(Australia)

<http://www.trishhphotography.com/>



Letter From the Past Vol II

Vibeke Alvestad Johansen
(Norway)

<http://www.imagocollectico.no/>



Miles To Go

Barbara Brady-Smith
(USA)

<http://www.sharethejoyphotography.com/>

The Landing



Laurie Baker
(USA)

The Wonder
of a Tree





Smokescreen

Paula Jeffery
(UK)

<https://artboja.com/art/qf3vg6/>



Story
Time

Esther Byrt
(Canada)



Esther Byrt
DIGITAL ART

CONTRIBUTING DESIGNERS

"AWAKE" : LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

Amanda Rockwell

<http://www.brushworkshop.com>

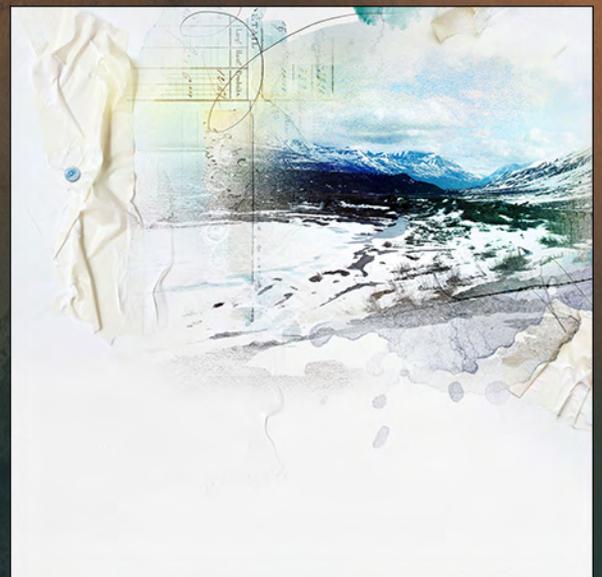
A professional designer with ScrapbookGraphics, Amanda Rockwell creates fantastic content for the AWAKE and KAIZEN groups. But I think her greatest contribution is in encouraging digital artists to get away from their screens and break out the art supplies now and then and actually have fun creating their own custom brushes.



Anna Aspnes

<http://annaaspnesdesigns.com>

Again and again in the work of my top students I was seeing one name turn up constantly when they were citing the source of the artistic content in their work: Anna Aspnes. When I visited her website I was stunned, and when I saw her work in *Somerset Digital Studio* magazine I knew that this was a talent I needed on my team.



Caroline Julia Moore

<https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/CarolineJuliaMoore>

Over the past two years, I've watched as the immensely talented Caroline Julia Moore shifted from cognitive neuropsychologist to full-time self-employed artist and conceptual photographer ... all while also launching a successful content-design business. Her contributions to the group have been a delight and an inspiration.



Cheryl Tarrant

<http://www.distressedtextures.net>

Cheryl Tarrant is the brilliant creator behind the superb iPhone app Distressed FX and the immensely popular content design studio Distressed Textures. In looking at her artwork, one can't but wonder if her images are paintings or photographs. And her textures are simply divine. We're very lucky to have her working with us as a designer!



CONTRIBUTING DESIGNERS

"AWAKE" : LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

Denise Love

<http://2lilowls.com>

The textures and backgrounds from 2 Lil' Owls are some of the finest in the digital art industry, and indeed many of the works in this magazine feature Denise's textures – often several in one piece. Without question the photo-artistic community is so much the richer for the love and care Denise brings to her designs.



Foxeysquirrel

<http://www.foxeysquirrel.com>

Immensely popular (and stunningly prolific), Foxeysquirrel is the name by which artist Teddi Rutschman is known around the world. Her artistic design kits bring together a wide range of styles – from the enchanted and purely whimsical to classic illustration, from the exquisitely ornate to elements with touches of dreamlike old world mastery.



itKuPiLLi

<http://www.mischiefcircus.com/>

itKuPiLLi is the rather unusual name donned by Kirsi Rouvinen, the celebrated digital artist from Finland. The itKuPiLLi Imagenarium at MischiefCircus.com is a source for whimsical digital goodies, and the content Kirsi creates for our KAIZEN group is always greeted with excitement and enthusiasm.



Jai Johnson

<http://www.DailyTexture.com>

Jai Johnson is a fine artist and the acclaimed designer behind "The Daily Texture." Time and again when a work of digital artistry caught my eye, I'd find Jai's name listed in the credits as the texture designer. It took some time to get her, but I'm extremely excited to now have Jai an active member of our KAIZEN design team.



CONTRIBUTING DESIGNERS

"AWAKE" : LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

Jen Maddocks

<http://jenmaddocks.com>

When some students introduced me to the work of Jen Maddocks, I was quite knocked flat. Here was a digital content creator who was as fabulous an artist as she was a designer. We are lucky to have her in our community and MORE than lucky to have her material and tutorials here in "AWAKE" and "KAIZEN."



Jill Catrinel

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/JillCatrinel>

Jill Catrinel works out of her art studio just north of Asheville, making her one of the few designers here quite close to me. Her work is fresh and inspired, and it's exciting to look ahead to everything I will be able to coordinate with her as the projects in the "KAIZEN" group evolve over the year ahead.



Katie Pertiet

<http://www.katiepertiet.com/>

The digital scrapbook world has evolved in a big way over the past few years, and Designer Digitals is a big reason why. While the Designer Digitals site hosts work by a wide range of talented content creators from all over the world, it is Katie Pertiet and her immense creative talent at the helm.



Kim Klassen

<http://kimklassen.com>

Kim Klassen was one of the very first truly world-class artists I had the immense privilege of working with when I first launched the original Photoshop Artistry course. It was her textures (and her photography) that first caught my attention. Only later did I realized how wonderful she is as a teacher as well.



CONTRIBUTING DESIGNERS

"AWAKE" : LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

Michelle Mondragon

<http://mondragonphotoanddesign.com/>

Recently we've brought on the talented photographer and artist Michelle Mondragon as part of our team (though she prefers to think of herself as a "creative"). She has been providing a steady stream of extraordinary content for our AWAKE artists to use in their compositions. We are beyond excited to have her with us.



Rebecca McMeen

<http://www.rebeccamcmeen.com/>

Joining our team just this year, Rebecca McMeen has proven a tremendous hit with her extraordinary material, all of it so rich and complex, whimsical and artistic. Her unique style has made for a fantastic addition to the library of content our artists are now able to employ, and the resulting creations are endlessly charming.



Tangie Baxter

<https://shoptangiebaxter.com/>

Tangie Baxter is the lead artist of her own wildly successful design company with over a decade spent as dedicated “purveyors of digital art journaling supplies.” Her material is quirky and fun, and always a delight. Bringing her onto our team was a big event for us. Everything here got a lot more exciting with her arrival!



The Colby Files

<http://www.thecolbyfiles.com/>

The Colby Files is the intriguing moniker of a celebrated professional photographer located in Scottsdale, Arizona, specializing in female portraits, fashion art, model portfolios and fine art nudes. He has become our resident pro model photographer, providing an amazing library of images for our artists to work with when creating their masterpieces.





ART BOYA

(It's pronounced "Art-Bo-Ya." And it's where you'll find a world of stunning original art awaiting you.)



ArtBoja

Explore the Stunning Artwork
of the AWAKE Artists Further at:
<http://www.ArtBoja.com>

Background Image Credit:
Cindy Collier Harris (USA)
<http://artboja.com/art/gxi8c2>

LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

PUSHING PHOTOGRAPHY FURTHER



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