



DEE LEWIS BREGER

March 12, 1943 – September 8, 2016

With a degree in Art from the University of Wisconsin, Dee Breger began her career as a scientific illustrator at Columbia University's Earth science research institute, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. After Lamont acquired one of the first scanning electron microscopes, she began specializing in SEM imaging.

In 1982, Dee founded Lamont/Columbia's first professional SEM and X-ray microanalysis facility, which she directed for 22 years. In 1995, her book of images, *Journeys in Microspace*, was featured in *The New York Times Magazine* and her work was also featured in the 1998 BBC documentary *Hidden Visions*. Dee relocated to Philadelphia in 2004 to serve as Director of Microscopy and Research Professor at Drexel University's College of Engineering. In 2007, she participated in a History Channel documentary as the analytical microscopist for a project investigating meteorite impacts.

In addition to specializing in the SEM, Dee led or participated in research programs on over 30 expeditions ranging from Siberia to the South Pacific, with an emphasis on Antarctic oceanography. She was on Lamont's Alumni Association Board of Directors as well as a Fellow with the Explorers Club, served as a Field Associate for Liberty Science Center and was a Council Member at the New York Hall of Science. She was also active with the Holocene Impact Working Group, researchers dedicated to uncovering evidence of cosmic impacts during the last 12,000 years, which have changed the course of human history.

In 2009, after creating Micrographic Arts, a website to promote her extraordinary images of an invisible world, Dee moved to the Saratoga, NY area. Among her many talents, Dee was an artist, an accomplished equestrian and a professional bellydancer. She loved socializing with friends over good meals and great conversations.

Throughout her career, Dee encouraged an interest in the world of science through visual presentations at schools, libraries, nature clubs, professional societies and other venues. Her award-winning images have been displayed in national and international exhibitions, science centers and corporations, and have routinely been utilized by all aspects of the media.

Photo: collecting samples in Antarctica • Information compiled and edited by Lois Breger