

American craft

Devotion

Tiny Scenes

COLLECTIVE UNCONSCIOUS

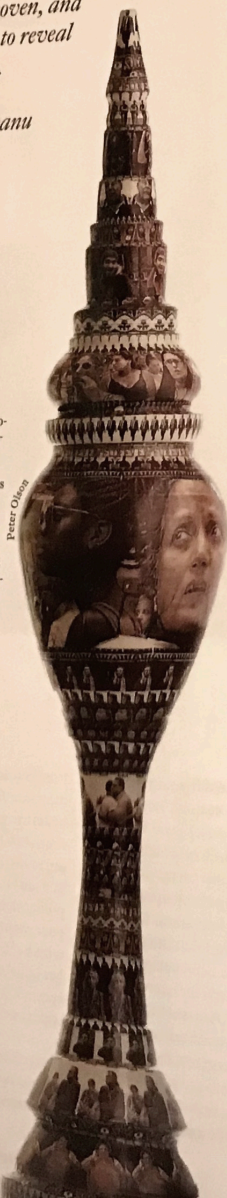
Photo Finish

The camera's vaunted power to capture reality is chopped, woven, and reconstituted to reveal deeper truths.

SPOTTED BY
Judy Argenteanu

➤ After a long and successful career in photography, Philadelphia-area artist **Peter Olson** turned his eye, and hand, to clay. He merges the two in his Photo Ceramic works, such as this urn. He ups the ante on his elaborate form with ink transfers of his candid street photos, giving a startling human face to pattern and decoration. peterolson.me

Peter Olson



Michael Mapes (2)

➤ The name *Specimen Q* suggests a quasi-scientific exhibit in a laboratory, and Hudson Valley artist Michael Mapes does take an almost clinical approach to his compositions. He deconstructs each photo, then reas-

sembles it, pinning, bagging, and bottling its parts along with forensic-style snippets such as hair, X-rays, and handwriting samples — building blocks for what he calls “biographical DNA.” room62.com



➤ The effect in David Samuel Stern's *Woven Portraits* series may seem like double vision. In a sense it is — the Brooklyn artist starts by taking two photos of the same person. But the method is more subtle than simply layering a couple of disparate images. Instead, he cuts up each one, then weaves the pieces for an almost cubist version with shifting perspectives — double vision squared, if you will. davidsamuelstern.com



➤ The minimalist, black-and-white photograph of a group of people sitting together, possibly a family or a group of friends, in a casual setting. This is part of Jane Waggoner Deschner's *Family Suit* series.

➤ Jane Waggoner Deschner uses found photos as her primary material — literally, in the case of *Family Suit*. Prompted by the unbounded attention to Hillary Clinton's pantsuits, the Montana artist decided to stitch one of her own out of snapshots. Ultimately, it became this prim dress suit, partly, she says, because the women in these vintage photos would never have dreamed of wearing pants in public. janedeschner.com



Jane Waggoner Deschner

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