

Jesseca Ferguson

I work with handmade photography and collage in a studio filled with old books and other oddments. Interacting synergistically, these objects enable me to continue my ongoing investigation of the photograph as a story written with light – a story that may, in fact, never have happened.

“You can close your eyes to reality, but not to memories.”

Stanislaw Lec (1909-1966)

“Separation penetrates the disappearing person like a pigment and steepens him in gentle radiance.”

Walter Benjamin (1892-1940)

Bio

MFA, Tufts University;
BFA, Massachusetts College of Art;
AB (magna cum laude), Harvard University.

Jesseca Ferguson currently works with pinhole photography, 19th century photo processes and collage. Her pinhole photographs and collaged “photo objects” have been included in solo and group exhibitions in the United States and Europe. Museums holding her work include the Bibliothèque nationale, Paris, France; the Museum of the History of Photography, Krakow, Poland; Brandts Kladefabrik, Odense, Denmark; Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge, MA; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; and the Ransom Center for the Humanities, Austin, TX among others.

Handmade Pictures by Jesseca Ferguson, a solo show of over 35 of her works, was exhibited at the Fox Talbot Museum, Lacock Abbey, Chippenham, Wiltshire, England from January through June 2011. Ferguson has received grants to support her work from the LEF Foundation; the Engelhard Foundation; Art Matters, Inc.; Polaroid Corporation; and the Trust for Mutual Understanding. Artist residencies include MacDowell Colony and 3rd International Artists’ Colony of Debrecen, Hungary. Her work has been published in a number of books, catalogues, and articles on the subject of handmade photography in the US and abroad. Since 1998 she has been engaged in cultural exchange with Poland, through the medium of pinhole photography. She has exhibited her own work in Poland and has also facilitated and organized exhibitions of work by contemporary Polish photographers in the US.

Jesseca lives and works in Boston, MA, and teaches at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts.



Poznan bird/2 (constructed)

Pinhole cyanotype, 19th c. book parts
2014
9.5 x 11.75 inches



Eve/2 skulls (constructed)

Pinhole cyanotype, found paper, 19th c.
book board
2010
7.5 x 6 inches



Bird skull/feather (constructed)

Pinhole cyanotype, found paper, ink,
feather, silk, 19th c. book board

2014

12 x 7.25 inches