




Upon
Reflection

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JUDY ELLIS GLICKMAN



Photography in Maine is as powerful an artistic force today as Maine painting was one hundred years ago. Judy Ellis Glickman is one of the major forces behind this phenomenon, both as a photographer and as a leading proponent of the medium here in Portland, across the state, and indeed around the country and the world beyond.

The University of New England and one of its antecedent schools, Westbrook College, have had a long and valued association with this artist and her husband. Judy and Albert Glickman originated the annual President's Circle Dinner when he was a Westbrook College trustee. Since 1998, Judy has served as a mentor and friend and longtime supporter of the re-opened UNE Art Gallery. She has figuratively held my hand as I learned the ropes and navigated the occasionally hazardous shoals of museum management. Judy's photographs have been part of a photography exhibition of mine, *Women on War*, that has traveled to nine different venues around the

country to date. UNE is proud to have in its permanent collection two works from her Holocaust series and two of her Great Diamond Island photographs.

There are some artists whose work is predictable. Judy Glickman's photographs are never predictable. They vary in subject matter from landscapes to portraits, from architecture to dreamlike settings, both night and daytime. They sometimes have shock value as well as humor, pathos, and a shimmering beauty.

When we think about the markers of our age, from the twentieth into the twenty-first century, art works such as Picasso's *Guernica* or Nick Ut's photograph of the napalmed little Vietnamese girl running toward his camera come to mind. They help us to see our world differently, to face ugly truths as well as to celebrate beauty, truth, honesty—and mystery. Judy Glickman's works of art have that memorable marker quality. Taken in their entirety, these photographs are an ode to the mystery of life.

Upon Reflection is an exhibition UNE is honored to showcase, as it represents a culmination of Judy's many deep artistic explorations as well as her latest photographic investigations using color and light and shadow that play with the whole concept of reflection. We consider ourselves very fortunate to be able to present this photographer's magical dive into the heavyweight matters of life and death.

UNE wishes to thank Judy Glickman first, and everyone else associated with this exhibition and catalogue—a collaborative tour de force.

ANNE B. ZILL
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