

Mary M. Donato

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Following my retirement in 2006 after 30 years as a research geologist, I began to explore photography and printmaking as ways to satisfy both my analytical and creative impulses. I have no formal training in fine art or photography, nor was I given a vintage camera by an aging relative when I was a child. Nevertheless, I consider myself a fully-engaged amateur photographer and printmaker who combines 21st-century digital devices with 19th-century printing processes to create handmade photographic images.

Education

- BA in Geology, Mount Holyoke College, 1972
- MS in Geology, University of Oregon, 1975
- PhD in Geology, Stanford University, 1985

Professional career

- Research Geologist, U.S. Geological Survey, retired, 2006.

Informal photographic and related studies

- View camera and darkroom techniques, Cole-Marr Studios, Boise, ID, 2005-6
- Workshops in historic and alt-process photographic printing (David Lewis, 2006; Terry King, 2007; Scott McMahon, 2008; Alan Greene, 2009; Christina Anderson, 2010; Kerik Kouklis, 2011, Don Messec, 2015)

Related experience

- Leads one- or two-day cyanotype workshops at Wingtip Press, Boise, ID for groups of 6-8 adults (2010 to present).

Publications and juried group shows

2017 (in press)

- Work included in *Gum Printing, a step-by-step manual, highlighting artists and their creative practice*, by Christina Z. Anderson.

2014

- "Best of Light Sensitive 2014" (juried group exhibition), Art Intersection Gallery, Gilbert, AZ.. One of three artists from "Light Sensitive 2014" selected to display additional work. Thirteen gum bichromate prints.
- "The Alternative Approach" (juried group exhibition), The Kiernan Gallery, Lexington, VA. One print selected for main gallery.
<http://kiernangallery.com/the-alternative-approach/>

2013

- *Jill Enfield's Guide to Photographic Alternative Processes: Popular Historical and Contemporary Techniques*, 2013, Focal Press, 278 pp. One gum bichromate print (p. 47).
- *Gum Printing and Other Amazing Contact Printing Processes* by Christina Z. Anderson, 2013, (self-published), 323 pp. Six gum bichromate prints (p. 33).

2012-2016

- *"Light Sensitive"* (annual juried group exhibition), Art Intersection Gallery, Gilbert AZ. Gum bichromate and photointaglio prints.

2011

- *"Captive Werewolf"*, Invited to display 6 gum bichromate prints of stoops as the featured artist in the online gallery, curated by printmaker Christopher Clark.
- <http://captivewerewolf.blogspot.com/>

2010

- *"Alternatives: Unconventional and Uncommon Processes"*, (juried group exhibition), MPLS Photo Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota. November-December 2010; two gum bichromate prints, including 3rd place award.

2009

- *f295 Symposium Exhibition*, invited to display one gum bichromate print in group show; 707 Penn Gallery. Tom Persinger, curator.

2008

- *Rayko Photo Center Gallery, San Francisco, CA. Juried group exhibition. Two pinhole photographs.*

2007

- *f295 Member Exhibition of Lensless and Alternative Photography.*
- *One of 8 photographers selected to show 6 prints at the first f295 Symposium, Pittsburgh, PA. 709 Penn, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Gallery. Tom Persinger, curator.*

2006

- *Black and White Photography Magazine (UK), July 2006.*
- Interview and three published photographs, one of five featured photographers in pinhole special issue, p. 38-39, Issue #61.