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Tania Franco Klein, *Yellow Tiles (Self-Portrait)*

The final photograph that I will describe is titled *Yellow Tiles ... with Self-portrait* in brackets afterwards. It was taken in 2017, and is landscape in format, so again wider than it is tall. Just like the last, this photograph is part of the series *Our Life in The Shadows* and is an archival pigment print. The photograph measures 76.2cm in width, and 50.8cm in height, which is the same size as a standard sized pillow.

The image is of what looks like a tiled bathroom, with a translucent glass shower screen across the middle. A clothed woman stands on the other side of the glass ... looking towards the camera lens. The photograph has been taken from around collar bone height of the woman. I will describe the woman a little more later on.

On the right side of the composition there is a pale-yellow tiled wall. There are around 60 full tiles visible ... and nine bits of tiles around the edges of the right side that have been cut off by the positioning of the shot. The tiles do not fill the whole right side of the composition ... instead they take up about 1/3 of the photograph. The tiles appear larger on the very right of the image and receding in size towards the centre.

The tiles are small ... they look small enough to fit into the palm of your hand. Each pale-yellow tile has a speckled pattern across it. The pattern looks almost like water splashes on a surface. The pattern on the tiles is textured, raised and a slightly darker yellow in colour ... almost like a slightly dried rind of a lemon. The grouting around the tiles is a dark grey.

There is another pattern on some of the tiles. 28 of the tiles are grouped together into sets of four tiles in two vertical rows within the 69 tiles I've just

described. These tiles have a very delicate green leaf and stem with pale pink flower pattern across them. The pattern runs across each of these 28 tiles diagonally, with a lower flower detail at the bottom of the tile underneath the diagonal part. In the sets of four, the lower flower detail of each tile is put together in the centre, with the diagonal pattern forming a loose square within each set of four tiles.

In the bottom half of the right side, four tiles up from the bottom, and two tiles in from the right ... a rectangular plastic or ceramic object has been attached to the tiles. It is the same pale yellow as the tiles. It looks to be one part of a towel rail, with the rail missing ... as it has an indent where the rail would go.

The glass screen is fixed to the tiled wall with a metal frame in a brushed stainless steel. The frame is thin on the side attached to the tiles. On the left side of the composition, the brushed stainless-steel frame is much thicker. The top and bottom frame of the screen are not within the frame of the shot.

The glass screen is textured with a pattern that looks like water on a screen. Each nodule of the pattern looks like a water droplet. It reveals, hides and distorts the figure of the woman behind it in equal tones.

A woman stands behind the screen. She is exactly central in the composition. The left side of her body appears closer to the screen than her right. Her features on the left are more defined than on her right.

She has long dark brown or black thick curly hair, styled into a mullet ... with shorter pieces at the top, and longer strands falling around her shoulders.

She faces the camera, but her facial details are distorted by the texture of the glass. Her skin is white, and her left dark eyebrow is a strong contrast. Her left eye, her nose and her lips are all visible ... the right side of her face is not.

Her body is like an apparition. Her left arm hangs down by her side ... it is held closer to the screen than her right, so is slightly visible. She wears a white sleeveless vest, and a blue garment on her bottom half. The distortion of the glass makes it impossible to garner any more detail from her clothing.

There must be a window or light behind the woman's right shoulder. An incredible glow of yellow comes from behind her ... distorting her even more and filling the already yellow room with a golden yellow light. Each nubble of the shower screen glows with this colour.

On the very left side of the composition ... beyond the thicker frame of the glass shower screen there is what appears to be another screen with a handle. This has a very thin stainless-steel frame and a thin horizontal handle in the same material. There is only a very small section of this presumed door visible, but there is enough to see that the frame holds more textured glass.

Within the shower enclosure the walls are tiled in the same yellow textured tile, with the same sets of four flower patterned tiles. There are two tap handles attached to the tiles on the very left side of the composition. If the photograph was divided in half horizontally, these handles would be exactly on the mid-horizontal line of the composition.