



## **Sandra L. Dyas**

**[www.sandydyas.com](http://www.sandydyas.com), [www.vimeo.com](http://www.vimeo.com)**

Sandra Louise Dyas is a visual artist and published author living in Iowa City. Sandra received her MFA in *Intermedia: Performance Art and Video* from the University of Iowa in 1998. She is a Lecturer in Art at Cornell College, where she teaches photography, video, drawing and performance art.

Photography is her main medium and the Midwest is her main subject. Her work is influenced by her surroundings, both place and people. Sandra's photographs and experimental videos have been shown in group and solo shows nationally and internationally

including The Waterloo Center for the Arts, the Dubuque Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids Museum, Luce Gallery at Cornell College, Hudson River Gallery, the Falconer Gallery at Grinnell College, Drake University, Lawrence University, the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, Simpson College, Project Basho in Philadelphia, Minneapolis Photo Center, Photo Place Open in Middlebury, VT, Photographic Center NW in Seattle and the Center for Fine Art Photography in Fort Collins, CO.

The Iowa Arts Council awarded her a \$5,000 American Rescue Grant in 2021 for *Lost in the Midwest*, an on-going project. Sandra Dyas has participated in many online photo projects, both invitational and juried including: *The 50 States Project*, *The Swap*, *Someone I Know* and *100 Mile Radius*. In 2015, she participated in Gillian Wearing's international video online project YOUR VIEWS. In 2005, she was named Iowa Photographer by Photo District News Magazine.

Sandra is a co-founder of *Homegrown Stories* and has been collaborating with filmmaker LeAnn Erickson since its inception in 2013. *Homegrown Stories* is an online media project dedicated to an intellectual interest in questions of personal space, the act of storytelling and the primacy of place in shaping one's world view.

The Englert Theatre of Iowa City invited Dyas to spend 2012 photographing the inner workings and events during their centennial year. The year long residency resulted in over 7,000 images. In April of 2013, "Englert at 100: Photographs of Sandra Louise Dyas" was exhibited at the Englert Theatre.

*Down to the River; Portraits of Iowa Musicians* was published by the University of Iowa Press in 2007. She has also recently self-published two books of her photographs.

Sandra's freelance work has been published in Poets & Writers, The Iowa Review, Vogue, the New York Times, No Depression, Random House, BUST Magazine, Newsweek, Redhouse Records, Penguin Books, Simon & Schuster et al. In 2015, No Depression Music Magazine featured her photographic work in a nine page spread entitled "*Where Songs Live*" with an essay by Kim Ruehl. Her portrait of author Chris Offutt is featured in his latest book, *Dark County*, Grove Atlantic 2018.

