

Geanna Merola is an artist and educator whose interest in and use of photography spans a period of over forty years. Merola has exhibited nationally and internationally including exhibitions in New York City at the former Lieberman & Saul Gallery, later at Julie Saul Gallery, Christinerose Gallery, and Karen McCready Gallery. She has received fellowship grants from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts in 1983 and 1987, as well as an NEA/Mid-Atlantic Regional Fellowship in 1995. Merola completed a Mid-Career Fellowship at Princeton University in 1999-2000, where she had the opportunity to study photography with Emmet Gowin and the history of photography with Peter C. Bunnell.

Ms. Merola's early work utilized silver prints with hand applied color and drawing techniques. Her approach evolved over time to include multiple photographs that combine and connect (in some cases by sewing) seemingly disparate images from nature, science, culture and personal experience.

In 1994 Merola made a move away from the hand colored photograph. The first group of work following this period consisted of matte surfaced gelatin silver photograms. The minimal organization of this work and the isolated positioning of objects were precursors to the compositional arrangements of subsequent groups of work with still life. Two of her photogram images from this series of work appear on Deutsche Grammophon CDs, Siegfried Palm's *intercomunicazione*, a cello recital (2002), and *Steve Reich/Drumming* (2003).

In other still life photographs Merola manipulated the images by combining 4 x 5 negatives with the photogram technique and also by contact printing 4 x 5 negatives that have been cut and arranged onto photographic paper.

Merola exhibited photographs taken in Italy and the Czech Republic during December 2002, as part of a cultural exchange between the municipalities of Sabbioneta, Italy and Kromeriz, in the Czech Republic. These works were exhibited in Sabbioneta, Italy November, 2003 to April, 2004.

Merola's most recent portfolio, "Window Works" is a group of digital photographs made largely on the streets of New York City between 2007 - 2017. These photographs document the montage of imagery that appears on the window glass that separates the interior and exterior spaces of storefronts most frequently in Nolita and on the Bowery in New York City. The broad surface of the transparent glass becomes a picture plane where the still, arranged interiors and the cinematic street exteriors merge and share a common surface. The photographs record a moment when all the visual elements merge in an arrangement that is a complex and poetic blend of multiple subject sources.

Merola's work is included in private, public and corporate collections. She currently teaches photography and the history of photography at Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, New Jersey.