

PEGGY

CRAWFORD

I have always viewed the camera as a tool to express my vision, and experimented widely teaching myself how to use it, rather than taking formal classes on how to make photographs. Nourishment for my photography has come from looking at paintings and other works of art, studying details in nature – light, shadow and space – and trying to catch people expressing their individual feelings and needs, which often turn out to be universal. Cultivating my capacities to see and feel, and then to express what I see and feel in terms of color and light underpins my photography. I did not come to consider myself a professional photographer – neither exhibiting nor selling pictures – until quite late in life.

-Peggy Crawford

These words act as a guide in viewing this small sample of Peggy Frank Crawford's lifetime career in art and photography. At age seven a snapshot captured her as she trained her Brownie Box camera at the locks of Sault Ste. Marie in Michigan. The camera has been an ever-present companion since, accompanying her upon travels around the world. She photographed her hometown, Cincinnati, and her favorite residences, among them New York City and Paris. Crawford also traveled to Yemen nine times. During these years from 1985 to 2004, relations between Yemen and the USA reflected the speed with which the world was changing. The artist's photographs sensitively document these transformations and open up a rich dialogue across cultures.

Peggy Crawford is curated for the CAC by Dr. Ruth K. Meyers, and on view through February 22, 2015.