

Anne Beffel

Artist Talk Description and Bio (Fall 2023 at CSBSJU)

Seeing as an Act of Resilience

I've wondered for several years about how *seeing* becomes an act of resilience.

The multi-dimensionality of *seeing* means that we often look to images and image making for refuge, inspiration, and as portals to things which cannot be easily explained.

The intricacies of *seeing* and the momentary decisions they evoke are harbingers of how we perceive and experience our world.

In this talk I'll ponder questions of *seeing*, inspiration and resilience in the context of my art practice including contemplative forest art walks -paths marked with color field paintings and poetry; daily contemplative photography; and my experiments with envisioning the world as a place of inexplicable gorgeousness while using technologies ranging from the smart phone to a collaborative project that exists as Virtual Reality inside an Oculus Go.

Anne Beffel, art bio

Anne Beffel is an artist and Professor who teaches in Michigan Technological University's Department of Visual and Performing Arts. Her work sites have varied over time: a small Alaskan fishing boat, an island cabin outside of Seattle, a loft in Manhattan, the boreal forests of Upper Michigan. Since earning degrees from the University of Michigan, the University of Iowa, and participating in the Whitney Museum of American Art's Independent Studio Program in New York City, Beffel has created public art in places including the World Financial Center/Ground Zero in Lower Manhattan shortly after 9/11; Hamlin Forest in Shoreline Washington; public parks across the U.S.; and the Ford Center Forest in Alberta Michigan.