



PhotoArts Journal

-Dedicated In Loving Memory-
Evelyn Florence Joesten
1928-2026

Welcome dear readers, to the month of May! This image, entitled “Up Up & Away” nurtures thoughts of freedom, exploration and adventure. My artwork deals predominantly with nature and the connections we form with it. But the important people and fundamental souls that shaped me as the person I am, are indelibly embedded in the adventures I choose and the photographs I make.

The background of this piece starts out in the “windy city” of Chicago. The river district of this iconic city, is always full of opportunities. Architecture never disappoints. The energy created by the people is fast paced and electric. Even in the rainy afternoon, I had fun searching for subjects of interest.

The hot air balloon at the center of the image was taken at the winter festival, Hot Air Affair, in Hudson, WI. Sub zero temperatures made for interesting conditions and my heated coat and hand warmers were a definite luxury. How the two completely different locations came together as one is an example of my workflow and intuitive process.

As I worked toward completing this image, I struggled to find the final treatment and toning. I spent countless hours re-working the scene to give it the soft, dreamy look I envisioned. The city was to be a backdrop, not a major character.



Hudson Hot Air Affair

To the left you see the basics. The Chicago skyline, the hot air balloon, the magnolias and the double exposure cloud image that solved my toning issue. I extracted the magnolia flowers and duplicated them many times to add the “floating blossoms”. The skyline was cropped to avoid distractions. Magnolia flowers were attached to the hot air balloon. Additionally, I layered the piece with a very light off white texture, applying it to the background only. “Up Up & Away” was born!



Event News

I have happily accepted the opportunity to move my solo exhibit, “The Air We Breathe” to the Firefly Coffeehouse in Oregon, WI, to fill the months of July and August. Enjoy a cup of their delicious coffee while you work, visit or relax in Oregon’s “living room” at 114 N. Main Street.

To see more of my work or my full event schedule, click on the link below.

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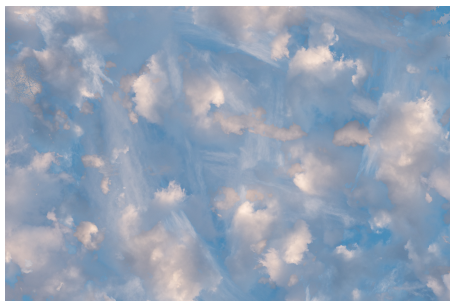
Wishing you all a safe and memorable Memorial Day weekend! A huge Thank you to all our military service men and women who serve, have served and especially to those who gave all, to protect our country and our freedoms.



Chicago skyline



Magnolia Flowers



Cloud Layer



Working