# WERNER SUN

**BORN**
Gainesville, Florida

**WORKS**
Ithaca, New York

**EDUCATION**
AB, Harvard University
PhD, Cal Tech

**MATERIALS**
Digitally printed color photos that have been cut, folded and collaged.

**SUBJECT MATTER**
Landscape photographs, reduced to pixels. "Ultimately, the images I work with are just bits on a hard drive, and I treat them accordingly, as data to be manipulated, deconstructed, and made sense of."

**INSPIRATION**
Sun is interested in how we automatically search for patterns in anything we observe. He uses patterns to disrupt the images in the work, which both appeals to and challenges our cognitive faculties.

For more information:

wernersun.com
www.stac.edu/amag

**BEFORE YOU ARRIVE**
Sun believes that, "thoughtful engagement with the physical world can be way to re-establish an intimacy with our surroundings, which I feel has been diminished in the digital age." The use of folded paper reinforces the physicality of his photographs even as it reduces the fidelity of the images.

**TO TAKE AWAY**
Sun takes pictures of his work from many different angles and these photographs often become starting points for new pieces. He might combine a new image with an older one to create a photomontage that then gets printed, drawn on it, scanned and manipulated again.
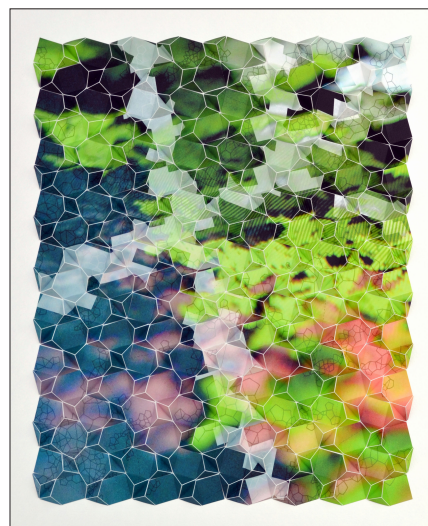
**HOW COULD THIS RELATE?**

PHYSICS
Sun is a particle physicist by training. He is currently the Director of Information Technology at the Cornell Laboratory for Accelerator-based Sciences and Education. How does this background influence his work? Do you know any other physicists who are also artists?

SCIENTIFIC METHOD
Sun begins his work using photographs which might include fragments of images from previous works. Each new piece is almost always a direct outgrowth of a previous piece, and in this sense, his artistic process mirrors the way science works -- every nugget of knowledge gained is not an end unto itself, but rather a starting point for something new. In this sense, how does the creative process mirror the scientific method? How are problems tackled in each process?



# AZARIAN MCCULLOUGH ART GALLERY