

Sense of Place

June 1 - July 25, 2007

Connections Café

In late 2006, a jury panel for Tempe Community Galleries' annual call for work chose three photographers to show together at Connections Café. At the time, it seemed that photography was the only common thread between the artists. But after meeting each other for the first time, they found that much of their work had a common thread that led to the exhibition theme, "A Sense of Place."

[Logan Bellew](#), [Bob Estrin](#) and [Rebecca Ross](#) are photographers with different aesthetic approaches, different art mak-

ing processes and different modes of expression. Bellew's work leans towards abstraction through light and movement. Estrin's work accentuates color in both his indoor and outdoor scenes. Ross focuses on objects in the everyday landscape or urban setting. Yet all three of these artists have work that depicts places without people. There is evidence of people such as abandoned cars, empty buildings and/or belongings left behind. But the emptiness in their work isn't without narratives that can be shaped by the viewer's own imagination.

About the artists

[Rebecca Ross](#), of Tempe, has earned many awards for her photography, including an Artist Fellowship and Artist Project Grant from the Arizona Commission on the Arts. She has completed public art projects for the cities of Scottsdale, Tempe, Phoenix and the Mesa Arts Center. She is currently working on public projects in Glendale and Tempe.

She is a former artist member of eye lounge gallery in Phoenix, and her work has been featured in more than 95 exhibits throughout the United States and in Europe. Her work is represented in public and private collections nationally and abroad, including Museum of Fine Arts-Houston, Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture, Mayo Clinic Scottsdale and the prestigious Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center in Austin, Texas.

She was selected Artist Educator of the Year by the Scottsdale Cultural Council and is the recipient of a Chairman's Art Circle Award for her work with disadvantaged youth.

[Bob Estrin](#), of Gilbert, received his bachelor of arts degree in photography from Southern Illinois University (Carbondale) and has continued his studies in advanced photography at Mesa, Chandler/Gilbert and Scottsdale Community Colleges.

He has been a member of several local artist organizations, including Mesa Art League, Chandler Artist Guild, Gilbert Visual Arts League, Photography Society of America and Phoenix Camera Club. He has also shown his work around the Valley in venues such as Vision Gallery in Chandler, Grady Gammage Auditorium in Tempe, Arizona Museum for Youth in Mesa and Shemer Art Center and Museum in Phoenix.

Estrin's photography illustrates the beauty of southwest landscapes, ghost towns and objects from the past. His images reflect the intense colors of desert skies and canyons as well as the quiet romanticism of the west which residents and travelers over time have found so appealing.



Guard House,
by Logan Bellew

[Logan Bellew](#), of Tempe, just graduated from Marcos de Niza High School where he was editor-in-chief of the school newspaper. His photographs have been published in the school's literary magazine, yearbook and newspaper and exhibited in a variety of local exhibitions including the 2006 and 2007 Tempe Union High School District's student art exhibitions at Tempe Library. He has also been recognized with awards from the TUHSD Art 6 exhibition and the 2006 Communities for Kids Photo Contest.

Logan has been taking photographs since 2005 and has quickly gained experience through classes, exhibitions, travel and observation. His work presented for "A Sense of Place" reveals an intuitive photographer's eye. The series depicts nighttime scenes lit by street lamps. There is an absence of people, yet evidence of their recent departure, an empty building, a vacant lot and a motionless car. They are scenes of the moments between the daylight hours that question, what is out there?