

Roberta's Art Gallery Presents:

A Book of LOVE

Featuring:

Mark McPhail

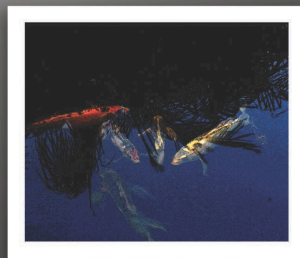
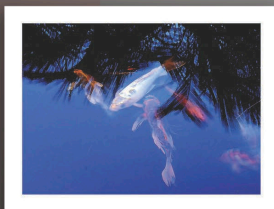
Dean, College of Arts and Communication

Roberta's Art Gallery

Nov. 20-Dec. 6, 2012

Reception:

Dec. 6, 12:00pm-1:30pm



This collection of digitally manipulated photographs draws upon the aesthetic impulses of two Asian cultures:

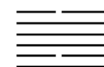
China & Japan



Roberta's Art Gallery is located on the first floor of the James R. Connor University Center.
Gallery hours: Mon. Thurs., 10:00am-6:00pm; Fri., 10:00am-3:00pm; Saturdays and Sundays, closed.
For more information or individuals with special needs, please contact Kim Adams at 262-472-1477 or at adamak@uw.edu.
Check for updates at <http://uc.uw.edu/fiskum>, and visit us on Facebook at facebook.com/uc.uw and Twitter at [@uc_uw](https://twitter.com/uc_uw).



Artist's Statement



A Book of Love

November 20th to December 12th,
Roberta's Gallery, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

This collection of photographs draws upon the aesthetic impulses of two Asian cultures: China and Japan. The title of the exhibition comes from a fusion of the classical Chinese divination text, the *I Ching*, or *Book of Change*, and the kanji character "love," which is in Japanese pronounced *koi*. Unlike traditional koi photography, which focuses on the realistic representation of the fish themselves, these images draw upon emerging technologies to explore a creative connection between motion, light, color, and the Buddhist notion of impermanence. The images also embody the principles and practices of contemporary change and transformation in photography revealed in the use of digital imaging and manipulation. In Japan, Koi or nishikigoi symbolize love and friendship; similarly, the collection symbolizes my personal affinity and love of Asian art and culture.

The titles of the images are drawn from the 64 hexagrams of the *Book of Change* as they are interpreted by Chi-hsu-Ou-i' in *The Buddhist I Ching*. Taken together, the images and hexagrams represent a meditation on the intersections between the visual and the verbal, between seeing and saying. Two of the images, "Biting Through" and "Richness," appeared in my first exhibition at the Cerulean Gallery, in Dallas Texas, and others have appeared in subsequent exhibitions in Wisconsin. Along with images such as "Heaven," "Earth," and "Damage of Illumination," these are some of the "permanent" pieces in the exhibit, while the full collection of images—some sixty four in total—continues to undergo change and will likely be an ongoing project that may span an indefinite period of time, or might find closure in a single moment. Such is the nature of change and the character of man!



About the Artist

I was born and raised in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where I became interested in photography as a teenager. As an undergraduate, I took photography courses at Emerson College, in Boston Massachusetts, and had photographs published in the school's literary magazine. During graduate school I worked part time as a photojournalist for the Amherst Record, and later as a photographic and editorial consultant at Digital Equipment Corporation. My photographs have been featured in the academic journal Critical Studies in Mass Communication, and on the covers of the Bulletin of the Western College Alumni Association and the Modern Water Gardener. My work has been exhibited in Dallas Texas at the Cerulean Gallery, the McKinney Avenue Contemporary (the MAC), and the African American Museum, in Columbus Ohio at the Mac Worthington Gallery, and in Whitewater, Wisconsin at the Crossman Gallery at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Studio 84, and the Whitewater Arts Alliance Cultural Arts Center.















魚



根





1. Koi fish in a pond



2. Koi fish in a pond



3. Koi fish in a pond











Small white label with text, likely identifying the artwork.



Small white label with text, likely identifying the artwork.



Small white label with text, likely identifying the artwork.







Damage of Illumination



(fire below, earth above)

"If one knows how to advance but not how to withdraw, there will surely be damage. When illumination goes underground, its light does not shine. If you know that being upright in difficulty is beneficial, this is illumination through use of darkness.

Illumination goes underground; illumination is damaged or concealed. Inwardly civilized, outwardly pliable, one thus suffers great difficulties. It is beneficial to be upright in difficulty, in the sense of obscuring one's illumination. Be able to make your aims upright in spite of internal difficulties.



In terms of the Buddhist view of contemplating mind, this means that afflictions, bad habits, illnesses, bedevilements, conceits, and false views are all excellent objects for the exercise of complete all at once cessation of confusion and seeing of truth."

From The Buddhist I Ching by Chih-hsu Ou-i



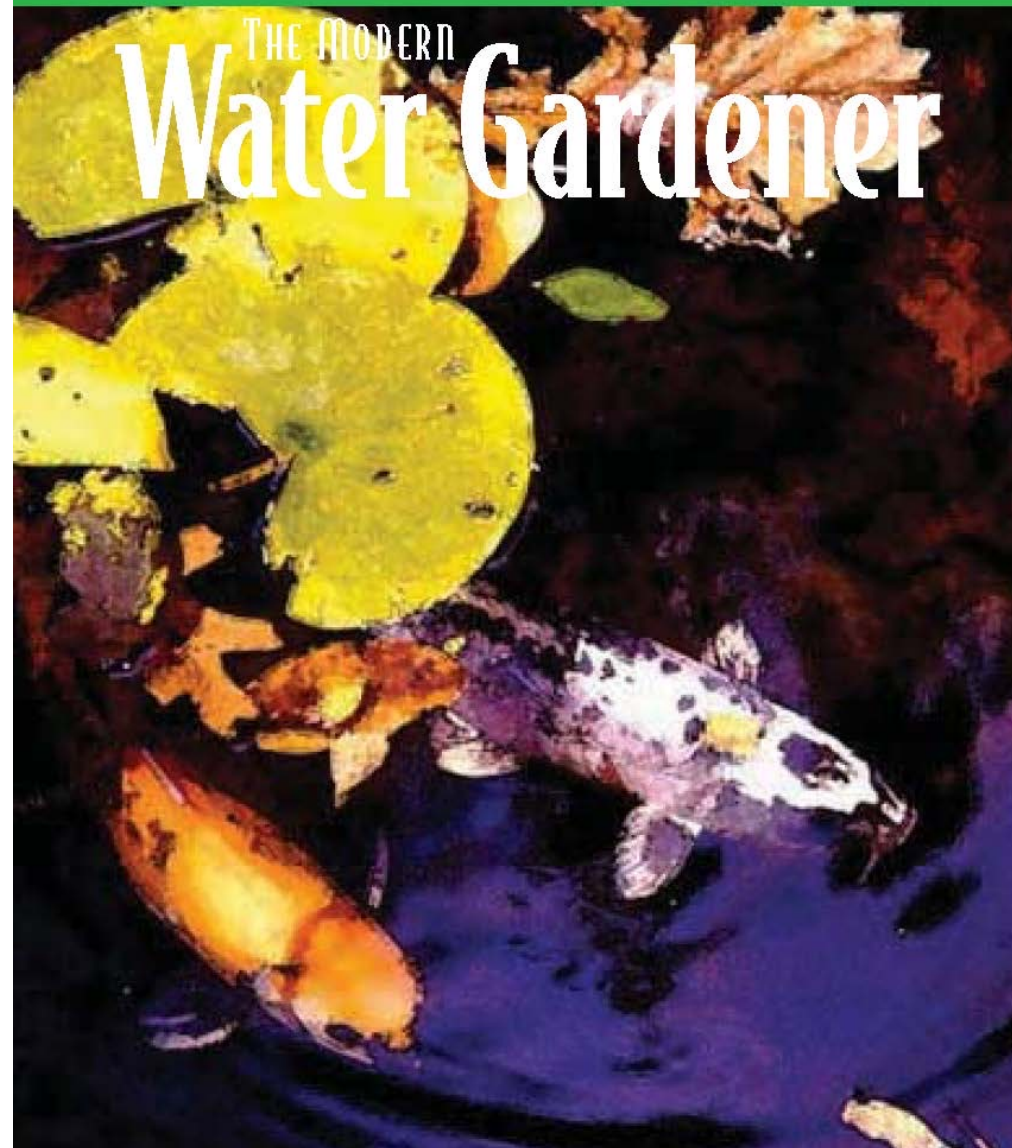
Damage of Illumination is one of 64 photographs in a collection of images called "Book of Love." Photographs from the collection have been exhibited at the Cerulean Gallery in Dallas, Texas, the Mac Worthington Gallery in Columbus, Ohio, the Crossman Gallery at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, the Whitewater Arts Alliance, and Roberta's Gallery. The established market value of the image, determined by gallery sales of other images in the collection of the same size, is \$1500.00.

The exhibition explores intersections between verbal and visual art through an integration of contemporary photographic technologies and Asian language and philosophy. The Japanese word for Love is pronounced "Koi," and the photographs in the exhibit are named for the 64 hexagrams of the *I Ching* or *Book of Change*, an Ancient Chinese work of spiritual philosophy. Unlike traditional Koi photographs, which focus on the realistic representation of the fish themselves, the images in this collection blur the line between painting and photography through digital imaging technology, and engage creative tensions between motion, light, color, and medium to highlight intersections between the visual and verbal arts and the art of spiritual understanding and enlightenment

North Texas Water Garden Society – 16th Annual Tour of Ponds– 2007

\$10.00
includes tax

THE MODERN Water Gardener



June 9th & 10th

Saturday day: 8:00am–5:00pm, Saturday night: 8:00pm–midnight, Sunday day: 8:00am–5:00pm

