These paper collages depict different aspects of San Francisco from my viewpoint as a young San Francisco native. I’m drawn to portray the city’s mixture of urban and scenic landscapes and its sociocultural characteristics that give the city both its charm and edge. They’re a reminder to take time to explore the city and appreciate both overlooked places and the seemingly ordinary scenes of daily life. For more artwork, visit weswellner.com.

Artist Thanks: Thank you to my friends, family and everyone who has helped shape me. SFMTA for providing transportation and connecting our city. All who are helping keep San Francisco culture alive and well. Thank you for this opportunity to inspire and present my artistic perspective.
from Lost Coast

On a treadmill by the window at 16th and De Haro
I name pigeons, high wires, green car,
blue. There must be other names
for metal boxes, electrical labyrinths
rigged across the sky. Other names
for blue. Other than sea.
Not all birds that live in the city
are pigeons. Not all are birds.
I strap myself into the rowing machine.
What an exile.
What dry land, wet air,
flowers breaking through windows.

Jennifer Elise Foerster
Stars

At dusk the first stars appear.
Not one eager finger points toward them.
A little later the stars spread with the night
And an orange moon rises
To lead them, like a shepherd, toward dawn.

Gary Soto
from Persian Blue

Tonight, our thousand and second night, 
tell me the story of our laughter 
through sudden summer rain. 
Tell me the story of salt: on your shoulder, 
chest, and chin. Tell me how that first week 
we seemed to know our pasts by heart, 
where we’d been and where we planned to go.

Derrick Austin
Cranes in August

They clutter the house, awkwardly folded, unable to rise. My daughter makes and makes them, having heard the old story: what we create may save us. I string a long line of them over the window. Outside the gray doves bring their one vowel to the air, the same sound from many throats, repeated.

Kim Addonizio

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THE NIGHT PIECE

The fog drifts slowly down the hill
And as I mount gets thicker still,
Closes me in, makes me its own
Like bedclothes on the paving stone.

Here are the last few streets to climb,
Galleries, run through veins of time,
Almost familiar, where I creep
Toward sleep like fog, through fog like sleep.

Thom Gunn
