

# GALLERY GUIDE

ANDY SNOW:  
*Time Bends, Space Blends*

MAY 10 - AUGUST 10, 2024

Cities and towns are among the greatest silent storytellers. Seeing historic places then and now shows how these places are a constant in a rapidly changing world. It is a story that never ends. In Rome, tourists gaze at the same Doric columns that Julius Caesar and Augustus touched. Visitors to Hiroshima see a modern city built on the remains of a shattered community. Historic images hold 'hidden' information about its subject. The context of the site has changed, the world around may be completely different. Sometimes photos show how things haven't changed, which is just as important—it shows how the community honors a place, and the care it takes to preserve it. These histories are vital to understanding place, local values, and the impact of world events on local landmarks. Here in Dayton, Ohio, The Great Flood of 1913 is a pinnacle event that tells one such story; the story that artist Andy Snow invites us to reflect upon today.

In 2012, the Miami Conservancy District invited Snow to visit the cities and towns up and down the Great Miami River to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Great Flood of 1913 with new photos of the same locations. The Flood, occurred between March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, after major rivers in the central and eastern US flooded from runoff and several days of heavy rain. It resulted in widespread damage and deaths, but also became the impetus for numerous federal regulations; state and local relief programs; and shared stories of heroism, fortitude, and resilience—attributes which Daytonians continue to identify with today.

So, flowing downstream along the Miami, the project started where the Flood began: in the north with Piqua and Troy, on to Dayton—as the largest population center of the era—followed by West Carrollton, Miamisburg, Franklin, Middletown—with its Amco steel mills—and finishing at another industrial center, Hamilton, Ohio. The resulting photos were paired with historic images from the time of the Flood and published in the 2013

book, *A Flood of Memories: 100 Years After the Flood: Images from 1913 and Today*. Consequently, 35 sets of images were selected by The Dayton Art Institute to be featured in *Storm, Watershed, Riverbank*, a three-part exhibition commemorating the Flood that also took place in 2013.

Fast forward to the emergence of the COVID-19 lockdown, and Snow found himself revisiting the project with a new perspective. Beginning in 2021, he spent months going back and forth along the Great Miami to capture more images; and more months digitally compositing the historic and the present-day to create what he calls "Time Bends, Space Blends." Twenty-two of these "Blends" were then selected to become the exhibition presented by The Co today.

One of the most strikingly extreme "Blends" merges a past photograph largely of a gigantic pile of wood with a current image of a well-manicured baseball field, Dayton's Day Air Ball Park. Snow tells the story of how a 2013 pairing came to foreshadow the 2024 "Blends."

*I had the 1913 image of the Requarth Lumber yard in chaotic disarray represented on my iPhone only as a thumbnail. Loaded down with gear, I only made a few frames at that location, now the site of the Dayton Dragon's baseball stadium. It wasn't until we set the paired works at the Dayton Art Institute did one of the curators remark about the connections of the structural components between the photos. The alignment of the upright poles, the horizon lines of the skies, and the path from the center moving to the lower right corner of each. From that point on, each historic location became a creative puzzle. The light, the action, and my reaction became part of it—even if it required multiple visits to resolve.*

## ARTIST BIO

Snow began to immerse himself in the art and science of photography in 1971 while completing his philosophy degree at Princeton University. Upon graduation, he worked as a corporate staff photographer and by 1983 he established his own photography and video business and went on to travel the world on assignment for various businesses, publications, and photo agencies.

In 1993, he chronicled his work for TIME, BusinessWeek, Newsweek, NYTimes, Forbes, and Fortune magazines into a book *Location Photography Secrets*; and by 2005, completed a self-designed master's in digital media at Antioch College.

With a long list of clients including GE, P&G, and KPMG, Snow is best known in the community for documenting over 30 years of the area's rich performing and visual arts scene, particularly the artists of DCDC and the DPAA. In 2013 he was invited by the Miami Conservancy District to create *Watershed, Then & Now*, a photo project commemorating the 100th anniversary of Ohio's Great Flood of 1913. The project was honored as one of twenty Best of 2013 by the American Society of Media Photographers (ASMP) and exhibited that year at The Dayton Art Institute.

From 2015-2024, he documented the construction and renovation of the Dayton Metro Library system, and in 2020 was awarded the State of Ohio Governor's Award for Individual Artist.

## EXHIBITION CHECKLIST

All works by Andy Snow, 2024, archival pigment prints, \$1,200 (framed)

*Blend: Beaver Power Building Becomes St. Clair Lofts, Dayton, 19 1/2 x 26 3/4 in.*

*Blend: Bridge Over The Great Miami River, Piqua, 18 3/4 x 24 1/2 in.*

*Blend: Butler County Courthouse, Hamilton, 21 1/4 x 26 in.*

*Blend: Fort Piqua Plaza, Piqua, 19 1/2 x 27 1/4 in.*

*Blend: Grand Riverfront Homes, Franklin, 19 x 27 1/4 in.*

*Blend: Great Miami River Floodplain, Looking Southwest From Market Street Bridge, Troy, 19 3/4 x 25 3/4 in.*

*Blend: High Street And Wayne Street, Piqua, 19 1/2 x 26 in.*

*Blend: Looking North Between Second And Third Streets From High Street, Hamilton, 20 1/2 x 27 1/4 in.*

*Blend: Looking Northwest Across The Great Miami River, Miamisburg, 17 1/4 x 24 1/4 in.*

*Blend: Main Street, Looking North, Dayton, 19 1/4 x 25 1/2 in.*

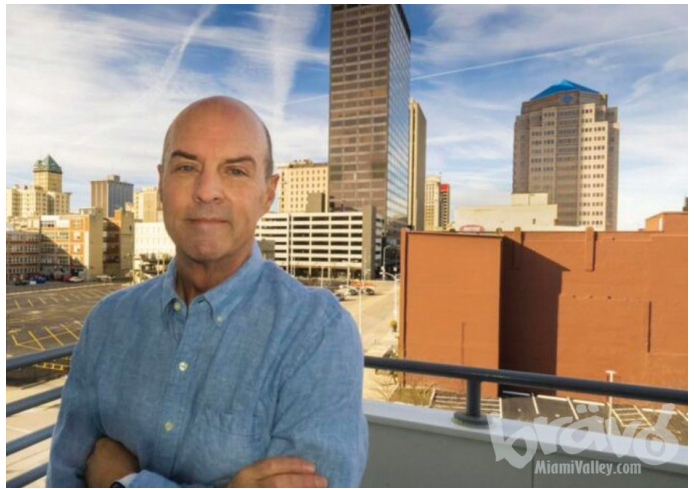
*Blend: Main Street, Miamisburg, 18 1/2 x 25 1/4 in.*

*Blend: Memorial United Methodist Church At North Locust And Main Streets, West Carrollton, 18 3/4 x 24 1/4 in.*

*Blend: Montgomery County's Old Courthouse Steps, Dayton, 18 1/2 x 24 1/4 in.*

*Blend: Northeast Across Market Street Bridge, Troy, 16 x 27 1/4 in.*

*Blend: Panoramic From The Dayton Art Institute Hill, Dayton, 13 1/4 x 25 3/4 in.*



Andy Snow (contributed)

*Blend: Railroad Bridge Near Sixth And River Streets, Franklin, 19 x 24 1/2 in.*

*Blend: Requarth Lumber's Modern Neighbor Is The Dayton Dragons, Dayton, 22 x 26 in.*

*Blend: Riverview Avenue In McPherson Town, Dayton, 19 1/2 x 25 1/4 in.*

*Blend: Third And Main Streets, Dayton, 19 1/2 x 25 1/2 in.*

*Blend: Third Street Becomes Central Avenue, Middletown, 16 1/4 x 27 1/4 in.*

*Blend: St. Clair And Third Streets, Looking West, Dayton, 13 x 25 1/4 in.*

*Blend: West Main And North Smith Streets, West Carrollton, 18 1/2 x 24 1/4 in.*

In conjunction with the exhibition, a selection of prints by the artist will be available for purchase in The CoSHOP Pop-up Print Shop.

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