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# the art of Marie-France Robichaud

Memories in Erosions  
Mémoires érodées

october 21 to november 11, 2023

Memories in Erosions  
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## the art of Marie-France Robichaud



*I enjoy combining things just to see what comes out. I don't force a style.*

—Marie-France Robichaud



**Marie-France Robichaud**

Marie-France Robichaud is from Shippagan in the Acadian Peninsula, and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from the University de Moncton and a Masters of Fine Art in Photography from Studio Arts College International in Florence, Italy.

In 2019 Robichaud was caught in the COVID lockdown in Italy and for two months could only leave her apartment twice a week. The confinement provided her with a period of time alone to reflect on what she wanted to do next, resulting in her recent work.

In 2021 Robichaud was long-listed for the Scotiabank and National Gallery of Canada New Generation Photography Awards, one of 24 of Canada's most promising young photographers under the age of 35.

Memory is essential to her process. She views the receding of memories into the past as 'erosion' which has become a metaphor to describe her creative process as she creates the work. She cites the example of her grandmother who is suffering from dementia. The disease is an important inspiration for her recent work in which she combines her own present environmental memories with old photos of her grandmother's childhood, youth and young adulthood using a technique she calls "Persiennes" or "blinds" to layer the imagery. Robichaud used the order of the horizontal lines to contrast her grandmother's decaying cognitive abilities—in effect freezing both her own and her grandmother's memories by intersecting the past with the present and linking them to the future.

Her work brings to mind how Descartes imagined sight as a more sensitive and prehensile form of touch, as one would say, like the eyes on the fingertips.