

Wendi Schneider





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BIOGRAPHY

Wendi Schneider is an American visual artist widely known for her ongoing series of hand gilded photographs – *States of Grace*. Drawn to the serenity and transcendence she finds in the sinuous elegance of organic forms, she creates illuminated impressions of vanishing beauty in the natural world. Layering color, texture, and gold leaf, Schneider’s process creates ephemeral illusions that seemingly dance on the paper’s surface amidst reflections of light on precious metals, creating a synthesis of technique and subject.

Born in Memphis, TN in 1955, Schneider grew up in a family of several generations of artists, later studying Art History and Painting at Stephens College and Newcomb College at Tulane University. Her interest in photography germinated in the early 1980s

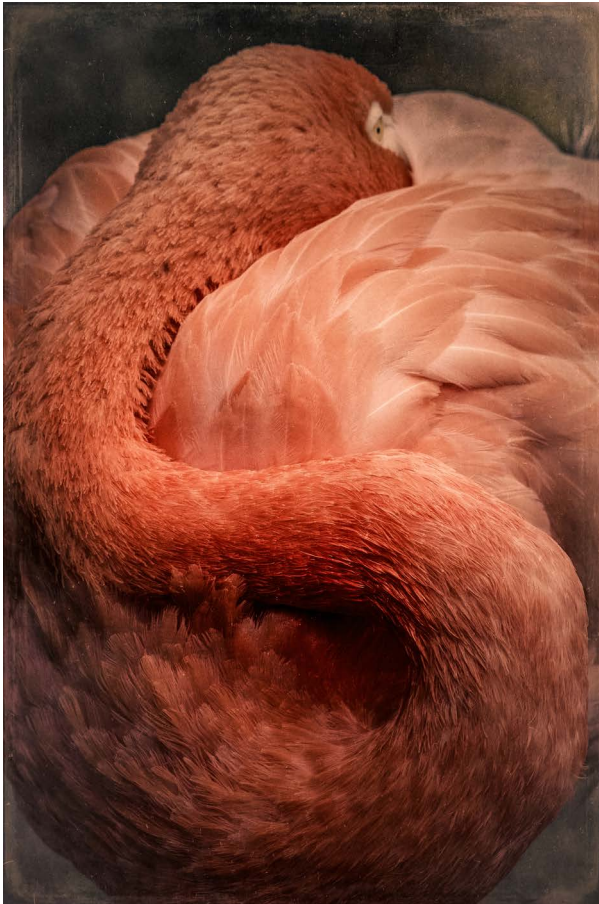
when using a camera to reference models for her oil paintings. Mesmerized by the possibilities of the photographic art form and the alchemy of the darkroom, yet missing the sensuousness of oils, Schneider began to layer oils on her photographs to manipulate the boundaries between the real and the imagined. This process laid the groundwork for the unique layering and gilding that later became the foundation of *States of Grace*.

After recreating the 1901 *Picayune’s Creole Cook Book* for *The Times-Picayune* newspaper’s sesquicentennial, Schneider moved from New Orleans to New York City in 1988. She then began a diverse career that included fine art commissions, photography for magazines, book covers, and advertising, and later (after a move to Denver in 1994) a return to design and art direction. In 2012, she began producing a collection of photographs featuring flora and fauna – the *States of Grace* series, which would become her signature body of work.

Schneider’s photographs are held in the permanent collections of The New Orleans Museum of Art, The Center for Creative Photography, The Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, The Auburn University Library Special Collections, and The Try-Me Collection, as well as numerous private collections. Her work has been published and exhibited extensively worldwide. Schneider is represented by A Gallery for Fine Photography (New Orleans), Arnika Dawkins Gallery (Atlanta), Catherine Couturier Gallery (Houston), Etherton Gallery (Tucson), Photographic Gallery (San Miguel de Allende), Rick Wester Fine Art (New York), and Vision Gallery (Jerusalem).

Schneider is a collector of art and objects from the turn of the 20th century – primarily Art Nouveau, Arts & Crafts and photographs. She has juried numerous exhibitions and sits on the board of the Colorado Photographic Arts Center.

REPRESENTATION



Flamingo, 2012
pigment ink on vellum over white gold leaf

A Gallery for Fine Photography

New Orleans, LA
agallery.com

Arnika Dawkins Gallery

Atlanta, GA
adawkinsgallery.com

Catherine Couturier Gallery

Houston, TX
catherinecouturier.com

Etherton Gallery

Tucson, AZ
ethertongallery.com

Photographic Gallery

San Miguel de Allende, Mexico
photogallerysma.com

Rick Wester Fine Art

New York, NY
rickwesterfineart.com

Vision Gallery

Jerusalem, Israel
visiongallery.com

All prints from *States of Grace* are signed and numbered pigment inks on vellum or kozo paper over white gold, 24k gold, moon gold, palladium, or other precious metals. Prints may differ in color or texture, and, as the effect of gilding inherently varies, each print is unique.

Prints are generally available in three sizes: 8.5 x 11", 12.5 x 18", and 17 x 22". Larger, site-specific images are available upon request.

Early Work: There are a limited number of vintage prints available, including hand-painted photographs and Polaroid transfers. Please inquire for availability.

For inquiries including exhibitions, commissions, image licensing, editorial assignments and studio visit, please contact: info@wendischneider.com.

"Wendi Schneider's captivating image is an exquisite coalescence of form, light, and color. Captured close up, the flamingo's contorted, textural shape reveals a sculptural quality and recalls the works of master portrayers of the organic form such as Ruth Bernhard and Edward Weston, whilst the innovative marriage of digital and physical techniques, serves to augment the beauty of the striking coral shades and creates a subtle ethereality that evokes the 'Autochrome' color photographs of the early 20th century."

– *The Independent Photographer Editors*

CV

1994-Present – Denver, CO
1988-1994 – New York, NY
1975-1988 – New Orleans, LA
1973-75 – Columbia, MO
1955 Born – Memphis, TN

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS (solo exhibitions *)

2023 Etherton Gallery, Tucson, AZ – *Reverence: Wendi Schneider & Laurie Lambrecht* *
2023 Buell Theatre, Denver, CO – *Finding Grace* *
2023 Museum of Gloucester, Gloucester, UK – *Royal Photography Society IPE 163*
2022 Rick Wester Fine Art, New York, NY – *Into the Mist* *
2022 A Gallery For Fine Photography, New Orleans, LA – *States of Grace* *
2022 Arnika Dawkins Gallery, Atlanta, GA – *States of Grace* *
2022 Catherine Couturier Gallery, Houston, TX – *Into the Mist* *
2022 The Royal Photographic Society, Bristol, UK – *International Photography Exhibition 163*
2022 Vision Gallery, Jerusalem, Israel – *The Women of Vision*
2022 Photographic Gallery, San Miguel de Allende – *Alchemy* *
2021 Rick Wester Fine Art, New York, NY – *Love Devotion Surrender Dedication*
2021 Rick Wester Fine Art, New York, NY – *If 6*
2020 Photos de Femmes, Chateau de LaLande, Crozon-sur-Vauvre, France – *SeeingWOMEN*
2020 The Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, AZ – *The Qualities of Light*
2019 Catherine Couturier Gallery, Houston, TX – *States of Grace* *
2019 SE Center For Photography, Greenville, SC – *Evenings with the Moon* *
2019 Catherine Couturier Gallery, Houston, TX – *Garden Party*
2019 The Gallery at Mr. Pool, Boulder, CO – *Evenings with the Moon* *
2018 The Griffin Museum of Photography, Winchester, MA – *States of Grace* *
2018 Photographic Gallery, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico – *States of Grace* *
2018 A Smith Gallery, Johnson City, TX – *States of Grace* *
2018 Candela Gallery, Richmond, VA – *Unbound 7*
2018 Panopticon Gallery, Boston, MA – *In the Garden*
2018 PH21 Gallery, Budapest, Hungary – *Peripheral Visions*
2017 The Center For Fine Art Photography, Fort Collins, CO – *Small Works / Animalia*
2017 Pace Center for the Arts, Parker, CO – *Women Behind the Lens*
2017 A Gallery For Fine Photography, New Orleans, LA – *In Color*
2016 International Biennial of Fine Art & Documentary Photography, Berlin, Germany
2016 San Diego Natural History Museum, CA – *Best of Nature*
2015 A Gallery for Fine Photography, New Orleans, LA – *Where*
2014 Carmen Wiedenhoef Gallery, Denver, LA – *Lovers Collaborations*
2013 San Diego Natural History Museum, CA – *Best of Nature*
2008 Reed Gallery, Denver, CO – *A Luscious Lens* *
1996 Merrill Gallery of Fine Art, Denver, CO
1995 University of Denver, CO – *Other Visions*
1995 A Gallery for Fine Photography, New Orleans, LA – *Naked*
1994 Stuart Levy Fine Art, New York, NY – *Eros & the Identity*
1994 Carol Siple Gallery, Denver, CO
1994 Rule Modern, Denver, CO – *Nature Morte*
1994 Wach Gallery, Avon Lakes, OH – *Women in Photography*
1993 Wach Gallery, Avon Lakes, OH
1992 Eastern Shore Art Center, Fairhope, AL – *History of Photography*
1992 Cheap Shots Gallery, Aspen, CO
1991 Wild Plum Gallery, Sag Harbor, NY
1990 Georg C. PuluJ Kunsthandel, Munich, Germany
1992 Bell-Ross Fine Art Gallery, Memphis, TN – *New York Exposure* *
1991 A Gallery for Fine Photography, New Orleans, LA – *Mille-Fleur* *
1989 Theatre Memphis, Memphis, TN *
1989 Wilkov-Goldfeder Gallery, New York, NY – *Three Photographers*
1989 Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, TN – *Vision & Inspiration*
1986 Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA – *Art for Art's Sake*
1985 Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA – *Major Miniatures, Louisiana Now, Kathy B*
1985 Jewish Community Center, New Orleans, LA *

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Yale University, New Haven, CT
Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, AZ
Market Street Station, Denver, CO
Memphis Brooks Museum of Art, Memphis, TN
New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, LA
Robert Bruce Collection, Red Bank, NJ
Special Collections & Archives, Auburn University Libraries, Auburn, AL
Try-Me Collection, Richmond, VA

SELECTED PRESS

2022 *Art Doc*. "Into the Mist." July.
2022 *Frames*. "The Female Gaze." January 21.
2022 *Landscape Stories*. "States of Grace." January 3.
2021 *Lenscratch*. "Wendi Schneider: On Beauty." December 25.
2021 *All About Photo*. "The Patina Collection." November 21.
2021 *On Landscape*. "States of Grace/Patina Collection." August 1.
2021 *Lens Magazine*. Issue #82. July.
2021 *Voyage Denver*. "Daily Inspiration: Meet Wendi Schneider." July 7.
2021 *SXSE Magazine*. "Evenings with the Moon." June/July.
2020 *ArtDoc*. "Wendi Schneider Portfolio." December.
2020 *ArtDoc*. "Japanese Gardens." November.
2020 *Denver Women Magazine*. "Meet Denver-based Visual Artist Wendi Schneider." November.
2020 *Dodho*. "Stillness: Trees." January.
2020 *Royal Photographic Society Visual Arts Magazine*. "Wendi Schneider." No. 158, Issue 2, October.
2019 *Shots Magazine*. "Interview." Issue No. 145, Fall.
2019 *Lenscratch*. "Wendi Schneider: Evenings with the Moon." October 3.
2019 *Catalyst*. "Interviews: Wendi Schneider." May 22.
2019 *Shuttertalk*. "A Conversation with Wendi Schneider." April 14.
2018 *Denver Life Magazine*. "Spotlight: Wendi Schneider." November 26.
2018 *Edge of Humanity*. "Artist Exposé | Women's Portraits." August 31.
2018 *Blur Magazine*. Issue 60. April/May.
2018 *Rfotofolio*. "Wendi Schneider." April 27.
2018 *Lenscratch*. "Wendi Schneider: States of Grace." March 2.
2018 *Uncoated*. "Wendi Schneider: States of Grace."
2018 *Dodho*. "States of Grace by Wendi Schneider."
2017 *Don't Take Pictures*. "Rule Breakers: Wendi Schneider." December 18.
2017 *Dodho*. "States of Grace by Wendi Schneider."
2017 *Bokeh Bokeh*. "States of Grace: Wendi Schneider."
2017 *UnderExposed Magazine*. "Wendi Schneider."
2012 *Silvershotz*. "Women in Photography International." Vol. 8, Edition 5, May.
1998 *Colorado Homes and Lifestyle*.
1996 *Victoria Magazine*. "A Timeless Point of View."
1991 *Confetti Magazine*.
1991 *Victoria Magazine*. "A Picture Portfolio."

SELECTED AWARDS

2021 The Independent Photographer – Color | Bronze
2021 Passepartout Photo Prize | Special Mention
2020 Prix de la Photographie, Paris (PX3) – Nature/Trees | Gold
2019 San Francisco Bay Month of Photography | Gold
2018 National Association of Women Artists – Small Works on Paper | Silver
2018 Prix de la Photographie, Paris (P×3) – Fine Art Landscape | Bronze
2018 Moscow International Photo Awards – Nature | Bronze
2017 Gala Awards – Urban & Rural Landscape | Gold
2017 The Center For Fine Art Photography – Animalia | Director's Award
2017 Florida Museum of Photographic Arts – Intl. Exhibit- Nature, Science & Animals | Bronze
2016 9th Annual Julia Margaret Cameron Awards – Nude/Figure - Single Image
2016 San Diego Natural History Museum Best of Nature | First Place
2016 International Color Awards – Wildlife | Silver & Merit of Excellence
2014 Black & White Magazine – Animals | Best Single Image

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & EDITORIALS

- 2022 *Shadow & Light Magazine*. "Wendi Schneider Ethereal Illusions."
2022 *The Journal of the Royal Photographic Society*. March.
2021 *BETA Developments in Photography*.
2021 *Diffusion*. Volume X.
2020 *Photography: A 21st Century Practice*, Bloomsbury Visual Arts.
2018 *American Photography 34*, Amilus Incorporated.
2018 *Diffusion*. Volume IX.
1989 – 1999 *Victoria Magazine*.
1996 *From Heart & Hand*, Victoria Magazine Books.
1996 *A Book of Perfume*, Flammarion (Germany).
1996 *La Livre du Parfum*, Flammarion (Paris).
1994 *Hand Coloring Photographs*, Amphoto.
1994 *The Romance of Hats*, Victoria Magazine Books.
1994 *The Ways of Flowers*, Victoria Magazine Books.
1994 *A Newborn Joy*, Smallwood & Stewart/Andrews & McMeel.
1994 *I Call Thee Friend*, Smallwood & Stewart/Andrews & McMeel.
1993 *A Love is Born*, Victoria Magazine Books.
1993 *No Friend Like A Sister*, Victoria Magazine Books.
1993 *From This Day Forward*, Victoria Magazine Books.
1993 *To Grandmother with Love*, Smallwood & Stewart/Andrews & McMeel.
1992 *A Vow of Love*, Smallwood & Stewart/Andrews & McMeel.
1992 *Intimate Homes*, Victoria Magazine Books.
1990 *By Any Other Name: A Book of Roses*, Smallwood & Stewart/Andrews & McMeel.
1988 *The 67th Art Director's Club Annual*, Madison Square Press.
1988 *Best of College Photography Annual*, Photographer's Forum Magazine.
1988 *Louisiana Photographers*, Contemporary Arts Center.
1988 *The Picayune's Creole Cook Book*, Random House.
1987 *The Picayune's Creole Cook Book*, The Times-Picayune.

JUROR – CURATOR

- 2023 PhotoPlace Gallery – *Quiet Landscape*
2023 Analog Forever – *The Natural World*
2022 A Smith Gallery – *Botanicals*
2022 Praxis Gallery – *Nocturnes*
2022 PhotoPlace Gallery – *Trees*
2022 SE Center For Photography – *Botanical*
2021 Praxis Gallery – *Landscape*
2021 PhotoPlace Gallery – *Essential Water*
2021 A Smith Gallery – *Botanical*
2021 SE Center For Photography – *Flora*
2020 PhotoPlace Gallery – *Trees*
2019 A Smith Gallery – *Botanical*
2019 Robert Anderson Gallery – *Small Works*
2018 Darkroom Gallery – *Metamorphosis*
2018 LA Photo Curator – *Serenity*

BOARD MEMBER

- 2017 – present: Colorado Photographic Arts Center

"Schneider shoots with the ghosts of Brigman, Steichen, Stieglitz and other members of the Photo Secession standing by her side, lending her work a timeless, beguiling air of memory. For Schneider, time itself is her demeanor... Building a bridge into this digital age, Schneider unabashedly flaunts her camera vision, informing it with a printmaker's devices and a painter's disregard for rules."

– Rick Wester, *Rick Wester Fine Art*

STATES OF GRACE



Egret, Reflected, 2012, pigment ink on vellum over white gold leaf

My work is rooted in the serenity I find in the sinuous elegance of organic forms. It's a celebration of the senses anchored in the visual – an exploration of my spiritual connection to our vulnerable natural world and the transcendence I find in its beauty. In those magical moments when my eyes and essence are engaged, I photograph what I feel, as much as see. The images are layered digitally with color and texture to manipulate the boundaries between the real and imagined, inspired by my background in painting, art history and collecting turn-of-the-twentieth century art and objects.

I follow intuitively where each image takes me, honoring the variations within the edition to elevate the ephemeral. Printed on translucent vellum or kozo, these ethereal illusions are gilded with white gold, palladium, moon gold, or 24k gold leaf on the verso, creating a luminosity that varies as the ambient light transitions. My process infuses the artist's hand and suffuses the treasured subjects with the implied spirituality of the precious metals – echoing the moment of capture and ensuring each illuminated impression is a unique object of reverence. My work is testament and tribute, adoration and obligation.

The *States of Grace* series has evolved organically into collections within the series that can be curated by subject, theme or treatment.

PATINA COLLECTION



Dusk Falls, 2020
pigment ink on kozo over white gold leaf

The Patina Collection is an assemblage of gilded prints in the *States of Grace* series paired with antique frames — the synthesis of 40 years of collecting turn-of-the-twentieth-century art and objects and creating images inspired by the sinuous elegance of organic forms. The serpentine shapes are echoed in the subjects I photograph and the undulating curves of the Art Nouveau frames that house these works. I photograph intuitively — what I feel as much as what I see — and I strive to make the intangible tangible, preserving the visual poetry of these vanishing moments of beauty in our vulnerable environment. My images are layered digitally to manipulate the boundaries between the real and imagined, often altered within the edition to honor the variation. Printed on kozo, white gold, moon gold, 24k gold or palladium leaf is applied on the verso, infusing the artist's hand and suffusing the subjects with the spirituality of the precious metal. Each of these unique framed prints are a one-of-a-kind object of reverence.