



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Public Library

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Dark Psychological Self-Portraits to be Showcased in Exhibition of Images by Documentary Photographer Lisa Kanemoto at Pacific Beach Library

SAN DIEGO – “Dark Mirror Revisited,” an exhibition of 42 black and white photographs by La Jolla photographer Lisa Kanemoto, will be showcased at the Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch of the San Diego Public Library from Feb. 13 through April 3. The public is invited to a reception for the artist at the library on Feb. 13, from 1 to 4 p.m.

“Dark Mirror Revisited” is the most personal and dramatic body of work ever to be exhibited through the San Diego Public Library’s Visual Arts Program. Internationally recognized for photographic series documenting commonly stigmatized groups such as the mentally ill, drug addicts, gays, and ethnic minorities, Kanemoto turned the camera on herself during an especially dark 12-year period in her life.

An unflinching examination of her mental and physical struggles, “Dark Mirror Revisited” addresses a broad spectrum of issues including chronic depression, alcoholism, breast cancer, family mental illness, and aging. Feelings of guilt and inadequacy figure prominently, relating not only to her role as a mother, but also from having personally witnessed and survived events surrounding the Holocaust.

Sensitive, poetic, and, at times, brutally introspective and revealing, Kanemoto’s artistry brings a rare and profound expressiveness to the medium of still photography.

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**“Dark Mirror Revisited” Exhibit at Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library
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In 1997, the exhibited images were published in a visually stunning and critically-acclaimed monograph, *Dark Mirror*. This book, which includes an essay by renowned art psychotherapist Janet K. Long, was printed and bound in Italy and was limited to an edition of 2,000 copies. It will be available for purchase through the Visual Arts Program, as will the photographs on display. A percentage of sales from the books and art will benefit the program.

The Pacific Beach/Taylor Branch Library is located at 4275 Cass St. The library is open Mondays and Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, the call the branch library at (858) 581-9934 or visit the Library on the City’s Web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/>.

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The City of San Diego Public Library’s Visual Arts Program is a nationally recognized series of exhibitions, lectures, and other art-related activities. The mission of the program is to demonstrate the library’s role as a cultural institution embracing a broad range of disciplines, while assisting San Diego’s mid-career and older artists in achieving wider local, regional, and national attention. Visual Arts Program exhibitions are made possible, in part, by a grant and gifts from the Frederic Whitaker and Eileen Monaghan Whitaker Foundation and CompUSA, contributions from individuals, and volunteer efforts. Donations of works of art for the library’s permanent collection are also being sought. For more information about the Kanemoto exhibition or tax-deductible contributions to the Visual Arts Program, the public can call Library Curator Mark-Elliott Lugo at (619) 238-6627.

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<http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library/>