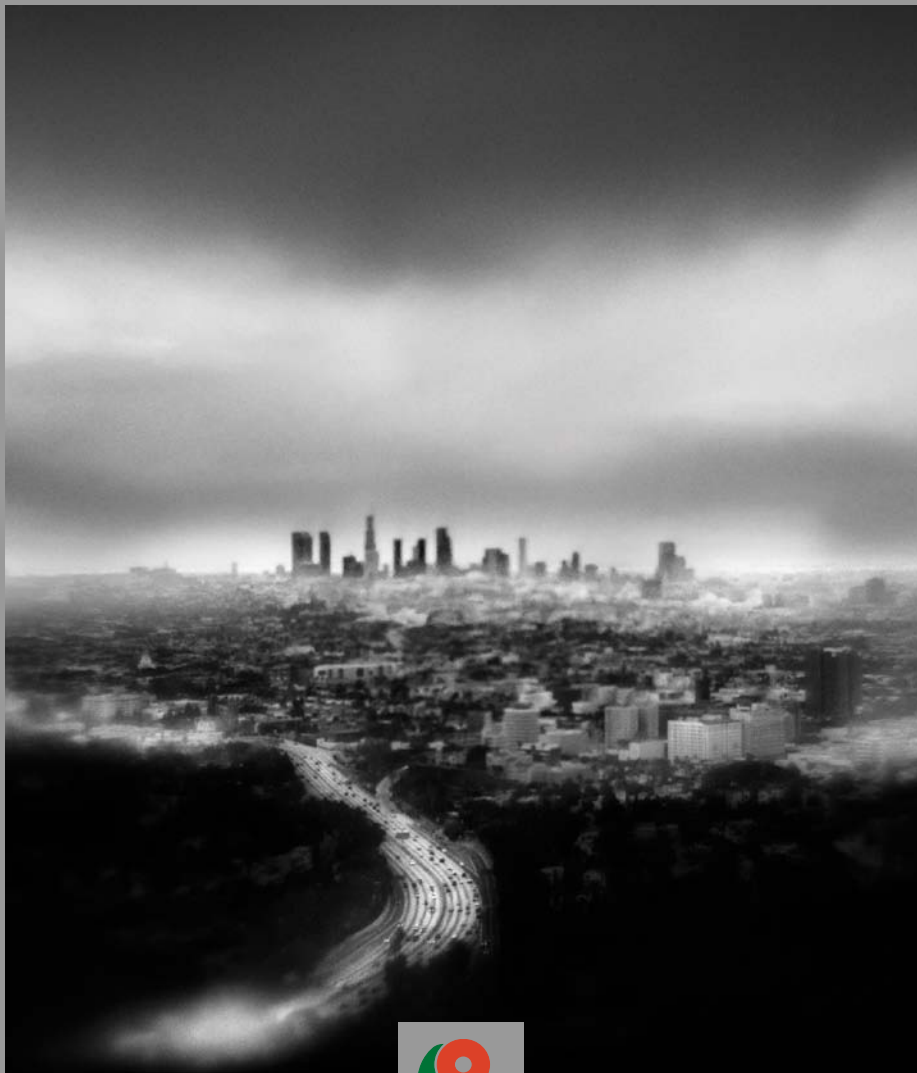


FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA
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INSTITUTO CULTURAL DE MEXICO
SAN ANTONIO TEXAS

SUSAN BURNSTINE

Susan Burnstine is an award-winning fine art and commercial photographer originally from Chicago, now based in Los Angeles. She is represented in galleries across the world, is widely published, and has written for several photography magazines, including a monthly column for *Black and White Photography Magazine* (UK).

Susan is one of few photographers avidly pursuing alternative processes to create an idiosyncratic and deeply personal visual landscape. She portrays her dream-like visions entirely in camera. To achieve this, she has created twenty one handmade film cameras and lenses that are frequently unpredictable and technically challenging. The cameras are primarily made of plastic, vintage camera parts, and random household objects, with single-element lenses molded from plastic and rubber. To overcome the optical limitations of these cameras, Susan relies on instinct and intuition –which are also key when attempting to interpret dreams.

Susan's first monograph, *Within Shadows*, was published by Charta Editions in September 2011, and earned PX3's Gold Award for Best Fine Art Photography Book of 2011.

ABSENCE OF BEING

A plane disappears into the clouds. We can't see it, hear it or touch it, but we know it's there. Our senses give us no tangible evidence it continues to exist. But still, we know beyond a shadow of a doubt it's there. We suspend limitations of our senses, and believe.

When a person dies, do they simply cease to exist because they no longer have a physical presence? Or do they remain with us through the remnants of the lives they lived? When a building is razed, is it truly obliterated, or does its imprint remain in the collective unconscious?

This ongoing series explores how the past remains with us, if only in shadows. These images capture fleeting memories, spotted from the corner of an eye, that vanish the moment we turn to really look. And yet the imprint remains with us. We are living in the present, but the past reminds us that it is part of us too, as is the future, and we of them.

Susan Burnstine

FOTOSEPTIEMBRE USA 2012 Signature Exhibit • Curated by Michael Mehl
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