

IMAGINATION Marjorie Vecchio



Start Anyway

Digital imagery and paper; commercially printed.

Artist's Statement

Start Anyway is dedicated to Jackie Brookner, upon the fifth anniversary of her death on May 15, 2015. Jackie was an environmental artist who designed beautiful water remediation sculptures through community-driven projects. Combining years of my photography with some general inspiration from imagery in the books *The Little Prince* and *The Sheltering Sky*, this magazine was made specifically for the exhibition *Imagination: Inspiration and the Artist Book* at the Laramie County Library in Cheyenne, Wyoming, Summer 2020.

Imagination is not necessarily a creative experience that generates something new, but rather the visualization of what exists most: the culmination of intelligence and knowledge that comes from our feelings. Feelings are the most direct response to the world, in turn creating an enormous library about our lives. The constant triangulation between rock, water, and ice has always meant something to me, both in reality and spirit. Together they comprise tremendous beauty worth the danger to enter them. *The Little Prince* and *The Sheltering Sky* references are general, simply fleeting memories of mine without specific annotation to either of them other than the mysterious and strange landscapes they portray. Both books are about love, privilege, otherness and the irony of adulthood. It should not go without mention that this book's completion was made under quarantine during the COVID-19 pandemic, which only further inspired the surreal character of the imagery.

Biography

Since 1999, Marjorie Vecchio has been an artist and curator, and is former Gallery Director at the University of Nevada, Reno. She published her first book in 2014, "The Films of Claire Denis: Intimacy on the Border" (IB Tauris, London), and is currently the director of a feature-length documentary film that includes both traditional cinematography and stop-motion animation.

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