

Deb Hickey

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I am fascinated with the idea that we create our own reality in order to find comfort with the decisions we make in our life. We can exist in our skin and find peace within our world when the story we tell ourselves is better than a story someone else makes up for us. We share a common environment and sometimes a common language but our realities and our stories are unique on to us.

My process of creating art has always started with a camera. It is how I like to view the world. I consider my camera to be like a pencil that sketches out the beginning of an idea. While traveling to new cities or towns or finding new discoveries by returning to familiar locations, I photograph architecture, landscapes, signage, graffiti and sometimes people. These photographs are then collected and saved until I use them again to make a new narrative or reality.

Searching through my collected photographs I then begin to collage my found images together using photo apps and Photoshop. I play with the foregrounds and backgrounds until a new reality forms. These new realities are then printed on ink jet film and transferred to paper, fabric or boards where they can be altered some more using paint, ink, paper, pastel or wax. I prefer transferring my images with film instead of printing directly to paper because I enjoy seeing my hand back into the work. It is my way of printmaking photographs and the process is never perfect, which is what I prefer.

Deb received a BFA in photography from The Art Institute of Boston and currently works out of her studio in Providence Rhode Island. Her work can be found in private collections around the Northeast.

