

## GRYMES HILL

# Exhibit puts local photographers in spotlight

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These artists are ready to hit you with their “Best Shot.”

For a limited time only, head to Wagner College for “Best Shot,” a new exhibit that features works from eight local talents.

Contributing photographers include curator Gail Middleton, Mike Shane, Francesca Biagini, Ann Marie McDonnell, Vincent Verdi, Earl Middleton, Jeff Mason and Scott Van Campen.

“I hope that people will come and visit the gallery and take in the beauty, and wonderment of each photo,” said Gail Middleton. “All of the photographers produced unique work. Visitors are able to examine the details of the photo and stand back and see a different view.”

According to curator Middleton, “The photographers have produced unique works. Landscapes and still life are on display. A unique photo of the 2017 eclipse will capture your attention. A photo inspired by the first Women’s March in Washington will make you think.”

BTW: The show is on display through Feb. 11 in Horrmann Library’s Spotlight Gallery. Gallery hours vary from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 7 a.m. to 2 a.m., so be sure check out [www.wagner.edu/library/hours](http://www.wagner.edu/library/hours) before you make the trip to the Grymes Hill campus.

Now, more on the featured artists:

## MIKE SHANE

Mike Shane is a versatile photographer and filmmaker born and raised in New York City. Shane’s passion for the still and moving image is the basis of all his personal and professional pursuits. For over 17 years, Mike Shane Photography has collaborated with individuals, startups and large companies alike to create rich visual media and expert



Check out “Best Shot,” a new exhibit curated by Gail Middleton, now on display at Wagner College’s Horrmann Library. Above is Middleton’s submission, “Hudson River Drive Inn.”

*Courtesy, Gail Middleton*

documentation. Mike Shane’s submission is “Burma Reflection.”

## EARL MIDDLETON

Earl Middleton is a local photographer who has been taking photos of nature for many years. He specializes in macrophotography in addition to landscapes. Earl Middleton’s submission is “Eclipse.”

## SCOTT VAN CAMPEN

Scott Van Campen is the co-founder and executive director of Staten Island Maker-space.

When Hurricane Sandy flooded his architectural metal fabrication business, New

York Custom Fabricators, he partnered with the New York City Economic Development Corporation to bring his vision of a community-based workshop as a small business incubator to the North Shore of Staten Island. His photo “Justice” was taken during the inaugural Women’s March in Washington last year. Scott Van Campen’s submission is “Justice.”

## FRANCESCA BIAGINI

Francesca Biagini is an artist currently living in Toulouse, France, who often works with musicians/performers, shooting professional portraits and promotional show pictures. Biagini says she “tries to reveal

the magic hidden in the details, those same details that we see every day but we generally are too busy to notice and appreciate.” Francesca Biagini’s submission is “The Weight of Oneself.”

## VINCENT VERDI

Vincent Verdi’s “The Accidental Tourist” is part of a larger self-portrait series. Verdi uses his background in staging and lighting to create stories and he often uses humor. He has also been involved in documenting different communities on Staten Island, for which he received several grants. Vincent Verdi’s submission is “The Accidental Tourist.”

## JEFF MASON

The images by interpretive artist Jeff Mason are influenced by Renaissance paintings, Gothic movies, music and song lyrics. Jeff Mason’s submission is “Cat.”

## ANN MARIE MCDONNELL

Ann Marie McDonnell enjoys work in sculpture, painting, and photography. McDonnell, who creates still life, combines her interest in painting and photography to explore changing landscapes. Ann Marie McDonnell’s submission is “Crisis of Faith, The End of the Garden.”

## GAIL MIDDLETON

Gail Middleton is a local photographer who has curated several shows on Staten Island including the Premiere installation at the Biddle House called “Staaten Shores,” along with several focus shows at Creative Photographers Guild.

She organized, coordinated and produced the first 24-hour photo shoot of Staten Island called “A Day in the Life of Staten Island.” Gail Middleton’s submission is “Hudson River Drive Inn.”