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Closes Sunday: Progression at Multiple Exposures Gallery



Maureen Minehan at Multiple Exposures Gallery's Progression

Every so often, Multiple Exposures Gallery holds a collaborative photography exhibition involving its members. Over roughly six weeks, photographers—14 of them this year—contribute images in sequence, always thematically playing off the previous image with either a photograph they've already taken or with a new one. The new image may mirror the previous one's subject matter, composition, or color. The 2023 exhibit includes 56 images, hung in order as if they were one long game of telephone. While I was flummoxed by three or four of the proposed connections, most can be seen clearly. The participating photographers over-use windows as a transitional element, and sometimes the connections are overly literal, such as the presence of folding chairs. More subtle, and compelling, are transitions based on

the receding angle of a surface (as in one pairing by Alan Sislen and Clara Young Kim and another trio by Sandy LeBrun–Evans, Sarah Hood Salomon, and Soomin Ham), small protrusions from wall (as in images by Ham and Tim Hyde), or echoed geometries, as with Francine B. Livaditis' rusted circular fan and Fred Zafran's spreading ripples along the surface of a pond. While the connections between photographs are the exhibit's lifeblood, a number of images are notable on their own, including Van Pulley's photograph of an abandoned building out west with a sky whose rays echo the pattern of the flag of Arizona; Livaditis' bold, elemental portrayal of a marble pyramidion in New Orleans; and LeBrun–Evans' image of an isolated house under swirling, long–exposure stars and adjacent to artfully curving sand dunes. Each can be seen as part of an evolution, but also on their own. Progression runs through Oct. 8 at Multiple Exposures Gallery at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union St., Alexandria. Daily, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. multipleexposuresgallery.com. Free. — Louis Jacobson