

The Eye is a Door: Landscape Photographs by Anne Whiston Spirn



Anne Whiston Spirn. *Hill of Remembrance. Forest Cemetery. Stockholm, Sweden. May 1990*

The Eye is a Door showcases the photographic work of award-winning writer, photographer, theoretician, and landscape architect Anne Whiston Spirn. Author of several important texts on landscape (including *The Language of Landscape*), Spirn's philosophical approach to the natural and constructed world evolves from her photography. She turns our attention to photography as a mode of inquiry. Approaching her process mindfully, as a way to see more clearly, she conceives of the photographic image as both "an idea and a medium of thought." She opens herself up to a place, searching through the camera lens for pattern, metaphor, and the human stories inscribed in landscape.

The resulting images capture the varied aesthetic beauty of distant corners of the evolving planet, while conveying how deeply human history is entwined with physical geography. In thinking and writing about her process and approach, she is guided by photographers like Dorothea Lange and also finds direction from the fields of anthropology and poetry as she seeks to focus her looking. Engaging with her work is a lesson in visual literacy and the power of honing this capacity across disciplines. It is also an experience that brings the viewer closer to landscape's underlying truths. According to Spirn, the photographer "can be a diviner of the ideas latent in the world. The camera is a diviner's rod."

"Seeing is a way of knowing; photography is a way of thinking"

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Fact Sheet



Anne Whiston Spirn, Mount Aso, Japan. October 2002

Organized by:	Smith College Museum of Art
Contents of full exhibit:	47 framed photographs; didactic panels; video
Space requirements	
Full exhibit:	2500 to 3000 square feet of exhibition space
Abridged exhibit:	For smaller venues
Contact:	Anne Whiston Spirn (aws@annwhistonspirn.com)

Anne Whiston Spirn: The Eye Is a Door

Smith College Museum of Art

January - August 2014

Illustrated Checklist

Prologue

1. Earth Shadow. Uluru, Australia. June 1988. Archival pigment print. 30 x 40 inches



2. Earth Shadow. Uluru, Australia. June 1988. Archival pigment print. 30 x 40 inches



3. Earth Shadow. Nahant, Massachusetts. October 2002. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



4. Earth Shadow. Nahant, Massachusetts. September 2000. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



5. Alvar Aalto's Studio. Helsinki, Finland. May 1990. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



6. Avebury Circle. Avebury, England. June 1986. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



7. Hill of Remembrance. Forest Cemetery. Stockholm, Sweden. May 1990. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



8. Hill of Remembrance. Forest Cemetery. Stockholm, Sweden. May 1990. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches.



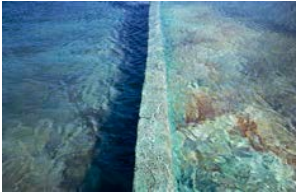
9. Uluru. Central Desert. Australia. June 1988. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



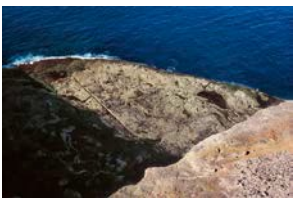
10. Uluru. Central Desert. Australia. June 1988. Archival pigment print. 30 x 40 inches



11. Fairlight Pool. Sydney Harbor, Australia. August 1989. Archival pigment print. 30 x 40 inches



12. North Head. Sydney, Australia. August 1989. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



13. California Aqueduct. Westland Irrigation District. Central Valley, California. March 2009. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



14. Owyhee Irrigation District. Malheur County, Oregon. May 2013. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



15. Owyhee Irrigation District. Malheur County, Oregon. May 2013. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



16. Malheur Siphon. Owyhee Irrigation District. Malheur County, Oregon. July 2006. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



17. Skeiðará River, Skeiðarársandur, and Vatnajökull Glacier. Iceland. May 2008. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



18. Sandkluftavatn. North of Þingvellir, Iceland. May 2008. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



19. Skaftafellsjökull (Vatnajökull). Iceland. May 2008. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



20. Hengill Volcano, Iceland. May 2008. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



21. West of Vik, Iceland. May 2008. Archival pigment print. 30 x 40 inches



22. Njal's Farmstead. Bergþorshvoll, Iceland. May 2008. Archival pigment print. 30 x 40 inches



Passage

23. Angle of Repose. Baker City, Oregon. May 2005. Archival pigment print. 30 x 40 inches



24. Cinder. Ring of Fire. Mount Aso, Japan. October 2002. Digital c-print. 30 x 40 inches



25. Petroglyph. Saguaro National Park. Tucson, Arizona. April 1999. Archival pigment print. 20 x 30 inches



26. Andromeda. Nahant, Massachusetts. March 2002. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



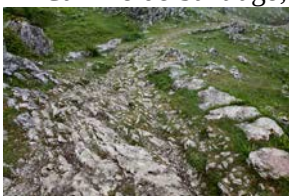
27. Isle of Doagh, Inishowen, Ireland. May 2001. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



28. Södra Sandby, Sweden. June 2003. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



29. El Camino de Santiago, Basque Country, Spain. May 2011. Digital c-print. 30 x 40 inches



30. Heath Memorial. Kongenshus, Denmark. May 1990. Digital c-print. 24 x 30 inches



31 High Plains, Colorado. March 1989. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



32 Parc de La Villette. Paris, France. June 1992. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



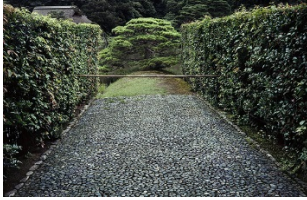
33 Blenheim. Woodstock, England. June 1986. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



34 Parc de Sceaux. Paris, France. May 1993. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



35 Katsura. Kyoto, Japan. July 1990. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



36 Carp. Naiku. Ise, Japan. July 1990. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



37 Axis. Saiho-ji. Kyoto, Japan. October 2001. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



38 Marnas. Södra Sandby, Sweden. November 2008. Digital c-print. 30 x 40 inches



39 Marnas. Södra Sandby, Sweden. November 2008. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



40 Marnas. Södra Sandby, Sweden. June 2007. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



41 Marnas. Södra Sandby, Sweden. June 1998. Digital c-print. 20 x 30 inches



42 Skaftafellsjökull (Vatnajökull). Iceland. May 2008. Digital c-print. 30 x 40 inches



43 Marnas. Södra Sandby, Sweden. January 2008. Digital c-print. 30 x 40 inches.



44. Chapel at Mount Rokko. Kobe, Japan. July 1990. Digital c-print. 50 x 40 inches



45. Saiho-ji. Kyoto, Japan. October 2001. Digital c-print. 30 x 40 inches



46 Saiho-ji. Kyoto, Japan. October 2001. Digital c-print. 30 x 40 inches



47 Glen Loy, Scotland. September 1978. Digital c-print. 50 x 40 inches



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