

TORRANCE YORK

What people are saying about Torrance York's *Semaphore* . . .

Semaphore is an evocative book. It's a singular production all around and a truly beautiful, meditative work.

- Jennifer A. Watts, Senior Curator, The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens



York's *Semaphore* is a glorious testament to the inner strength that comes with accepting life's obstacles with grace and curiosity.

- Fiona Davis, New York Times bestselling author

In Torrance York's new book, *Semaphore*, there are two sympathetic movements: inside/out and outside/in. Her book is about life, the environment, and the effects of aging. Torrance's photographs taken in or around her home are intimate and quietly observed. She has recently been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, so this work brings the exterior world together with the interior world of the body and mortality. A major strength of the book is its celebration of awareness.

- Linda Connor, photographer and educator

In addition to her captivating photos, Torrance shows us courage in the face of a life-changing illness. How does one flourish and thrive after a diagnosis of Parkinson's disease? By finding strength and identity that transcend the physical body. These intimate reflections reckon with disability but ultimately focus on the marvelous beauty within and around us. As a neurologist who studies health and healing, I see growth and purpose in this beautiful work of art. *Semaphore* represents perseverance and victory, and will serve as an inspiration to many.

- Sarah Mulukutla, MD MPH, Mindful Neurology PLLC. Founder, Section on Neurohealth & Integrative Neurology at the American Academy of Neurology

Torrance York's work brings a strong visual voice to a life-altering diagnosis. She makes her objects speak and opens up new ways of seeing the ordinary in everyday life. *Semaphore* is an elegantly poetic contemplation on our ability to adapt to ever-changing circumstances.

- Jessica Roscio, Ph.D., Director and Curator
Danforth Art Museum at Framingham State University

Semaphore was selected by WhatWillYouRemember.com as one of 12 monographs in their Favorite Photobooks of 2022



NEW RELEASE

Torrance York Semaphore

Texts by Rebecca A. Senf, Torrance York
Design by Kehrer Design (Laura Pecoroni)
Hardcover
21 x 24 cm
96 pages
67 color illustrations
English
ISBN 978-3-96900-074-8
Euro 35,00 / US\$ 45.00

In a visual journey of poetic images, Torrance York examines how living with Parkinson's disease has changed her view of the world.

Semaphore examines the shift in my perspective after having been diagnosed seven years ago with Parkinson's disease. Through images, I consider what it means to integrate this life-altering information into my sense of self. What does acceptance look like?
– Torrance York

After discovering that she had Parkinson's disease, Torrance York focused her camera on the challenge to understand what the diagnosis would mean for her life and family. Through her journey onward and inward, she found her art impacting her life just as the opposite was obviously true. She describes it thus, "What feels good about these pictures is that the images name the experience somewhat, and that is so satisfying. The photograph moves it out of me and into a form that other people can receive." As Senf explains, "With each photograph York is building a visual terminology for this journey she's on, which allows her to, quite literally, live life on her own terms."

In *Semaphore*, York presents photographs of nature, the human body, medical images, details from daily life, and of light, to speak metaphorically about her experience. Her poetic images bare human vulnerability, while inspiring optimism and connection. Over 10 million people worldwide are living with Parkinson's disease. While this book is relevant to the Parkinson's community, it connects with others whose journeys require growth, patience, and perseverance to move forward.

From the essay by **Rebecca Senf, PhD**:

Semaphore brings together several threads of photographs, images, and words to create an experience that alludes to the disorientation of receiving a Parkinson's disease diagnosis and Torrance

York's subsequent process towards radical acceptance. Forgive my directness, but hopefully you have already viewed York's work, compiled from a collection of images, woven together, building one upon another, culminating in a gentle but profound conclusion. York's work is quiet, luminous, generous, quivering. She has been plunged into an experience some might describe as dark, or narrow, or claustrophobic. But that's not how she characterizes it for us. Being forced to examine and accept her mortality – the literal existential challenge each one of us will face – she comes back to us with tales of profound observation, of questions and considerations, of careful slowness, and always there is light.

Torrance York (b.1966 in New York, NY) lives in Connecticut. York earned a BA in American Studies from Yale and an MFA in photography from Rhode Island School of Design. She has had several solo exhibitions in Connecticut and New York, was a Critical Mass Finalist 2021 and received a Honorable Mention in the Lenscratch Art + Science Awards 2021, among other awards. York serves on the Board of the Educational Video Center in NYC where she formerly taught documentary video. She is an Artist Guild Member of Silvermine Arts Center. Her landscape photography is represented by Littlejohn Contemporary, New York. www.torranceyork.com

Rebecca Senf, PhD, is Chief Curator at the Center for Creative Photography at the University of Arizona, in Tucson.

Exhibition

Rick Wester Fine Art, New York City 08.09.–15.10.2022
Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, MA 07.10.2023 - 28.01. 2024

Please note: These photographs have been copyright cleared for worldwide print and electronic reproduction in the context of reviews of the books only.

Print media: No more than THREE photographs plus the cover image from the selection can be used in total – they are not to be used on the cover or cropped. Online media may use a total of TWELVE images in a gallery.

For further details, press images, permissions and review copies, please contact the publisher's press office:

Barbara Karpf, barbara.karpf@kehrerverlag.com or pr.assistance@kehrerverlag.com
Kehrer Verlag, Mannheimer Str. 175, 69123 Heidelberg, Germany
Fon ++49 (0)6221/649 20-18, Fax ++49 (0)6221/64920-20
www.kehrerverlag.com

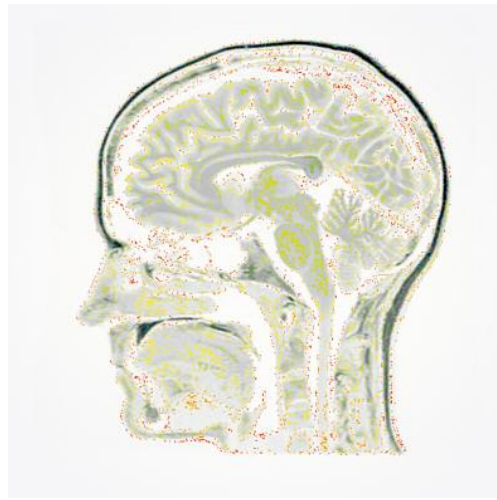


KEHRER

Press images



01_Untitled 1618, 2020
© Torrance York



02_Untitled 0523, 2020
© Torrance York



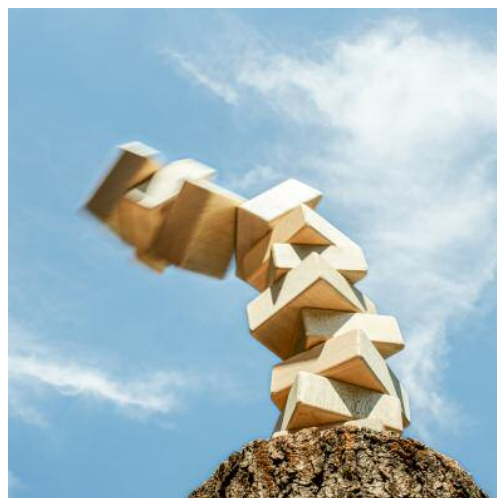
03_Untitled 4964, 2021
© Torrance York



04_Untitled 51567, 2013
© Torrance York



05_Untitled 9390, 2020
© Torrance York



06_Untitled 0604, 2020
© Torrance York



KEHRER



07_Untitled 5365, 2021
© Torrance York



08_Untitled 4174, 2019
© Torrance York



09_Untitled 8019, 2020
© Torrance York



10_Untitled 6293, 2021
© Torrance York



11_Untitled 7336, 2020
© Torrance York



12_Untitled 6201, 2020
© Torrance York

VERLAG