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Layered Landscapes

The Photographic Art of Jenny Okun

Jenny Okun

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- A gathering of 14 essays about landscapes with photographic artworks by world traveller and artist Jenny Okun
- Hitting multiple genres including: art, photography, landscape, gardens, forests, mountains, oceans, clouds, environmental concerns

"Okun has extended her gaze to encompass horticulture and the drama of the natural world, while exploiting the potential of digital photography to create subtler impressions of mountains and ocean, clouds and gardens, foliage and cacti."— **Michael Webb**

Layered Landscapes is a collection of essays and photographs of our beautiful world from just outside our homes all the way to the heavens. The book has introductions by Michael Webb (architecture writer) and Craig Krull (gallerist). Craig Krull aptly points out that Okun's photographs are a "reconstructed harmony into what we believed to be a 'real' landscape." He writes that "her work has always defined the point that landscapes do not exist in nature, but only in our minds." Okun's artwork is a mixture of multiple layers that present a memory of the places she has visited on her many travels. The photographs are as poetic as the essays. Griff Rhys Jones (writer, actor, presenter) explores the colour blue. Kathy Lette (author) becomes a cloud on an Australian beach. Thea Musgrave (composer) explains a tempest in musical notes. Tania Compton (garden designer) talks about meadows balancing wild and formal gardens. Caleb Leech (landscape Gardener) writes about medieval gardens. Annie Gatti (garden writer) and Steve Reich (writer and producer) both talk about happiness in gardening. James Forrest (writer) climbs mountains to become calmer. Richard Sparks (writer, director) and Lee Holdridge (Composer) discuss Okun's projected design for opera. Layered Landscapes is a meditation on our earthly desires.

Jenny Okun is an American artist and filmmaker who travels the world in search of unusual beauty. Her artworks have been shown in more than 60 international exhibitions and in numerous private and public collections. Commissions have included the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Tate Modern, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Craig Krull describes her artwork as "large-scale color photographic abstractions. Okun distils the essential qualities of form, texture, color, and detail into one layered vision." Her two books, *Dreamscapes* and *Variations*, show artworks of architecture, landscape, nudes, and art.

Michael Webb (Introduction). Craig Krull (Introduction). All contributors: Griff Rhys Jones, Thea Musgrave, Richard Sparks, Lee Holdridge, Kathy Lette, James Forrest, Annie Gatti, Steven Reich, Caleb Leech, Tania Compton, Gus Christie.