## Joanne Chase-Mattillo Artist Statement

The beauty of nature surrounding Los Angeles was the impetus for my entrance into the field of photography. I began vigorously studying photography and other art arenas to hone my skills as a visual artist. In 2000, I graduated from California State University, Los Angeles with a Masters of Fine Art (MFA). During these years I continued as a tenured teacher for Los Angeles Unified School District. I am now a full-time artist.

I began this life's journey in Ann Arbor, Michigan and graduated with a BA from Eastern Michigan University. Though the natural settings of Michigan are also quite beautiful, I always dreamed of living in California. It was when I found the Santa Monica Mountains and her many hiking trails that I learned to absolutely love Los Angeles. The fact that many locals in Los Angeles, including the San Fernando Valley where I have lived for so many years have been used in Hollywood movies is also been an important part of my art influencing the creation of three photo books - A MONTH OF COOL DAYS AND HOT NIGHTS and INTERSPECIES DATING IN LOS ANGELES 3D, and DOLLS COME TO LIFE 3D. Since 1991, I have been a volunteer docent through the Santa Monica Conservancy/Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, I led a public photo walk in both Franklin Canyon Park and King Gillette parks.

In addition to color and black and white film, I now shoot digitally and employ the techniques of infrared imaging and enjoy creating 3D anaglyphs to be viewed with red/blue lenses. I also enjoy combining images of nature with movie stills, mannequins, or human subjects in photo montages, with occasional text included in these artworks. As an extension of photography, I have branched out to do videos and have a YouTube Channel, THE VIDEO ART OF JOANNE CHASE-MATTILLO.

I have exhibited throughout California, nationally, in Korea, France, and England.

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