

## ARTIST STATEMENT

*"To be an artist means never to avert one's eyes."*

- Akira Kurosawa

From the time I first began using a camera, I began to see the world differently. That experience of discovery, the opportunity to communicate visually, and the myriad possibilities of artistic expression are why I make what I make.

In all my work— collage, still photography, film - I seek to create something revelatory. I am keenly interested in the interplay of words, ideas and visual imagery.

Among the elements in my collages are found objects, pieces of my own photographs, calligraphy, markings made with paint, graphite or chalk, and the detritus of daily life, much of which - a paper measuring tape or a clothespin, for example - suggests a nostalgic hint of the past. My photographs often focus on a particular detail or moment to extract the essence of the subject or to capture something extraordinary in the ordinary.

Drawing inspiration from the art and culture of locations around the world, including Asia, Africa, South America and beyond, my work also reflects the natural environment closest to me, especially the light, landscape and textures of the East End of Long Island. The lines between photography, painting and collage are deliberately blurred in my abstract pieces; the suggestion of loss, absence and aspects of the human condition run through my more narrative work.

All a consequence of never averting my eyes.