

JANE SZABO



SOMEWHERE  
ELSE

FOTO RELEVANCE HOUSTON TEXAS

FEB 8, 2020 - FEB 28, 2020

**November 10, Sunshine Skyway**

Archival Pigment Print

12x18" • Edition of 10

20x30" • Edition of 7

40x60" • Edition of 3

# JANE SZABO SOMEWHERE ELSE

It is always about the journey, the search for that place we truly want to call home. The search is symbolic of a deeper, inner search; that sensation of running away from or running to a vast "other." Somewhere Else explores a yearning for home, or a sense of place, that one cannot return to, no longer exists, or maybe never was.

— Jane Szabo

# THE PATH TO SOMEWHERE ELSE

**GEOFFREY KOSLOV**

"Somewhere Else," a project of California-based artist Jane Szabo, is a constructed tableau that transports the viewer away to another time, place, or mood. The visual expression of "Somewhere Else" places the artist, in her own mind, where she would rather be, as an alternative to where she is at that present moment. Szabo uses visual cues to carry the viewer away, using the physical attributes of a constructed house of maps within a chosen stage. With these images, the artist triggers within us a feeling of transition and transformation.

The expression "Somewhere Else" carries a particular meaning within our lexicon; it expresses a wish to be in a place other than our current one, whether physically, emotionally, or spiritually. What does the artist intend to convey through the act of constructing a model of a home from maps and placing it in various settings? The maps, used as the side panels or roof shingles for these house, are all of distinctive places, showing roads, rivers, and lakes. She constructs a house of maps that is unique to each of those locations, but which "harken back to places" she explored as a child or to other memories as an adult.

Maps themselves are often used as art or have been reproduced in an artistic manner. People are fascinated with maps, and view or use them daily. Here, the maps symbolize travel to a place. But, for Szabo, it is not any place in particular. It is a symbolic reference of the need to be elsewhere. It is a suggestion that maybe we cannot follow a map to where we want to be. The landscape, or private interior space, which Szabo chooses is part of the visual description of where she imagines herself being, living, existing, or working. To fulfill and share this fantasy, Szabo travels to different locations to capture a moment. Rather than simply pointing her lens at what is real, the photographer creates a reality and invites the viewer into it.

Constructing and staging narratives have a long tradition in the arts, and particularly in photography. Staging can be defined as a constructed scene. Staging can also be defined as the act of presenting a play or performance. Even though no human figures appear in Szabo's images, the house acts as the performer on the stage. Each constructed house is unique, as is each location. Like any other director, Szabo chooses where to place the house on the



stage depending on the message she wants to communicate. Whether in the foreground or background, or positioned to the right or center or left, the placing of the house suggests how the artist may want us to relate to the tableau.

Szabo's background as a model maker gives her the creative skills and freedom to make these props. The staging which Szabo chooses varies from landscapes to interiors. The landscapes range from deserts to mountains to beaches, and the time of day varies from early morning to the dark of night. The interiors are lush yet sparse and leave you wondering what lies just outside the frame. In some landscapes, the setting does not seem like a place one would want to place a home. But the home is not for living. The home is surrogate for our sense of place.

As conflicted as many of us feel about the present moment in history, Jane Szabo's tableaux are a thoughtful vehicle to help us journey to "someplace else." The concept of being elsewhere has multiple dimensions: time, place, and mood. Creating a visual expression of emotions is complex, regardless of the medium an artist uses. There are no maps to follow on an emotional journey. While a house may represent a home or a sanctuary, the maps from which these structures are built will not guide us there. The maps are symbolic of the journey. We know there are places we long to be, literally or figuratively. We have to imagine and find our own way to them. The images Szabo creates are symbolic of that other place, the "somewhere else," where we feel we could or should be. What these images do is start us on our own journeys by stopping us long enough to reflect upon our situations and consider how her special places might relate to the elsewhere's of our memories. "Somewhere Else" is the map that offers not a path, but a starting point to set us on our way.



**July 15, El Prieto**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3



**October 27, Phantom Lake**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3





**August 3, Shoreline**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3



**March 2, Coal Creek**  
Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3





**September 10, River Oaks**

Archival Pigment Print

12x18" • Edition of 10

20x30" • Edition of 7

40x60" • Edition of 3



**August 30, Silver Cloud**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3





**March 1, Newport Hills**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3





**December 29, Newcastle**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3



**June 7, Fault Lines**

Archival Pigment Print

12x18" • Edition of 10

20x30" • Edition of 7

40x60" • Edition of 3





**June 3, Creole Mine**  
Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3



**June 4, Yucca Valley**  
Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3





**June 7, Spy Mountain**  
Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3



**November 7, Urban Memorial**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3





**November 23, Forget Me Not**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3



**November 10, Terra Ceia**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3





**December 30, The Prior**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
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**October 18, Lafayette**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3





**December 28, Churchland Forest**

Archival Pigment Print  
12x18" • Edition of 10  
20x30" • Edition of 7  
40x60" • Edition of 3



# JANE SZABO

## THE ARTIST

Jane Szabo is a Los Angeles based artist with an MFA from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, CA. Her work investigates issues of self and identity. Using hand made constructions, self-portraiture, and still life as a vehicle to share stories from her life, her work merges a love for fabrication and materials with conceptual photography. Szabo's background in the film industry, creating props and miniatures for theme parks, and overseeing set construction for film and television undoubtedly informs her creative process.

Szabo's photography has been exhibited widely, including solo shows at the Museum of Art & History in Lancaster, CA, Foto Museo Casa Coyoacán in Mexico City, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, the Yuma Fine Art Center in Arizona, and the Los Angeles Center for Digital Art. Her work has been included in exhibitions at Oceanside Museum of Art, the Griffin Museum of Photography, Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, Spartanburg Art Museum, The Colorado Center for Photographic Arts, San Diego Art Institute, Los Angeles Center for Photography, Foto Relevance Gallery, the Kaohsiung International Photographer Exhibition in Taiwan, and Foto Fever in Paris, France.

Her photographs have been featured in many publications and blogs including: The Huffington Post, Lenscratch, Mono Chroma Magazine, Silvershotz, Bokeh Bokeh, L'Oeil de la Photographie, F-Stop Magazine, Foto Relevance, Fraction, Your Daily Photo, A Photo Editor, Don't Take Pictures, Art & Cake, Diversions LA, ArtsMeme, and others. Szabo's work is in the permanent collection of the Los Angeles Museum of Art (LACMA), the Lancaster Museum of Art & History (MOAH), and in private collections throughout the US and Europe.

# FOTO RELEVANCE

Since 2016, Foto Relevance cofounders Geoffrey C. Koslov and Bryn Larsen have focused on the exhibition and acquisition of museum quality contemporary fine art photography and photography-based work. Foto Relevance is dedicated to providing a platform for an innovative selection of American and international photographic artists pushing the boundaries of photography. The gallery has mounted monographic exhibitions as well as group shows to investigate current trends and themes in contemporary art, showcasing a broad range of both darkroom and digital photographic techniques. In addition to promoting the work of artists, Foto Relevance provides guidance, educating individual collectors and corporations in the acquisition and sale of art. Foto Relevance is a member of the Houston Art Gallery Association (HAGA). The gallery is located in the historic Museum District of Houston, Texas.



**FOTO RELEVANCE**

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