

## Medfield Artist Exhibiting Photographs In New York City



Examples of Medfield artist Dennis Stein's work that will be on display in New York City. (Photos courtesy of Agora Gallery)

BY JOSHUA PERRY • Thu, Apr 18, 2013

Medfield artist Dennis Stein is opening an exhibit of his photography at the Agora Gallery in New York City that will run from April 19 to May 9. Stein has been showing his work in exhibits since 1995, but this will be his first show in New York. It is entitled "Altered States of Reality: An Exhibition of Analog and Digital Photography."

Stein began his career as a photographer later in life after earning degrees in psychology and health counseling from the University of Connecticut and Northeastern University. It is an unusual background for an aspiring artist, but Stein has involved photography in his life for many years.

"I started late in life in photography, but I always was drawn to that medium," said Stein. "In the 1990's I was feeling burnt out from years in the mental health field and, on a whim, submitted some work to a local newspaper chain. I became a stringer for them and cut down my hours in mental health."

His work for newspapers in the area led to more creative expressions of photographic work, although he still works as a stringer for a local news outlet.

Stein describes his style of photography as "finding a connectedness in the elements" of an otherwise mundane scene, such as landscapes and industrial environments. Stein draws inspiration from the ways that things interact and fall into place around him.

"I'm always looking at how the world around me falls into place and how pieces connect to each other, whether I'm walking or driving," he explained. "What I want to convey to the viewer is how the usual and mundane can be visually striking."

Changes in photographic equipment and technology have offered Stein new ways to express himself. He points to his iPhone as his favorite camera, mostly because he has it with him at all times. Stein is not sold on the apps that the iPhone offers to alter photographs, but is still experimenting to find new ways to create art out of the photos he takes.

Considering his interesting background, Stein has a unique perspective on the importance of schools coupling the arts with the standard math and science curriculum.

He remarked, "Kids need to create from their imagination, to paint, to play music, to sing, to act, to photograph. The arts have always been one of the cornerstones of any society, of any culture."

"Altered States of Reality: An Exhibition of Analog and Digital Photography" will have an opening reception on Thursday, April 25 at Agora Gallery in New York. Visit [http://www.agora-gallery.com/artistpage/Dennis\\_Stein.aspx](http://www.agora-gallery.com/artistpage/Dennis_Stein.aspx) to see the full set of art that will be on display.  
— *Hometown Weekly Staff*