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SECTION E

ARTS

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TELEVISION - E6
New "reality" show
tracks human prey



Photos explore shifting identities of immigrants

BY ROBERT REID
RECORD STAFF

CAMBRIDGE

The immigrant experience is beautifully captured in the title of an exhibition of photo-based work by Sara Angelucci at the Cambridge Galleries.

The immigrant experience is one of being Somewhere in Between there and here, before and after, close and away, then and now.

Somewhere in Between is a bridge between countries, cultures and national identities.

Try as they may, the children of immigrants can never completely know or identify with their parents who inhabit the time and place, history and geography of Somewhere in Between.

Drawing on her own family history as the daughter of immigrant parents from Italy, Angelucci explores and documents this experience of shifting identities with cerebral rigour and visceral feeling by blending archival and contemporary photographic prints that are simultaneously subject

and object.

The Hamilton-bred, Toronto-based photo and video artist received a bachelor's degree in fine arts at the University of Guelph before completing a master's degree at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

On view through May 14, Somewhere in Between consists of four complementary series of photographic prints and an audio-visual component.

A viewer's first encounter upon entering the gallery is Questions She'll Never Answer, an illuminated black and white photo and two video projections. The objects are placed on a table like framed family photographs displayed in a parlour.

The photo is of Angelucci's mother on the deck of the ship that brought her to Canada from Italy. The photo documents a moment suspended in both time and place between the land and the life she left behind and the land and the life towards which she is headed.

Al Rivero is a series of five sepia-coloured, large-format archival prints



Al Rivero (Pompilia), by Sara Angelucci, chromogenic print, 2004.

based on actual family photographs from Italy. The handwriting that appears on the original photos has been

transferred to the prints as blue and black text, evocatively coalescing back and front, background and foreground.

She Crossed the Sea is three, large, chromogenic prints on aluminum featuring multiple exposures of the same image of a woman (Angelucci's mother) holding up a photograph against a sun-drenched blue sky. Suggesting both hope and freedom, the gesture attempts to reconcile all the stresses and strains that come with inhabiting Somewhere in Between.

Stillness is a series of six diptychs juxtaposing historical, black and white prints culled from family photographs with contemporary colour photographic prints of flora (bean tress, figs, magnolias, oranges) that grow in Italy.

Everything in My Father's Wallet/ Everything in My Wallet is a photo-based installation of 55 objects from Angelucci's father's wallet juxtaposed with 41 objects from the artist's wallet, including credit cards, driver's licence, health cards, bills, receipts, notes and photographs.

The contents of the wallets are not

only personal; the sense of intimacy is palpable. Wallets are as individual as fingerprints or dental records.

Similarly, they link son and daughter and, by extension, connect with gallerygoers.

Somewhere in Between reconciles memory and imagination, history and experience through an act of creative empathy.

After all, to know our parents is to know ourselves. That's why family photo albums almost always excite the imaginations and hold more emotional power over those who are related to those in the photos than to outside viewers.

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ART EXHIBIT

Who: Sara Angelucci:
Somewhere in Between
Where: Cambridge Galleries
Queen Square
When: Through May 1
Phone: 519-621-0460