



Carole Zoom

art • photography • activism
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Growing up with muscular dystrophy, my view of life differed significantly from the mainstream. My artwork, in both printmaking and photography, reflects that vision: a different focus, a new perspective, an appreciation of beauty within difficult moments.

In 2002 I returned home from several months in intensive care with a tracheotomy and a ventilator that were new to me. Many of the prints I have been working on reflect the continuum of life, death and disability: adjustments to living with a trach, using a vent, needing assistance to do the most basic things in life...and being surrounded by loving support. During my recovery, art has been a grounding influence that has helped me reinterpret my experiences, reshape my perspective and venture back out into the world.

Currently I am working on performance photography, woodblock prints and multimedia performance. My woodblock prints are printed by hand on handmade Japanese paper, using water-based inks. I enjoy the craft and the challenging aspects of this method. But my choice not to use a press, coupled with my considerable muscle weakness, shows in my work in many ways. I feel it is important for the community to see these works in progress, as I try to find my own way through these technical difficulties.

I have been a community organizer since 1988, serving as executive director for the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities, Oregon organizer for Stand For Children, voter access organizer with Lane Independent Living Alliance and program director at the Downtown Initiative for the Visual Arts. In 2007 I received an award from the Portland Citizen's Disability Advisory Committee for advocacy in art. In 2006 Lane Arts Council recognized me for significant contributions to the artistic community. My work has been published in the Wall Street Journal, Portland Monthly, Country Living Magazine, Oregon Humanities and Eugene Weekly, and shown in numerous galleries throughout Oregon.

Carole will donate 25% of her sales tonight to Disability Rights Oregon.

CAROLE ZOOM STUDIO IS IN THE PEARL DISTRICT, 925 NW LOVEJOY, 541.954.8373
OPEN FIRST THURSDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS 12-7 PM