



Portfolios

Achraf Baznani; Cristina Venedict; Francisco Diaz;
Marcin Owczarek; Sarah Saratain; Ville Kansanen



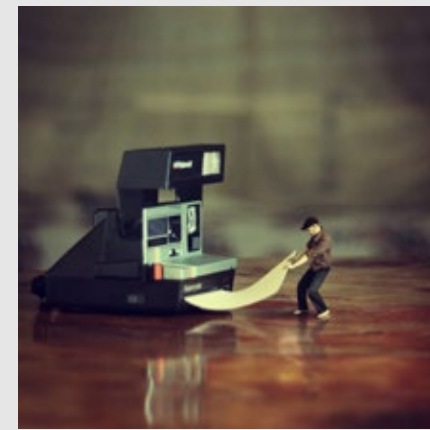
Imagining the Impossible

Trick photography is nearly as old as the medium itself, with multiple exposures, masking, and tedious retouching having a long-established presence in the art. Today, the magic of Photoshop and other digital manipulation tools virtually removes all limitations of imagination when creating images that appear to be photographs of impossible places, people, and scenarios.

In this issue of PH, you'll meet six such creators, who start with one or several photographs, and then work their magic to combine and embellish them into the fantastic visions they see in their mind's eye. So, please suspend your disbelief and the natural tendency to try to figure out how the tricks are done, and simply enjoy these remarkable images and the universes they depict.

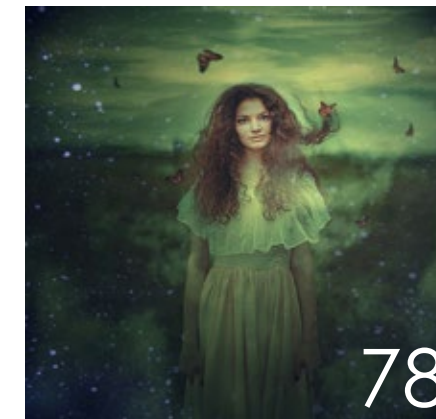
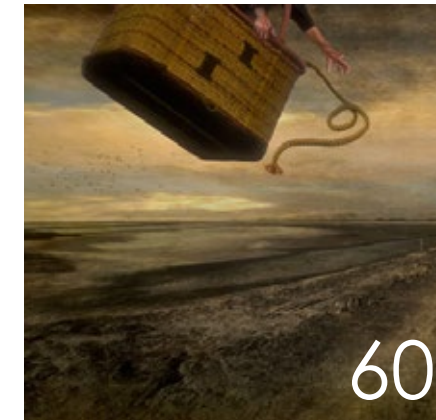
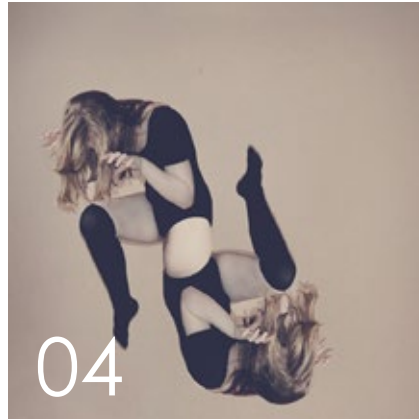
We hope you have added us on facebook and have browsed the back issues on our website, phmag.ca and that you'll consider making a small donation to help us offset our productions costs. (See the link on the back cover.) On our website, you'll also find instructions for submitting your work for consideration to be published in a future issue of PH. We look forward to hearing from you!

Gary Mitchell
co-editor



Cover Photo by
Achraf Baznani

Portfolios



- 04 Sarah Sartain
- 16 Ville Kansanen
- 26 Achraf Baznani
- 40 Marcin Owczarek
- 60 Francisco Diaz
- 78 Cristina Venedict

PH Magazine © 2014 Jandak Photography, All Rights Reserved. Image copyrights remain with the respective photographers. Images used by permission.

editor: **Patrik Jandak**
co-editor: **Rodrigo Bressane**
co-editor: **Gary Mitchell**
design: **art_photo**

ISSN: 1924-9424
Toronto, ON, Canada 2014

Sarah Sartain

Sarah Sartain, splitting her time between London and Falmouth; Cornwall, devotes her time to studying and working in the field of Fine Art Photography. In each body of work she focuses on photography's inherent ability to tell a story, whether that be her own or that of another's. Currently Sarah is working towards completing her latest body of work "Somewhere Land" resulting in her first published book.

www.flickr.com/photos/sarhsartainphotography/











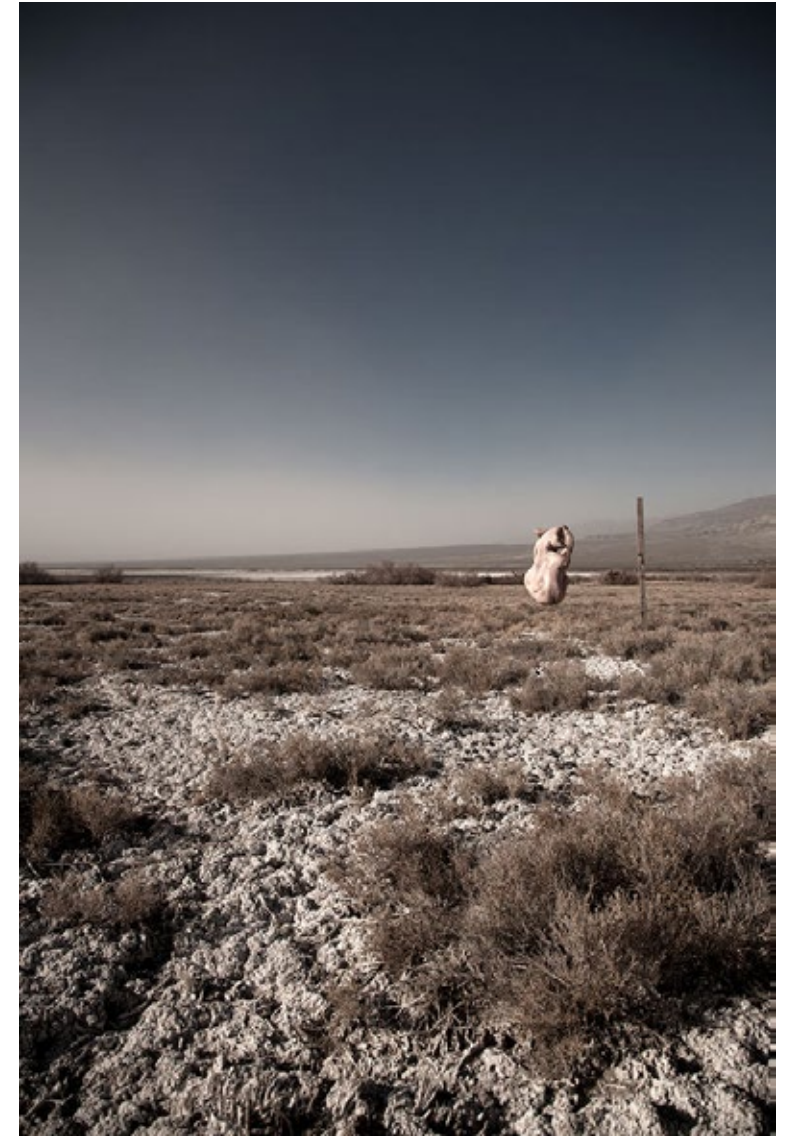




Ville Kansanen

I was born in Finland in 1984. I have been working with photography for about 10 years. I am self-taught. My work is my way of attempting to truly listen to myself. It is a way to explore the difficult emotions I deal with daily and challenging them as something to observe and study. My method of creating images is to gradually destroy my own conceptions of photography which to me, has always been a brutal instrument of capturing a very askew kind of temporal reality and strange 'truisms.' I'm always looking for a new way of creating an image and have a very deep sense of responsibility in trying to push photography's boundaries. I work in nature's expansive landscapes and their frightening beauty. They set the scene for emotions that expand beyond our capability to express. I am primarily a self-portrait artist.

vikaphoto.com









Achraf Baznani

I was born in Marrakech, Morocco. I started in photography when I was young, completely by chance, I got an EKTRA compact 250 for my birthday, which was intended to immortalize the good times. And finally, I was hooked. I then made several short films and documentaries, including "On", "The Forgotten" or "Immigrant" for which I received several national and international awards, before once again opting for still photography, but this time the strange and surreal photography. I am self-taught and I have no formal education in this field.

www.baznani.com















Marcin Owczarek

Born in 1985 in Wrocław, he currently lives in Belgium. Owczarek is fascinated with the influence of new technologies over human life, particularly within urban space. Focusing on the issues of mechanization and standardization, he tackles them in an antiutopian style, depicting the total capture of the spirit by the machine world. Owczarek is interested in shamanism, gnosticism, alchemy. His art has also been influenced by the content of the Tibetan Book of the Dead, as well as his studies in cultural anthropology.

marcinowczarek.wix.com/photography





















Francisco Diaz

International Collaboration

As a digital photographic artist, I have embraced the 21st century wholeheartedly, creating cinematic narrative montages that speak about the road we must travel in order to lift ourselves out of states of inertia that limit our potential.

I grew up in the shadow of the ruins of the once great amusement park of Coney Island in New York City and spent much of my childhood wandering around this once impressive seaside resort. My Cuban/Spanish heritage was a portal to religious, psychological and imaginative themes and—when mixed with the freakish sights of Coney Island street life—inspired in me a comfortable blending of both the mundane and the unusual.

I came out of that childhood experience with one eye on the magical realism mode and the other, on movie framing concepts. This led me to develop what I see as a cinematic narrative photomontage approach wherein the photographer thinks more like a director/cinematographer. I also realized that what can be accomplished photographically today is astounding.

Out of this joyful embrace of the digital era came a unique vision for an International Collaboration: an inspired artistic effort wherein photographers would collaborate from different corners of the globe, never having met (essentially remaining total strangers), yet coming together using Facebook as a creative portal.

There is no other era in which this could have taken place. I wondered if disparate individuals from countries halfway around the world could work together in real time as a positive model for creation rather than destruction. That's what I set out to discover. Working with artist/photographers from different cultures—focusing our energies on the creation of powerful new photographic work rather than international conflict—I thought this just might be one small step toward bringing a troubled planet closer together.

My first collaborator and the person who worked with me to hone this novel concept is Deb Young, an amazingly talented artist/photographer from New Zealand. She has brought keen insights and a powerful eye for crafting unique compositions to the effort. "It's a time of seeing old things in new ways," says Young, "which makes this a thrilling time for people in all corners of the world to communicate through visual language."



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young

Deb and I have created several compelling works but have never met. Our primary means of creative communication and discussion has been Facebook, where we have shifted that portal's emphasis from a simple support/contact tool to one where innovative ideas can flourish.

Recently we invited a wonderful French artist/photographer, Agnes Courrault, to collaborate with us and expanded the International Collaboration to a triad. Agnes brings a superb improvisational sensibility and strong photographic insights to the effort.

The International Collaboration is meant to be steadily, but unhurriedly expansive and positive, bringing disparate people together from different continents using Facebook as our portal, blending creative energies to create exceptional work as an example of true cooperation.

Imagine.

diazphotos.com



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young, Agnes Courrault



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young, Agnes Courrault



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young, Agnes Courrault



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young, Agnes Courrault



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young



Francisco Diaz, Deb Young, Agnes Courrault



Cristina Venedict

Cristina is a self-taught fine-art photographer from Botosani, Romania. Her intelligent use of digital manipulation and multi-layered images creates beautiful illustrative compositions. "I make photography with my soul, capturing different moments of my life. I see the world differently through the lens of my camera; it has taught me to notice beauty when sadness surrounds me." I entered the world of photography and of the magic lens at a time when the real world, the world I was living in, didn't offer me the freedom I needed. I had taken my degree, I was a psychologist and I felt like I wasn't really myself, like that world wasn't mine... And then, there's that phrase: "Ask and you shall receive" - it worked for me. Photography has become my sense in life. It started like a game, a game in which the child within me was running free and feeling like just awakened from a long sleep of immersion into the real world... a world in which we lose our ability to dream and to remain children. Photography helped me bring the child within back into the light...

www.photo.cristinavenedict.ro















PH Magazine is an independent self-sponsored magazine that brings you the best of art photography. If you like our magazine please donate—any amount is highly appreciated. Your donation will help us to continue inspiring you and others.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jandak', written in a cursive style.



GET INSPIRED AND INSPIRE at www.phmag.ca
and www.facebook.com/phmagazineonline