

Marlene Neumann
featured in a 6 page article
in the Getaway Magazine.



A dreamy shot of the picturesque fishing village of Arniston, taken one early winter morning. This is a wonderful place to be a photographer: even the dogs are friendly.

Is it an ism or is it art?

When people ask East London graphic artist
Marlene Neumann about the techniques and materials

she uses to create her unique images, her response is invariably:

"Don't look at the technique, look beyond it.

LOOK to what the image says to you."

Art scapes

Each image is something like, well, a black-and-white photograph. Only it's not. It's also kind of like a painting. Only it's not that either. It's well, . . . kind of like both, together. And neither.

In fact the technique Marlene Neumann uses starts outdoors with a camera, moves into the darkroom, but then takes a serious detour from the road of photography and lands up in the art studio where chemicals are applied to the photographic emulsion and worked to create an image that combines the best of both genres.

"My photographs are the equivalents of my most profound life experience, my basic philosophy of life," she says

of her works that are influenced by the photo-art of American photographers including the likes of Alfred Stieglitz.

From a base monochrome print, the subtle colours and textures produced are the trademark of her work. The chemicals she uses to work over the photos have been produced after many years of experimentation.

Marlene has a master's degree from Port Elizabeth University, specialising in photography, and is currently head of the Art and Design Department at East London College. One thing is for sure, her work is deeply grounded in that ambivalent but beguiling part of the country, the Eastern Cape. Her work has been exhibited widely and can be found in collections around the world. More of Marlene's work can be seen on her website at www.marleneneumann.com.

A group of hikers walks down the road towards the pristine riverine forest which flanks the Qora river on the Wild Coast.



Art scapes

A moody sky and the sparse landscape of the Karoo outside Graaff Reinet frame a lonely pair of farm gates.





A typical rural scene on the Wild Coast. The traditional round, mud-and-thatch huts are disappearing rapidly in favour of square huts with brick walls and corrugated-iron roofs.

Look to what the image says to you



Masses of wild arum lilies bloom in the grassland on the hills overlooking the sea, giving an almost surreal feeling. This was taken on a hike along the Wild Coast, between Wavecrest and Kobonqaba.