

Marnie Crawford Samuelson: An Outer Cape Village

Fishermen, artists, and makers who live and work on Outer Cape Cod are the subjects of this photography and audio exhibition by Marnie Crawford Samuelson.

Crawford Samuelson has been photographing on the Outer Cape since the mid-1980s. Her vintage toned black and white images show a Provincetown where neighbors gather for coffee and sodas at the counter at Adams Pharmacy, a poker game unfolds on a winter night in the West End, and neighbors and friends care for young men dying of AIDS.

More recently, she has been making a series of portraits of people who are deeply attached to place, to their work, family, neighbors, and community. These images, with accompanying first-person recordings, tell their unique stories.

Hers is a slow, documentary process. Often, she creates a simple outdoor studio environment for a photograph and invites the person being photographed to consider this as sacred time together. In a later recording session, she asks them to share something curious, authentic, and intimate.

This exhibition is sponsored in part by John Douhan III and William Rawn.

From the artist:

I began An Outer Cape Village about five years ago with a simple idea—to make portraits and fluid documentary images in the villages and landscape of the Outer Cape, a place that I know and hold dear.

Soon we were in the pandemic, and I chose to photograph and record outdoors. The approach stuck. I like the idea of finding simple environments that are almost like being in an open-air studio. I start with available light and often mix in soft artificial light from portable strobes and large modifiers. [...]

Later, we do a recording. We sit at a distance, and I encourage the person to tell a story that is about something curious, unexpected, and personal. The story belongs to them, and sometimes it opens an entire world.

ARTWORK LIST

Some of the artworks in this exhibition are for sale; please see the museum front desk for a price list and to purchase.

Emma Doyle, Sonya Woodman & Jordan Miah Nate Johnson, artist, Wellfleet Renzi, wild shellfish pickers, Wellfleet Nat Bull & Mike Tuck, Thalassa, the dunes Everett Austin, third generation shellfish grower family, Wellfleet Oak on the Jeep Road, the dunes Captain Roger Martin, Engine Company 5, Jody Melander, explorer & maker, Truro Provincetown Jimmy Cooper & Captain Louie Rivers, The Kai, Caleb, & Max Potter, Wellfleet Miss Sandy, Provincetown Peter Gherardi & Mark Boucher, Caleb Potter, Wellfleet Provincetown Outside Mojos, Provincetown Heading to the White Party (unknown), Provincetown Manuel (Cul) Goveia, MacMillan Pier lot, Provincetown Carnival Parade 2023, (unknown), Provincetown Sonny Tasha, Provincetown Grounscore, street poet, The Ugly Vipers, Bloodhound Beau, canine officer, Wellfleet Police Department. Provincetown Preston Babbitt & Rogers Baker, Provincetown Dusty Daleo, musician, The Ugly Vipers, Provincetown Caring for Keith Donahue, Provincetown Julia Salinger, artist, Wellfleet Poker Game, West End, Provincetown Paula Hill, Race Point booth, Provincetown Harry Kemp shack, the dunes Libby Clark, open water swimmer, Provincetown Before the start, Swim for Life, Provincetown Richard Blakeley, shellfish grower, Wellfleet Outside the Atlantic House, Provincetown Paul Suggs, artist & house painter, with the Wellfleet clam Joyce Johnson, artist & writer, the dunes Flooding, high tide & winter storm, Fish on fence, Provincetown Provincetown, 2024 Dana Franchitto, called to surfing, Wellfleet Caleb Luster, in the Dunes Barbara Austin, planting baby clams, Indian Neck, Wellfleet



Clint Austin & his reef, Indian Neck, Wellfleet

Mike Rego, lobsterman, in gear yard, Truro