

Andrea Raft

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In my work, I am most responsive to the natural world. In it, I find the complex textures and earthen hues set the mood for my own canvasses. I prefer abstract color fields, choosing to evoke an impression or feeling from the viewer.

Found objects, collage papers, rocks, metal, and most recently, the use of photographs, are revealed within my mixed media pieces. My love of texture and simplicity are founded on the principles of Asian style and Eastern philosophy, blended with the influence of Mark Rothko and Anselm Keifer, two of my favorite artists.

I have begun to collaborate and exhibit with my son Aaron Sedway, a world-class sports/nature photographer, bringing two very disparate sensibilities juxtaposed to create a new art form infusing original photographic images with fine art. His attention to detail and bold expression paired with my fondness for Chinese culture, spirituality, and abstract design have become a

metaphor for our mother and son relationship. Through our love of color, texture, and the making of art we have to come to find spirit in nature and in our own connection to one another. Art Heals.



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Throughout her life Andrea Raft has found herself drawn to art and the expressiveness it offers. She first studied painting at the Brentwood Art Center in Los Angeles, and, under its auspices, she traveled to Giglio, Italy to study and paint. It was in Giglio that Andrea developed her interest in layered colors and texture. The walls, doors, and streets of the 11th century old walled city inspired her to paint in overlapping layers, revealing a certain patina and history.

Subsequently, Andrea spent six years in the Bahamas, where she was tutored by her proximity to the sea and by the unhurried pace of life around her. More recently, she lived in the countryside of California's central coast, and now resides in the foothills of the Santa Susana Mountains.

Each shift — from ancient to modern, from urban to rural, from land to sea, from east to west — as well as her travels to Asia have enriched Andrea's artistic perceptions, enabling her to study, paint, and show her work professionally in a host of disparate environments.

Andrea is currently a member of the National Association of Women Artists, Women Painters West, LA Experimental Artists, and Collage Artists of America.



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