

Vicki Topaz
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BORN
1947, Chico, CA

EDUCATION

1965-1966 Stephens College, Columbia, MO
1970-1971 San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA
1998-2001 UC Berkeley Extension, San Francisco, CA, Certificate Program in
Photography
2001-2002 San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA

PROJECTS

2012-Present "HEAL! Veterans & Their Service Dogs"
This multi-media project chronicles the healing journeys of veterans living with post-traumatic stress and other disabilities. With photography, film, audio and video interviews, "HEAL!" illustrates how service dogs support veterans by helping them find a "new normal" as they adjust to life after service and reintegrate with their families and communities. Presently, 22 U.S. service members commit suicide every day.

2007-2013 "SILVER: A State of Mind"
A black and white photography series, "Silver" features women who possess one of the most distinctive outward signs of aging—silvering hair. Photographs and interviews explore 52 remarkable women's ideas and feelings about growing older in this society. Through social media "Silver" continues to spark a lively dialogue around the challenges of aging with several thousand followers on Facebook.

2003-2008 "Silent Nests"
The first photographic investigation into a little-known niche of France's rich cultural legacy depicts the remaining medieval *colombiers* (dovecots) of Normandy and Brittany.

1999-2003 "Interiors"
This series on hotel rooms explores the architecture of a space, and the desires, stories, memories and longings it suggests.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2015 "HEAL!," The Fisher Children's Center, San Francisco Public Library (main branch)
2014 "HEAL!," San Francisco Public Library (main branch, 4th floor)
2012-2013 "SILVER," The Buck Institute for Research on Aging, Novato, CA
2010 "Silent Nests," Alliance Francaise Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2008 "Silent Nests," Galerie Ardi Photographies, Caen, France
2002 "Interiors," Calumet Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2002 "Interiors," UC Berkeley Extension, San Francisco, CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2013 "HEAL!," Rhythmix Cultural Works, "Veterans Voices," Alameda, CA
- 2009 "Silent Nests," Silver Eye Center for Photography, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2009 "Silent Nests," Sandy Gallery, "The Beautiful Book," Portland, OR
- 2009 "Silent Nests," Center for Fine Art Photography, "Mind's Eye," Fort Collins, CO
- 2007 "Silent Nests," Peer Gallery, "Degrees of Separation," New York, NY
- 2005 "Interiors," Lancaster Museum of Art, Lancaster, PA
- 2005 "Interiors," Photographic Center Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2004 "Silent Nests," Center of Photographic Art, Carmel, CA
- 2003 "Interiors," Photographic Center Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2003 "Interiors," Stepping Stone Gallery, Huntington, NY
- 2002 "Interiors," South Shore Art Center, Cohasset, MA
- 2002 "Interiors," ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2001 "Interiors," Center for Photographic Art, Carmel, CA

FILM FESTIVALS: "HEAL! Veterans Speak About PTSD" is a five minute documentary short film, featuring five veterans speaking on the challenges of coming home after military service and living with post-traumatic stress.

- 2016 Pawparazzi Film Festival, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2016 The Good Dog! Int'l Film Festival, Zetland, NSW, Australia
- 2015 Peace on Earth Film Festival, Chicago, IL
- 2015 Animal Film Festival, Grass Valley, CA
- 2015 Service Dog Education & Awareness Conference, Chicago, IL
- 2015 Poppy Jasper Film Festival, Morgan Hill, CA
- 2015 American Psychological Association Film Festival, Toronto, Canada
- 2015 Helios Film Festival, Cincinnati, OH
- 2015 FilmShift Festival, Somerville, MA
- 2015 Veterans, Soldiers & Sailors Cinema Festival, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 San Francisco Veterans Film Festival, San Francisco, CA
- 2015 International Peace & Film Festival, Orlando, FL
- 2014 Awareness Film Festival, Santa Monica, CA
- 2014 Bakersfield Film Festival, Bakersfield, CA
- 2014 My Hero International Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 GI Film Festival, Washington DC Metro Area

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

"Silent Nests"

- Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
- Joy of Giving Foundation, New York, NY
- Musée de Normandie, Caen, France
- Environmental Design Library at the University of California, Berkeley
- The Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, CA
- Paul Sack, San Francisco, CA
- Joan Morgenstern, Houston, TX
- The King Library at University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
- Yale University, New Haven, CT
- Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
- The Boston Athenaeum, Boston, MA

"Interiors"

Fidelity Investments, Boston, MA

AWARDS

2015 "HEAL!" film, Award of Merit, The Best Shorts Competition, La Jolla, CA

2014 "HEAL!" film, Honorable Mention, Bakersfield Film Festival, Bakersfield, CA

2002 "Interiors," First Prize, National Juried Exhibition, South Shore Art Center, Cohasset, MA, Juror: Diana Gaston

2002 "Interiors," Honorable Mention, Annual Photography Competition, San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco CA, Juror: Paul Sack

FEATURED ONLINE: "Silent Nests"

2011 The Photo Book, Douglas Stockdale

2010 The Style Saloniste, Diane Dorrans Saeks

2008 Foto Povera, Yannick Vigouroux, Paris

2008 LensCulture, Jim Casper

REVIEWS: "Silent Nests"

2008 Judith Hoffberg, Publisher/Editor, Umbrella Online

2008 Bill Stewart, Founder, Vamp & Tramp Booksellers

2008 Gilles Boussard, Director, Galerie Ardi Photographies

2007 Steve Woodall, Director, Center for Book & Paper Arts, Columbia College, Chicago, IL

PUBLICATIONS

2009 "Silent Nests" trade edition, published by Kehrer Verlag, Heidelberg, Germany

2006 "Silent Nests" hand-bound artist book, limited edition of 45

MEDIA | INTERVIEWS

2014 Bakersfield Californian, "Healing Veterans With a Wet Nose and a Tail Wag,"
Lois Henry

2014 The Western Edition, "Honoring Our Veterans with Exhibits and City
Services," Julie McCoy

2013 The Times of India, "Shades of Grey," Nona Walia

2013 Io Donna, "L'insostenibile leggerezza del bianco," Maria Laura Rodota

2013 New York Times, "Silver Becomes Her," Ruth La Ferla

2013 New York Times, Booming Blog, "Not Selling Gray Hair Short," Ruth La Ferla

2012 Style Goes Strong, "Shades of Grey: Redefining Beauty as We Age"

2012 Pulse, "To age or not to age?," Julia Moulden

2012 Huffington Post, "Gray Hair Celebrated in New Exhibit," Anthonia Akitunde

2012 Forum, KQED Public Media

2012 KRON 4 Weekend Morning News

2012 Marin Independent Journal with Vicki Larson

2011 Lenscratch, Aline Smithson

ARTIST TALKS

2011 DeAnza College, Cupertino, CA

2009 San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA

2008 Galerie Ardi Photographies, Caen, France

2007 University of California, Berkeley, CA

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Volunteer/photographer at Operation Freedom Paws, Gilroy, CA, a non-profit organization empowering veterans to restore their independence through partnerships with service dogs.

Co-founder and former board member of PhotoAlliance, a non-profit organization dedicated to presenting contemporary photography in the San Francisco Area.