

---

# INSIDE STUDIO 280

---

*If you try, you get what you need.*

Analog photography has the gentle yet vigorous rhythm of a perfect day. The glow from the safelight is like the moon with its light caught on the uninterrupted surface of the chemicals, each in their own tray like pools of water. The process of a photographic image is magically played out in this twilight, then the print is revealed with a sun-like brightness from the daytime bulb as if the dawn has come to awaken the details and subtleties of the land it touches. Continuous bathing in a waterfall type of setting, these photographs are washed to a pristine crispness then gently laid down on a screen acting like a hammock that holds the prints as they dry in the quiet dark, resting from this profound rejuvenation. The session ends and I leave the darkroom knowing the memories held in these photographs will be cherished forever.



*From Visions and Themes, 2002*  
Winter came early and felt cozy with a hint of ocean breeze, mesmerizing light, and leisurely sense of time. A mood that has imprinted on me.

---



From *Visions and Themes*, 2002  
 The little bit found in a chaotic field is the invitation.

## Develop

A photography professor once told me the only reason to endure graduate school and earn a MFA is to have a career in teaching. My response to that was a scrunched up face and an internal “ugh” of dismay. However, what I envisioned more schooling would do for me was to develop my understanding of the fine art of photography and completely absorb me in it for a few years, which it did. However, I quickly realized the easiest way to make money with this degree was to teach.

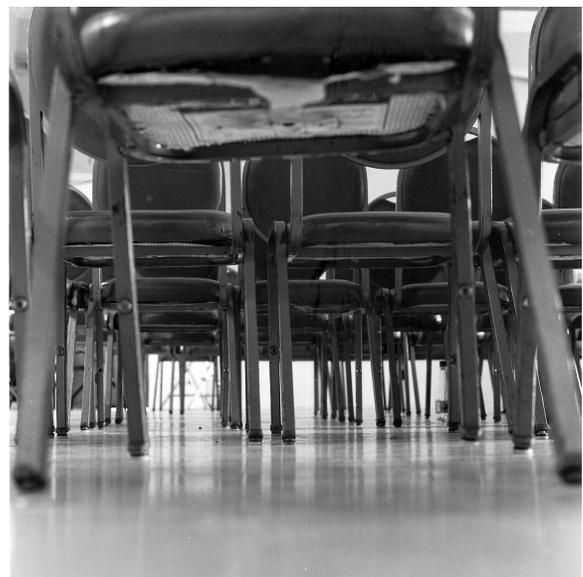
I enjoyed teaching, but I didn’t enjoy how much it consumed me. It wasn’t easy to have one foot in education and the other in the art world. Once I

stopped teaching, I was able to evaluate my position in the art world and make changes to better promote myself - this e-zine being one of the results. This worthy effort to reach out to those of you who have inspired me in the past and present has helped my art making process in so many ways.

## Stop

This will be the last publication of Inside Studio 280 in regards to the quarterly timeframe set three years ago with the first edition in winter of 2017. What I gained from this e-zine has been very fulfilling, so much so that I need to pour it out into camera and darkroom. There are many ideas bottled up inside all of which are beyond excited to emerge onto paper.

And it doesn’t stop there! My other endeavors of knitting, sewing, and weaving will all be liberated. More experimentation with baking and cooking too. Needless to say the gardens continue to grow and demand more attention and more work.



From *Visions and Themes*, 2002  
 When all those bodies sit in all those chairs, then all those eyes from all those heads stare at me, I escape in the lecture... but really I escape in my personal thoughts about my artwork.

## Fix

I remember only two things from the commencement ceremony of my graduate degree: a) the air conditioner was set to extremely cold, b) the keynote speaker quoted The Rolling Stones telling us “you can’t always get what you want, but if you try, you get what you need.” A simple sentence indeed, but very rich in meaning to the individual who takes the time to listen. From that moment I started to listen.

Uncompleted projects, scribbled notes on paper, boxed up prints... all that will continue as there’s never enough time to complete everything. But if focus is the primary exercise and determination the course of action, these attempts will resurface and become finalized, realized, and connected in ways never thought of before. William Henry Fox Talbot summarized this idea in his quote (one I’ve reflected on in the Fall 2017 e-zine because it has enriched my thoughts on living and making art) from his *Pencil of Nature* in 1844: “How charming it would be if it were possible to cause these natural



From *Visions and Themes*, 2002

The empty keyhole begging to be peked through; the shiny porcelain doorknob asking to be touched; the anticipation of pulling the weight of the door to find out what is on the other side.



From *Visions and Themes*, 2002

Friendly offers and helpful actions turn the emptiness into fullness.

images to imprint themselves durable and remain fixed upon the paper! And why should it not be possible? I asked myself.” Listen to the abundance of meaning in those sentences!

## Archival Wash

Everything in the past stays there but it is the mold for what has become the present forming tomorrow. The layers that make you, you and me, me are all equally important. The best part is how they have connected us. Winnie the Pooh once said, “you can’t stay in your corner of the Forest waiting for others to come to you. You have to go to them sometimes.”

---

# ARCHIVE

---

## “Visions and Themes,” 2002

During my post-graduate education, one of the projects assigned was simply titled “Visions and Themes.” With weekly print deadlines, various readings on photography, and continuous consumption of historical images, the student was to find a theme within his or her photographic work over the course of about three months, resulting in a project of which created itself.

From this portfolio I specifically chose seven photographs for this edition of *Inside Studio 280*. They are representative of the solitude, wonderment and naiveté of that time in my life. However, as the years have past and my thesis explored, these photographs embody different meanings today. Each image, found throughout these pages, has a caption that will inform you of its new message.



The excitement of a new day or a new evening. The ambiguity of time.

---



The enchantment of that era is held on top of warm grass on top of rich soil and becomes weightless when I rest my eyes.

---

# SIDEBAR

## Reading Nook



### *Long Knife* by James Alexander Thom



This historical fiction novel tells the story of George Rogers Clark at the prime of his life during the early years of the French and Indian War. From what I've learned, Thom picks heroes from our American past who have not been given the recognition they deserve and writes illustrative novels about these people from our important history. This book was poetically written and full of research-based facts that have encouraged me to seek more information about this era.

### *Julie of the Wolves* by Jean Craighead George



A Newbery award book, this story is so much more than a coming-of-age tale. There is survival, compassion, independence, and perseverance within an unapologetic yet beautiful environment. This story made me think how important it is to learn from one's past.

## Review



### Mummies of the World

#### The Exhibition

Upon walking up to the ticket counter, a strange scent of fish and musk wafted across my path. It reminded me of my visit to the Smithsonian Institute years ago when the well preserved woolly mammoth was on display. This elusive aroma of an ancient past carried me through the Mummies of the World exhibit providing an education on Egyptian history, mummification practices, rituals, and respect. Every bit was full of valuable information on the history of mankind. One particular display that impressed me was the first modern mummy MUMAB (Mummy, University of Maryland at Baltimore - and now a part of the Mummy Replication Project) from 1994, which involved the use of traditional Egyptian mummification processes on a cadaver donated for science. Overall, my take-away from this solemn exhibit is how valuable our lives are to the ones who survive us. Not only for biology purposes, but for learning about our past life stories to enhance our understanding of the present, thereby making a better future.

On view until April 19, 2020 at the Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA.

## Applesauce-Oat Bran Muffins From Veganomicon

Makes 12



- 3/4C Soy, rice or almond milk
- 1/2 tsp. apple cider vinegar
- 1 C unsweetened natural applesauce
- 3 T canola oil
- 1/2C brown sugar, packed
- 1 1/2 C all-purpose or whole wheat pastry flour (or regular flour)
- 3/4C oat bran
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. cardamom
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2C raisin

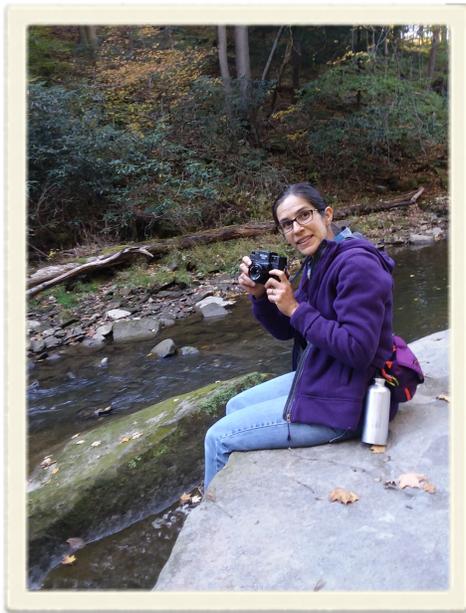
Preheat oven to 350°F and lightly grease a 12-cup nonstick muffin tin. In a large bowl, whisk together milk and vinegar; allow it to rest 1 minute to curdle. Add applesauce, oil, and brown sugar - whisk to completely incorporate them. In a separate, smaller bowl sift together the flour, oat bran, baking powder, baking soda, spices and salt. Fold dry ingredients into wet; stir only to moisten. Fold in raisins. Bake 28-30 minutes.

---

# OUTSIDE STUDIO 280

---

Stocked with film and armed with camera, I will be out in the season I enjoy most as it reveals all the nuances of the environment glowing in that eerie light of winter. Participating in a book club, meeting new people, and engaging with museum events. Mini road trips and winter hiking. Getting out of my corner of the Forest.



Resting during an afternoon hike.  
Photo by D.Dulick

---

*Promotional Bits of News...*

You can keep up with my art processes by checking [jessicakalmar.com](http://jessicakalmar.com) periodically. I will also be in contact with you via email from time to time. Thank you for your comments and advice. You are part of the reason I make the art that I do.



## Thank you

A continuous artist statement, Inside Studio 280 is a report on creativity and constructive endeavors in and around the world I share with you. I hope you have enjoyed these three consecutive years and have gained inspiration, as your feedback has inspired me. You can download all the volumes of Inside Studio 280 at [jessicakalmar.com](http://jessicakalmar.com). Until the next edition...