

Photography for me is an act of distilling reality into my personal vision. A photograph speaks without words; it provides a medium in which to express myself. It allows me to fix place and time to my memories.

This has been a difficult year because of the pandemic, sheltering-in-place and not being able to socialize in person with my community. This has forced me to rethink how I go about making new work — its a time of transition. I am not sure where it will take me but I have enjoyed the challenge.

This past year having time I started making composites using images from my archives and new images of botanicals created during my walks in Golden Gate park and my garden.

For some time, I have been interested in mantels and fireplaces and the symbolisms they represent. In all my travels, I have photographed fireplaces and mantels throughout the world. Some cultures believe them to be a shrine, idols or images of deities were placed on the mantle, a fire was lit, prayers were offered and in some cultures offerings were made by burning possessions or trinkets of a departed person.

Today with the advent of central heating, fireplaces with mantels, photographs, flowers, and favorite ceramics now create something more nostalgic than spiritual.