

Siân Cann – Artist Statement



I am an artist and photographer as well as an environmental educator. My creative work mainly focuses on instant and analogue fine art photography, and incorporates many experimental techniques, including film manipulation and destruction, Polaroid emulsion lift, and most recently cameraless photography.

I am continuously uplifted and inspired by the beauty and resilience of nature, and I am particularly drawn to things that I perceive to be both tough and tender, and hardy yet fragile. This

fascination perhaps reflects my own challenges of living with type 1 diabetes since the age of three and then being diagnosed with proliferative diabetic retinopathy in 2020, which has severely impacted my eyesight. My practice now relies on my intuition with experimental photographic processes, my love for the beauty of the environment, and my ability to 'see' in a different way. Using alternative photography, and almost 'painting' with light sensitive materials, I create artworks that are as unique, wild, and visceral as the subjects that inspire me. The fluid dynamics of such photography also helps me to accept and embrace my own condition, for the movement of fluid in my photographic process directly reflects the changes in my ocular biofluids, as well as the ebb and flow of my own inner turmoil.

In May and June of this year, following a successful application to Arts Council 'Develop Your Creative Practice' fund, I travelled to Los Angeles to study at an experimental photography school called 'The School of Light'. Many of the works in Ripples Run Deep were created in the darkroom at the experimental school, and many of the techniques and thought processes were developed there and then consolidated in the waterways of Somerset.

It is my on-going mission to explore our deepest connections with Nature, and to give others the opportunity to immerse themselves in the whimsy and wonder of the world.