

Joanne Desmond

Berwick, ME

joannedesmond.com

joannefusegni@gmail.com

Statement

I chose to approach the idea/concept of “Shifts” metaphorically and conceptually in that through my process of the study and practice of yoga, I think about Shifts as that being what I am experiencing in my physical body, my spiritual sensibilities, and my relationships to people, the environment, and ultimately in my approach to my art practice.

“So much of the past is encapsulated in the odds and ends. Most of us discard more information about ourselves than we ever care to preserve. Our recollection of the past is not simply distorted by our faulty perception of events remembered but skewed by those forgotten. The memory is like orbiting twin stars, one visible, one dark, the trajectory of what’s evident forever affected by the gravity of what’s concealed.” Kinsey Millhone

I find myself continually curious about the relationship between memory and emotion as connected with the sensitivities of time, place, and familial attachment. The notion of hiding, covering-up, obscuring the truth -- the reality of who we really are at any given moment in time has always intrigued me. Discovering what lies beneath the surface of someone or something is what I pursue. My current work straddles the thresholds of identity, experience, and memory. It is an exploration of the relationship between the visible and invisible, the gaze, the subject, and the other. The work is an evolution, as I attempt to articulate visually that which is incapable of being expressed or described in words or that which is not to be spoken, because of its sacredness to the internal or the subconscious. The work is autobiographical investigating personal themes, discovering and confronting personal history, ancestry, place, and ultimately making peace, acceptance, and letting go.

Bio

Joanne F. Desmond received a BA in Art from University of MA/Boston with a concentration in printmaking and photography; M. Ed. in Arts & Learning from Endicott College; MFA from Mass College of Art & Design. Desmond’s work has shifted from the traditional use of media (i.e. photography and printmaking) into an exploration and combination of materials. Her work is now primarily mixed media, which has often taken on a more sculptural form. Joanne Desmond’s studio, Red Horse Studio, is located in Berwick, ME. She is a member of New England Wax, Monoprint Guild of New England, Brickbottom Arts, Unbound Visual Arts, and Women’s Caucus for the Arts.



Joanne Desmond, Meditation, 11x14, 2016