

Framingham photographer has a fine touch

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FRAMINGHAM — Pointing her lens at stucco walls and public architecture, Lynne Damianos photographs constellations of color and the dance of light.

For 30 years the founder of Damianos Photography has earned professional accolades and awards photographing buildings, products and people across the East Coast.

"No babies," said Damianos, smiling. "No weddings."

Yet in an intimate exhibit in Concord, she displays an impressionist's fascination with shapes, textures and light, discovering uncommon beauty in everyday scenes.

"I think these photos are really about my personal vision," Damianos said in her fourth-floor studio at 59 Fountain St. "I ask myself, 'How can I see something in a very familiar scene that most people wouldn't see.'"

A Framingham resident, she's showing 12 striking color prints at Newbury Court North, a home for senior citizens, at 80 Deaconess Road, Concord.

While her professional work is for corporate clients, Damianos' "BuildingScapes and NatureScapes" reveals a fine arts photographer who never lost her touch.

The show features architectural and natural scenes shot "absolutely straight without (computerized) enhancement." Yet the subtle hues and rich palette of colors glow as if smoldering from within.

A palm frond appears as large and complex as a redwood tree. The modernist facade of an MIT dormitory seems to melt away, opening onto a grid of many-colored windows. The angled purple walls of a Florida museum lean together like a cartoon castle.

Even without digital enhancement, Damianos' photos in Concord possess a natural vibrancy reminiscent of a Spanish landscape.

In a striking photo titled "Trapezoid Vision," a jumble of slanted walls and roofs, glimpsed through an open window, appear more painted than real.

"There's no magic formula," Damianos insists.

"For me, I'm always looking at shapes first, particularly asymmetrical shapes. I'm always looking for shapes and the way things relate," she said.

Since graduating with a degree in professional photography from the Rochester Institute of Technology, she has combined an award-winning career with varied teaching positions at the Worcester Art Museum, Boston Architectural College, Keefe Technical High School and a course this fall at the Danforth Museum of Art. She's a former national board member of the American Society of Media Photographers and past president of the Commercial Industrial Photographers of New England.

Working with a team of photographers, Damianos described her business as providing "Distinctive photography of Architecture, Interiors, Products and People."

When off the job and shooting for herself, Damianos looks "for common subjects we might all pass by."

"When I'm working for clients, I'm always looking for something special," she said. "But on my own, I like to find things between my studio and home that stick out."

In the past, she's used a Kodak Professional DCS SLR, which is no longer made, a Stylus 780 and even hand-held "point-and-shoots." But she stressed that personal vision is more important than high-technology.

"It's funny. When you bake a cake, no one asks what kind of oven you used," she said.

THE ESSENTIALS:

Lynne Damianos' "BuildingScapes and NatureScapes" will be on view through Oct. 4 at Newbury Court North, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord.

To learn more about Damianos Photography or the classes she'll teach, visit www.Damianosphotography.com.

