

Professional Development Grant Report

Dr. Dawn Ward

***Creative Investigations in Digital Photography
& Printmaking Methods***

Travel Dates July 18-22, 2014

Report Submitted September 12, 2014

Creative Activity Statement

This Creative Activities proposal, *Creative Investigations in Digital Photography and Digital Printmaking*, is to develop a new body of artwork which incorporates cutting edge digital media techniques. These workshops are unique as they are geared towards and taught by practicing artists. They are also designed to provide artist with studio time to create and print finished works using these techniques. I have selected the Santa Fe Workshop – *Experimental Digital Printmaking* with Cotton Miller an intensive two day workshop that will provide dedicated studio time to achieve my goal of creating several completed works for upcoming exhibitions including the biennial ATU fall faculty exhibition in October.

Brief review of creative activity

The proposed workshop: *Experimental Digital Printmaking* is an artist oriented intensive workshop that teach compositing, non-destructive digital editing and experimental digital printmaking using transfer processes onto non-traditional surfaces such as metal and stone.

Creative Activity Summary

The Santa Fe Photography Workshop, *Experimental Digital Printmaking* was outstanding. The instructor Cotton Miller provided excellent instruction in the vast array of processes covered. The facilities were fully equipped with the latest digital technology and the support staff was terrific. This experience was more than I expected with real opportunities to learn and practice new techniques within a professional studio environment. I was able to produce a variety of prints, some of which will be shown in the upcoming ATU Biennial Faculty Exhibition which opens on October 1st and other prints that I am entering in several national juried exhibitions this month.

The workshop met both of my primary goals of the Professional Development Grant Proposal: to provided dedicated studio time to create several new completed works for exhibitions and to learn some of the cutting edge digital media printmaking techniques to incorporate and expand my body of work. The workshop agenda (see below) shows the types of techniques that the instructor demonstrated over the few days and the studio time that was provided to produce works.

SATURDAY

9 - 9:30 AM	Introductions
9:40 - 12 PM	Printer Discussion, Supplies, Photoshop
12 - 1 PM	Lunch
1 - 3 PM	Acrylic & Gel Medium
3 - 5 PM	Carrier Sheet/Digital Coatings

SUNDAY

9 - 11 AM	Lazertran/Alcohol Manipulation
11 - 12 PM	Work time
12 - 1 PM	Lunch
1 - 3 PM	Alcohol Gel Transfers & Toner Transfers
3 - 4 PM	Free Work, Scanning, Selections, Blending Modes
4 - 5 PM	Work and wrap up.

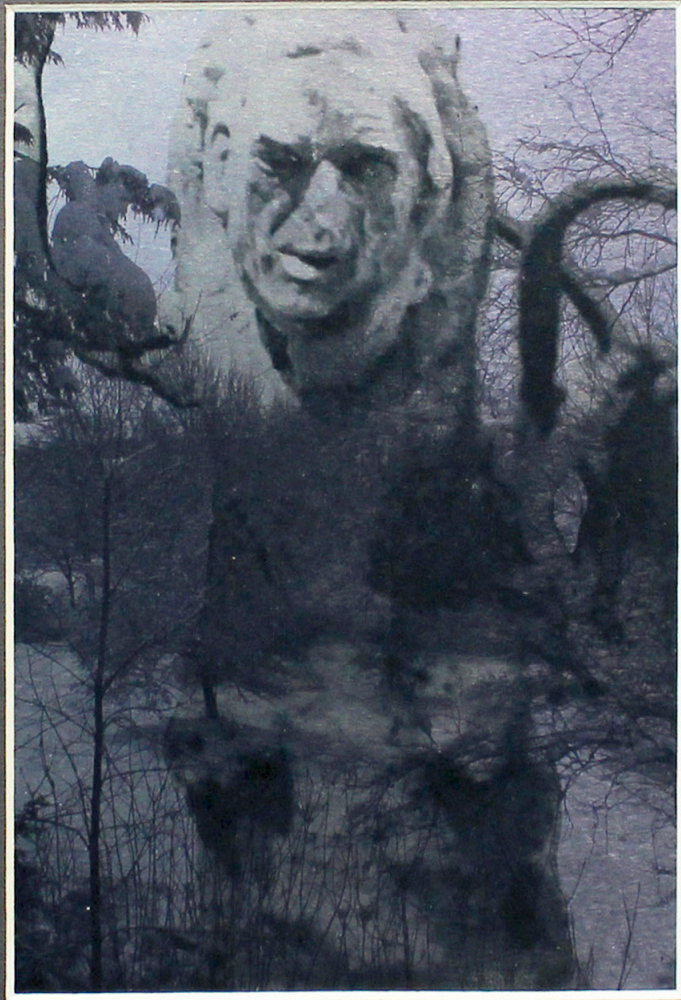
I had also hoped to make connections and expand my network of professional artists and galleries to promote my work and to enhance my studio teaching skills. I was able to meet with gallery owners, attend artist's talks, meet with the director of the Santa Fe Workshops and connect with artist's professionals around the country. I spent my research time at Site Santa Fe visiting the exhibition *Unsettled Landscapes*, which is part of the new perspectives on Art of the Americas that the museum is calling Site Lines. I have included some information about this extraordinary exhibit of contemporary art in the supplemental materials at the end of the report. I was able to meet with LewAllen Gallery Director Mark DiPrima, who handles a variety of contemporary artists including Sammy Peters who is currently exhibiting his work in our Norman Hall Art Gallery. I spent a couple of hours meeting with Greg Moon at his gallery in Taos that hosts a National Juried Exhibition of New Media art which would be appropriate for my most recent works and was able to learn some strategies to help the Department of Art establish a National Juried Exhibition which is currently in the planning stages – called ART36.

In addition I was able to visit a large variety of galleries – some of which I think might be possibilities for future exhibitions: Gerbert Contemporary, Hand Artes Gallery, Alexandra Stevens Gallery of Art, Bill Hester Fine Art, Verve and Hunter Kirkland Contemporary Art.

E. Conclusions and recommendations

I have included in the following pages images from the workshop studio practices as well as completed works ready for exhibition.

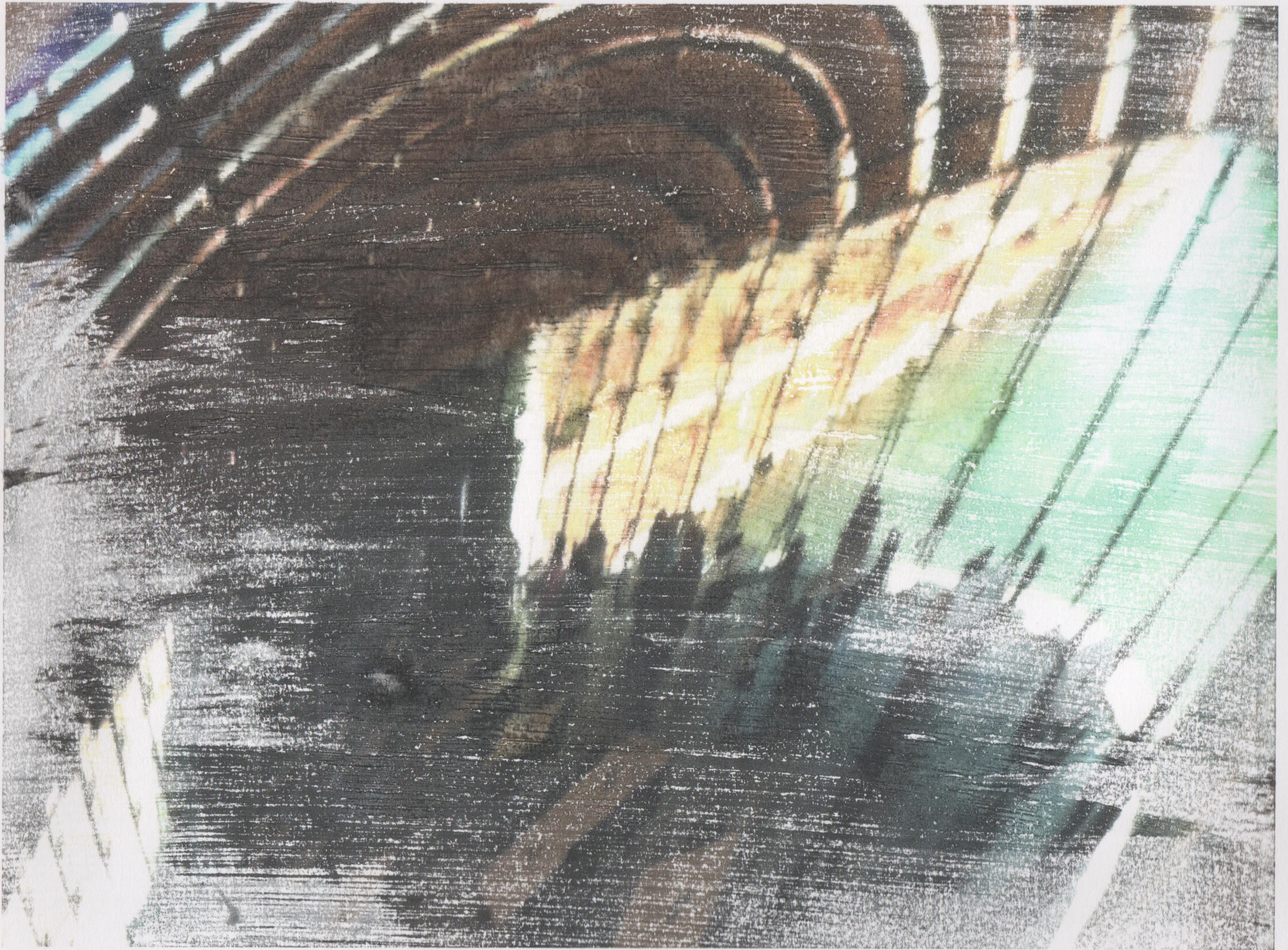
I would highly recommend *The Santa Fe Photography Workshops* and already have to studio artists interested in an inspirational and educational art experience. Their extensive topics, knowledgeable faculty and advanced facilities made this a superb learning experience.



**“Asvattha” Digital Photo Composite
printed on aluminum, 9” X 11” 2014**



“Sky Window” Digital Photography Print 2014



“Reflections of Dine” Gel Transfer Print 2014