



## PANOPTICON GALLERY

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Storytellers**  
**Photographs by Frank Armstrong, Bill Franson and Stella Johnson**  
February 24 - March 29, 2011

Reception with the Artists: Thursday, February 24, 2011 | 5:30-7:30pm

A photograph is never just an objective document. Rather, a photograph tells a story from the perspective of the artist; the soul and creativity behind the lens. Panopticon Gallery is proud to present *Storytellers*, an exhibition celebrating the photographs of Frank Armstrong, Bill Franson and Stella Johnson, three unique perspectives on how to tell a visual narrative.

Whether it be seeing the familiar but fresh perspective of New England through the eyes of Bill Franson: the vibrant, colorful narratives from Stella Johnson's photographs of Greece, or Frank Armstrong's black and white scapes from the American Southwest, there is a continuity of feeling and interpreting so many stories through each image.

Frank Armstrong originally set out to tell the story of his native Texas and surrounding Southwestern landscape. His images span from Big Bend National Park to Southern California, but have recently encompassed imagery made here in Massachusetts. His photographs show details of seemingly three-dimensional textures and landscapes with quirky, yet quiet images that encompass tales from a world that can only be described as Americana. Armstrong teaches photography at Clark University in Worcester, MA.

Stella Johnson has been documenting the social fabric of her familiar Greece. Johnson's images weave between people and environment creating a layered dimension and complexity to evoke the viewer's imagination. Johnson was a Fulbright Scholar to Mexico in 2003-2004 and a Fulbright Senior Specialist to Mexico in 2006. Her first book, *Al Sol* was published in 2008. Johnson teaches at Boston University and The Art Institute of Boston.

Bill Franson's images tell the simple yet almost humorous quips of the urban landscape and built environment. Some images boldly explore the affect man has had on the environment, while others act as frames through which minute reflections of a larger story are told. Bill Franson studied at the Art Institute of Boston and went on to earn a B.A. in Philosophy at Calvin College in Michigan. His work has been exhibited and collected both locally and nationally and he currently teaches at the New England School of Photography (NESOP).

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