



Secret Water

Nicole Maloney | 23 cm x 30.5 cm, photography ultrachrome HDR print

In the late 1940s, the subjective photography movement investigated the complexities of the individual inner state instead of exploring external realities. Nicole Maloney investigates the individual variation of the human face, especially the hidden secrets revealed in the eyes. Through movement, light, reflection, and visual ambiguity, the artist creates photographic works in a variety of media that invite the viewer to interact and to discover the meaning of the message. This image was shot on film without retouching. Each image is inherently uncontrolled and unfixed, thus producing results that are uniquely defined and disorienting. In this image, the artist combined three separate elements—the girl, the water, and the acrylic board—into a single print. The myriad individual droplets on the acrylic surface reflect the girl's face, but the abstract pattern seems to juxtapose the lens of a camera with the lens of an eye. What is her secret?

Nicole Maloney is a photographic messaging artist from the United States who has focused recently on public art. She has exhibited permanent public art sculptures in Los Angeles (the OOMO cube) and has shown her art in several worldwide exhibitions. The original OOMO cube was awarded by Los Angeles Weekly Best Public Art 2014 and the President's Award from the Japanese-American National Museum. Having an extensive artistic education, she has focused on modern art expressivity through different techniques, including digital art.

Description by Jorge L. Alió

The "Miradas" competition was created by Jorge Alió, Journal of Refractive Surgery Editorial Board Member, and his wife, Maria Lopez, in 1998 with the intention of using artistic sensibility to bring society's attention to the phenomenon of sight, vision, and blindness. "Miradas," which means glances, is a contest in which artwork is sent from Spain and many international countries from the four continents for the Miradas International Artwork Competition every two years. Each cover of the Journal of Refractive Surgery features paintings that were submitted to this competition. "Miradas" is sponsored by OPHTEC BV, The Netherlands. For more information, contact www.fundacionalio.com

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