

PEP VENTOSA

Bay Bridge II, 2014
Archival print, 32 x 24 in



COURTESY THE ARTIST

LINDA MICHEL-CASSIDY

Things I Thought About

When Stuck
Behind a Crash
on the Bay Bridge,
Remembering
the Earthquake

Shark stories
Acid green next to tomato red
Headlamps
That image of the car dangling from the bridge's crumpled edge
The Guinness Book of World Records man with the longest fingernails
The pressing down of an index finger on a single Bubble Wrap cell
The *LOVE* sculpture
Kids trick-or-treating in costumes they can't possibly understand
Those photos Diane Arbus made at the institution on Halloween
Tumbleweeds
Beanbag chairs
The amount of trouble caused by one beanbag chair opened up with a steak knife, "just to see"
Lilac and brown
The pressure drop before an electric storm
The things one could flatten under a steamroller
My father's bowling-ball-crushed middle finger
The way little kids bowl from between their legs
The fat blue-and-white pen that has four colors of ink
But that finger, shaped like a beaver tail or a Ping-Pong paddle
When the cell phone in the theater belongs to someone else
Pea Soup Andersen's
Half a house in tow on the freeway
Catching a mosquito without crushing it
Sharpeners with special angles just for golf pencils
The rhythm of the giant mop-thing in drive-through car washes
Thinking it's Sunday, and it turns out to be Saturday
Arriving ten minutes early
Arriving at all
An old woman wearing an exuberant puffy hat
Fortune-telling fish
Being afraid of reading the tarot
The water-treading test in junior lifeguard class at camp
The crunch at the end of a glass of Tang
Cereal for dinner