



PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION PROPOSAL



Museum Pieces

Photos of Selected Museum Buildings

&

Pieces Parts

Photos of Parts of Art

by

Denn Santoro

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Museum Pieces

Photos of Selected Museum Buildings

"Museum Pieces" is an ongoing project of photo shoots of museum buildings. This project presents the buildings of selected art museums as art objects themselves. Works in this project include images from The Boston Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA), the Peabody Essex Museum (PEM), National Gallery of Art, Hirshorn Museum, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Natural History Museum and the National Portrait Gallery. Sessions for shooting other buildings such as the Yale Art Gallery are currently being arranged.



Unfurled #2 Peabody Essex Museum Series
19.5 x 25.5 (framed 25.5x31.5)



Good Point #1 National Gallery of Art Series
19.5 x 25.5 (mounted on mdf)

"Museum Pieces" was previewed in the "Wall" series at Travessia Winery in New Bedford in June and July of 2013 and had its first full scale showing at the Alexey von Schlippe Gallery, University of Connecticut at Avery Point in June and July 2014. It is available for showing now. It currently consists of over 30 framed or finished mounted pieces and continues to grow.

The individual photos focus on subjects from the hardware holding the building together to abstractions of light the buildings produce.

In the past we built public spaces on a grand scale. Now one of the last places where we put serious creative resources into buildings is in places where the objects they contain are considered the most important element. This project is an effort to show the buildings as the artistic monuments to creativity and the human spirit that they are. Both the old museums, many repurposed from imposing public buildings of the past, and the new, are built in styles and materials that proclaim themselves as monumental. Yet, mostly, people show up and just look at what they contain



Light Floats #4 Boston ICA Series
16 x 20 (framed to 21 x 25)

photos that are an abstraction of the subject such that it is hard to recognize at first or at all. The viewer, offered a perspective they would be unlikely to see in everyday experience, should engage with the subjects of the work and, hopefully, see them in a new way. I try and make my work visually interesting and perceptually difficult.

I do almost all my composition in-camera. I rarely crop my photos nor do I modify them in any other way from the actual result of what the camera captured. No digital or other manipulation is involved. The prints are actual photo prints (silver halide type processing C-prints), not digital prints. The prints are mostly fairly large scale (20 by 30 inches or 16 by 20 inches in most cases).

Additional Images of the work in the Museum Pieces series can be seen at:
<http://dennsantorophoto.com/fineart/index.php?album=ica>

I love buildings! I particularly love ones built on a grand scale. I love shooting them because it lets me deconstruct them. I can show the grand scale and the small detail that makes it up. I can show abstractions or phenomena the buildings create. You may know the buildings but I doubt you have looked at them this way before.

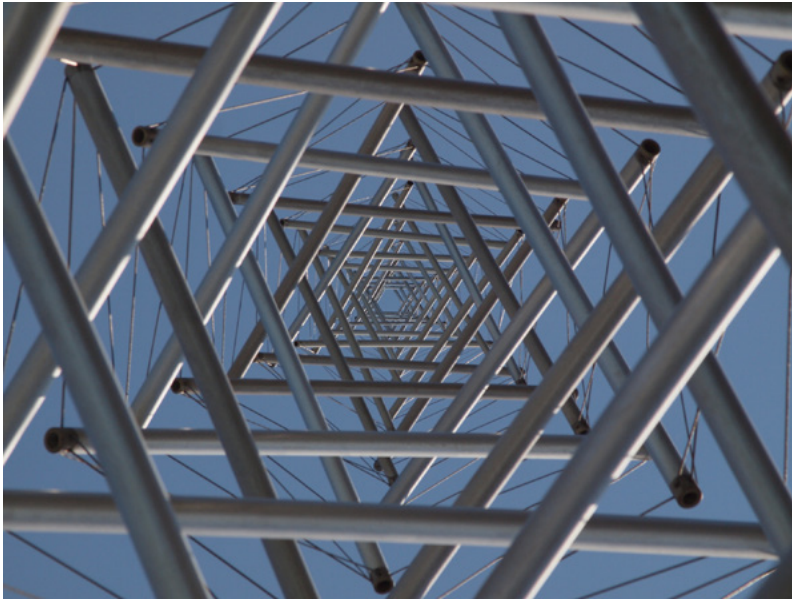
My photos generally concentrate on the interplay of angles and shapes and light. I compose with a point of view that is intended to confound the viewers' normal perspective and view of the world. I enjoy playing with the viewers' perceptual tendencies in ways that make them engage with the image as they try to force it into a more usual perceptual framework. I do this in various ways from using radical perspectives, tight and unusual composition, subtle lines that skew the perspective in a way the mind tends to reject and readjust, placing the focus in unexpected places or the simple inclusion of odd detail. I often create



A Supporting Point Hirshorn Museum Series
19.5 x 25.5 (mounted on mdf)

Pieces Parts

Photos of Parts of Art



The Stars Above #1 (Hirshorn)
19.5 x 25.5 (mounted on mdf)

"Pieces Parts" had its first full scale showing at the Alexey von Schlippe Gallery, University of Connecticut at Avery Point in June and July of 2014. It is available for showing now. It currently consists of a diptych of two 7.5 by 13.5 inch mounted pieces, two 19.5 by 25.5 inch mounted pieces, one 19.5 by 25.5 inch photo framed to 25.5 by 31.5 and one 11 by 14 photo framed to 16 by 20. This project also continues to grow.

Additional images of the work in the Pieces Parts series can be seen at:
<http://dennsantorophoto.com/fineart/index.php?album=objects/pieces-parts>

Bio

Denn Santoro is a photographer living and working on the South Coast of MA. Some of his work is in private collections in the US and Europe and the permanent collection at Southcoast Hospital in New Bedford. He has exhibited in New England and Europe. His work has also been used on various artists cds, tour posters and web sites. He has a BA from Southeastern Massachusetts University (now Umass Dartmouth) and an MA from Lesley College.

Contact Denn Santoro for additional information or to discuss showing this work:

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Higher resolution images are also available for review or for print advertising purposes for these shows.

This project is an offshoot of the "Museum Pieces" project. Sometimes when I'm shooting a museum for the ongoing "Museum Pieces" series I see a piece in their collection that inspires me to show it in another light or from another perspective. I have this odd ability to rotate and manipulate objects in my head and see what they would look like from a perspective other than the one they are presented in. "Pieces Parts" is a series of those images showing my perspective on those art works. The art work is generally abstracted and repurposed and is most often unrecognizable, even to those familiar with the subject art (such as "The Stars Above" shown here, which is my image of Snelson's "Needle Tower" which you can see me shooting below).



Shooting Snelson's **Needle Tower**

Cover image top (from Museum Pieces):
Support of the Art #1 Hirshorn Museum Series 19.5 x 25.5
(framed 25.5x31.5)

Cover image bottom (from Pieces Parts):
Fractured Peabody Essex Museum Series 19.5 x 25.5
(framed 25.5x31.5)