

Dorothy Anderson Wasserman  
Artist Statement

These art works were created in response to an interplay between my inner life and outer reality. They attempt to bridge this gap with visual narratives that include symbolic gestures and juxtapositions, creating work in the contemporary surrealism genre.

Art-making loops meaning. By forming a composite of images within and manifesting in a holistic way the unity of the idea, what is created is often in direct relationship to and a reflection of one's wordless reality. Photography is both agile and descriptive; therefore, it lends itself as a suitable medium for this endeavor. Many of these works are portraits. In an attempt to capture something essential about the subject, more questions arise than answers.

Human vision simplifies the chaotic array of life's details. This work treats all surface images with the same importance, which generates a purposeful layering of chaos and clarity. Time is an underlying element. It's taken out of the normal realm of experience by having images of past, present and imagined future seamlessly commingle in the same visual space.

I have taken all photographs used in these works and each collage is assembled by hand. The physicality of this method is closely connected with the history of collage making. The cutting, pasting, and assembly creates a rough, engaging surface. As a final step, I bow to the benefits of technology by digitizing the piece and printing it on rag paper, using pigmented inks. This helps to unify the differing surfaces creating the precarious impression of a single-shot photograph.