

COPA



8TH ANNUAL JURIED PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION



Susan Barnett
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Martha Coaty
Max Cozzi
Christina DeSpears
Pamela Ferderbar
John Ferraro
Robert Fewel
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Judith Pannozo
Vicki Reed
James Schaff
Mark Stall
Carol Starr
Cardi Toellner-Smith
Meredith Watts



**8TH ANNUAL
MIDWEST JURIED EXHIBITION**

WALKER'S POINT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

830 S. 5th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

December 5, 2014–January 17, 2015



The mission of the Coalition of Photographic Arts is to develop appreciation, promote growth and support the creation of photographic arts in the Greater Milwaukee Region.

The Coalition of Photographic Arts, Inc., was founded in 2004 by a group of Milwaukee area photographers. Known as CoPA, the volunteer-run organization cultivates awareness and appreciation of contemporary photography through educational programs, lectures, panel discussions, and exhibitions. CoPA also fosters connections within the photographic community by means of member meetings and exhibitions.

CoPA events include an Annual Members' Exhibition, an Annual Midwest Juried Exhibition, monthly meetings, and periodic portfolio reviews and lectures. CoPA also introduces its members to the Milwaukee arts community through smaller, site-specific exhibit opportunities, partnerships with area arts organizations and art-friendly businesses, a CoPA-sponsored online gallery, and the Annual Pin-Up Show featuring members' affordable art for sale.

Members pay annual dues. The organization also receives support for its mission from earned income, individual donations, grants, and sponsorships from businesses and community partners.

CoPA is exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to CoPA are tax-deductible.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This catalogue was published on the occasion of the Coalition of Photographic Arts' (CoPA's) 8th Annual Juried Exhibition. Hosted by the Walkers Point Center for the Arts (WPCA), this year's exhibition features work by 26 artists working in photographic media. We would describe the work as exhilarating, breathtaking, and fantastic. We hope you will agree and that you will share your appreciation with the artists, the Walkers' Point staff, and our sponsors.

We would like to express our gratitude to Kate Bradley and the staff of WPCA for hosting the exhibition; this year's jurors, Graeme Reid and Gary Tuma, for their fair and thoughtful selection process; exhibition committee chair Roy Schmidt and WPCA's Howard Leu for curating the exhibition; Colleen Gunderson for assisting; Susan Barnett for designing and editing this catalogue; and the 26 participating artists for their dedication to the expressive use of photographic media. We would be remiss if we did not also thank CoPA's members and the generous sponsors who make our programming possible: Art's Cameras, Lab Apollo, Prime Digital Media, SB Framing Gallery, and The Studio Q.

We invite you to become a member of CoPA and to participate in our educational programs and exhibitions. More information about CoPA—its events, meetings, and exhibitions—and images by its members may be viewed online at copamilwaukee.com

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JURORS' STATEMENT

It's been roughly 150 years since photography entered the mainstream in America with formal Civil War portraits and Carleton Watkins capturing the unspoiled grandeur of the West. However, back then, taking pictures was a technically complex process requiring specialized knowledge and equipment. Photographic images were shared in physical form as prints on tin or paper, and most were unique. Getting your picture taken was something special.

Today, cameras are ubiquitous. Never before have so many cameras been in people's hands; stop 100 people on any street and 90 will have a camera. It might be masquerading as a phone, but it's a camera. Yet for all the cameras out there and the billions of pictures taken, relatively few images are printed to hard copy. They are shared, posted, tweeted and attached, but not physically present. This is arguably a good thing—having a camera does not make you a photographer. But for those who take picture making seriously, there is still a sense of craft, of developing an eye for subject, color, emotion, pattern, light, and the myriad of other elements that make a great picture.

CoPA isn't for the selfie crowd. CoPA is for those who want to record the world for posterity. CoPA is for those who look, for those who see, for those who appreciate. Sure, many of the images featured here primarily exist in digital form but they have been turned into something real, something tangible, and are presented to the public as "something." Technology has allowed the world to speed up to a dizzying pace where the news cycle is 24-7 and yesterday's news might as well be a century old by tomorrow. Yet the images featured in this show are connected to those pioneering days of Watkins and the anonymous photographers who recorded the Civil War's doomed youth and its survivors. They are real, and in another 150 years someone can hold them; that is still special.

GRAEME REID, JUROR

Born in Bishopton in Scotland, Graeme Reid graduated from the University of Glasgow and Indiana State University with Master's degrees in 1990 and 1993 respectively. With twenty years' experience in arts management/curatorial work he is currently Director of Collections and Exhibitions at the Museum of Wisconsin Art having previously worked at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center (Sheboygan, WI), the Art Museum of Greater Lafayette (IN) and the Swope Art Museum (Terre Haute, IN). Over the years he has curated over 120 group and solo exhibitions as well as worked on the development and installation of institutional collections. An experienced judge on a local, regional and national level and award winning writer on the arts, he has taught art history and the humanities at ISU and Purdue University and is a regular guest lecturer at various Wisconsin institutions.

GARY TUMA, JUROR

For nearly 40 years, Gary Tuma has led various nonprofit organizations focused on issues of human relations, civil rights, social justice, disabilities, and the arts. He has been active in the arts and his community through service on nonprofit boards including Secretary, Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee; Treasurer, Milwaukee Public Theatre; President, Milwaukee Human Relations Radio and TV Council; and International Committee of the Downtown YMCA. He served as Executive Director of Walker's Point Center for the Arts from 2005 to 2013. During this time, he oversaw countless exhibitions. He has aided artists working in all mediums by evaluating their portfolios or just offering conversational opinions. In his many years of service, Gary has earned the respect of the Milwaukee community and the artists who contribute to it. He has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and History from UW-Stevens Point and a Graduate degree in Urban Affairs from UW-Milwaukee.

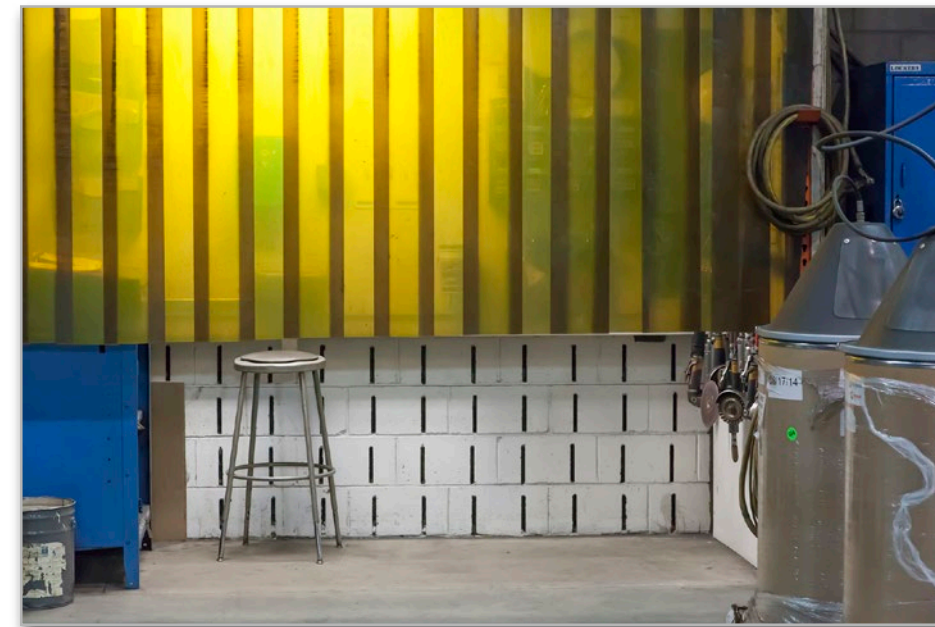
Susan Barnett

susan@sfbarnett.com

The immediacy of photography lends itself to improvisation and allows the act of image-making to slip into narrow cracks of time. I respond to patterns and juxtapositions where form and context diverge, focusing on subjects that seem compelling, sometimes without fully understanding why. In the editing process, themes emerge: the traces of people imprinted on a place, extraordinary displays of ordinary things, decay and rebirth, secular shrines, humorous texts, and declining empires. View more images at sfbarnett.com.

Photographing the Grand Canyon

Work Station at the Company Formerly Known as Bucyrus



PJ Boylan

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After retiring from a career in law I started a part-time fine art photography business and began winning awards and participating in and judging juried exhibitions. Most of my images are captured spontaneously when I am traveling, primarily using natural light and 35mm cameras. I don't limit myself to a particular subject but shoot whatever "grabs" me, or touches my heart, trying to find uncommon perspectives. India was a banquet buffet for me and threatened sensory overload with its colors and crowds. This series of photos shows the Ganges River (respectfully called *Ganga*) at Varanasi where Hindu pilgrims congregate in the morning to pray, meditate, perform ablutions, and bathe in the holy waters. The photos range from the *ghat* where people step down to the river, to men praying together, and finally to the solitary devotions of a man meditating far from shore.

Morning Prayer



Martha Coaty

martha.coaty@twc.com

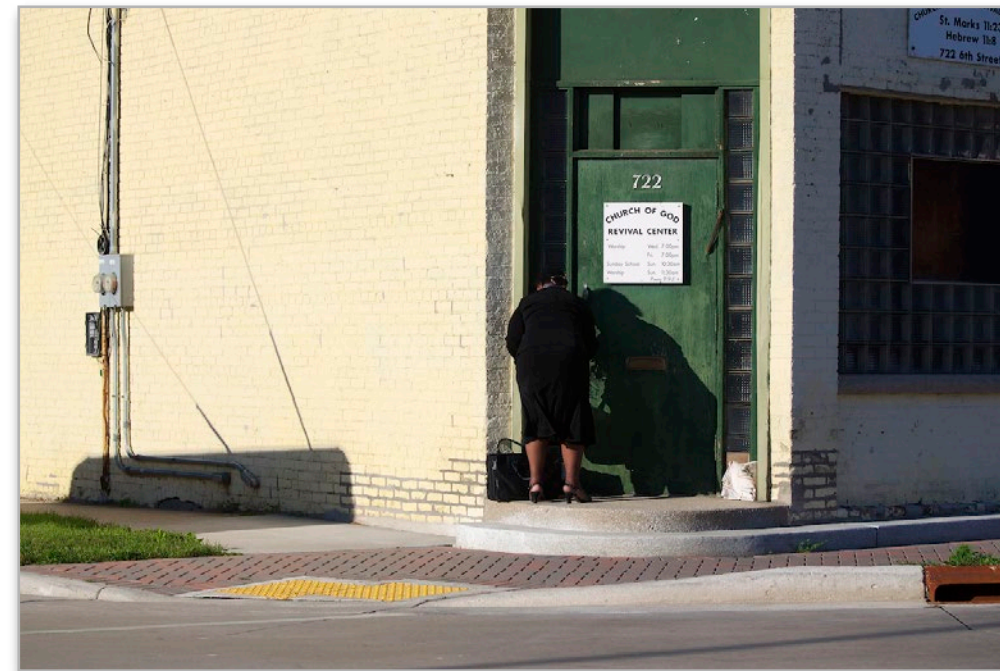
Martha Coaty is an award winning fine art photographer living in Racine, Wisconsin. Her work has been included in many juried exhibitions in Door County and throughout Wisconsin. She earned her degree in journalism and art at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Her subjects include agrarian architecture, industrial buildings, objects, animals, and Wisconsin life in color and black and white.

More of her work can be seen at www.marthacoatyphotography.com

Industrial Chartreuse

Revival



Max Cozzi

mcozzi324@gmail.com

Max Cozzi is a Milwaukee-based photographer working with a diverse set of interests. Largely inspired by landscape, his work focuses on a careful investigation of and meditation within his environment. Themes ranging from abstraction to documentary photography can be seen in the work. Max Cozzi currently works and exhibits in various parts of the Midwest. For information on Max Cozzi you can visit his website: maxcozzi.com.

Titletown Beer Warehouse, Green Bay WI



Christina DeSpears

despears@earthlink.net

When it comes to being a photographer, the lines between artist, activist, and even librarian are frequently crossed, often blurred, and sometimes non-existent. Fortunately, I can live with the uncertainty. Whatever line I'm standing on or brushing away—whether it be with a landscape, neighborhood event, dancer, or political action—I'm always asking myself, "Does the image get to the feeling or soul of the matter?" It's as simple as that.

We Matter : Seeking Justice for Dontre Hamilton

Demanding Justice : The Occupation of the MKE Police Administration Building



Pamela Ferderbar

whamster2@gmail.com

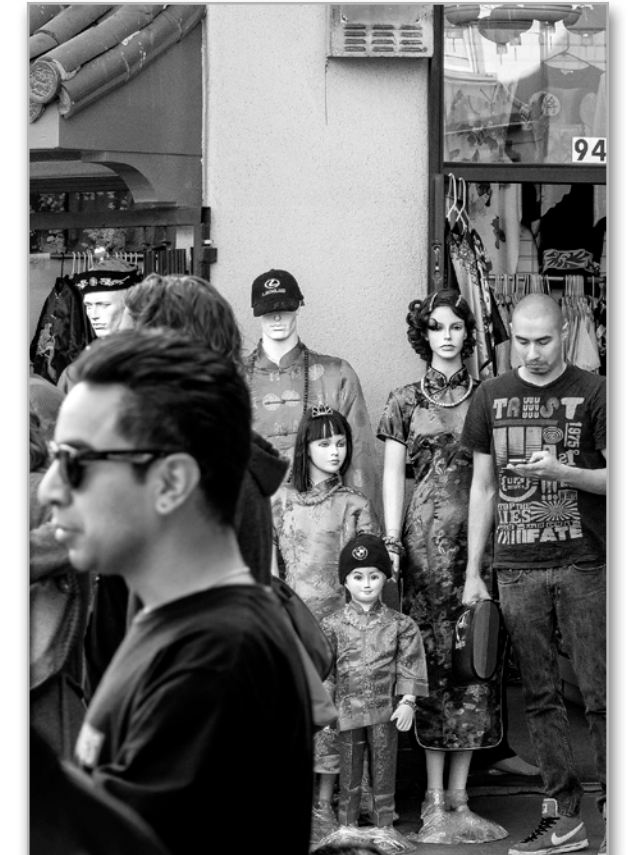
Pamela Ferderbar is an environmental portrait photographer, shooting subjects in ambient surroundings that help tell the story about not only the person—where they live and what they do—but that illuminate a much deeper understanding of the subject's core identity. Sometimes the environment reflects the subject's ego. Other times it is diametrically opposed, creating tension between the subject's personality and the evolution of her place in the world.

In addition to her passion for photography, Pamela spent the past 20 years working as a writer in Los Angeles. Her debut novel *Feng Shui* and *Charlotte Nightingale* will be published in May 2015. (Pamela photographed the cover art herself.)

Pamela lived in Los Angeles until last year when she moved back to Wisconsin for the weather.

Chinatown I

Chinatown III



John Ferraro

jferraro1@wi.rr.com

Having grown up on the shores of Lake Michigan, I am drawn to this great resource when looking for photo opportunities. The Pierhead Lighthouse has always been one of my favorites. It's unique shape and color make it one of the most photographed lighthouses in Wisconsin.

Pierhead Lighthouse



Robert Fewel

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We are literally a part of, and connected to, all that is around us. We share atoms with the universe. The carbon in our bodies may be the carbon of exploded suns. We interact with inanimate objects and life around us, but often do not see our connections. Photography is magical in that it can show connections. I hope to share a little glimpse of those connections through my photography.

Detroit Love

Old Codger



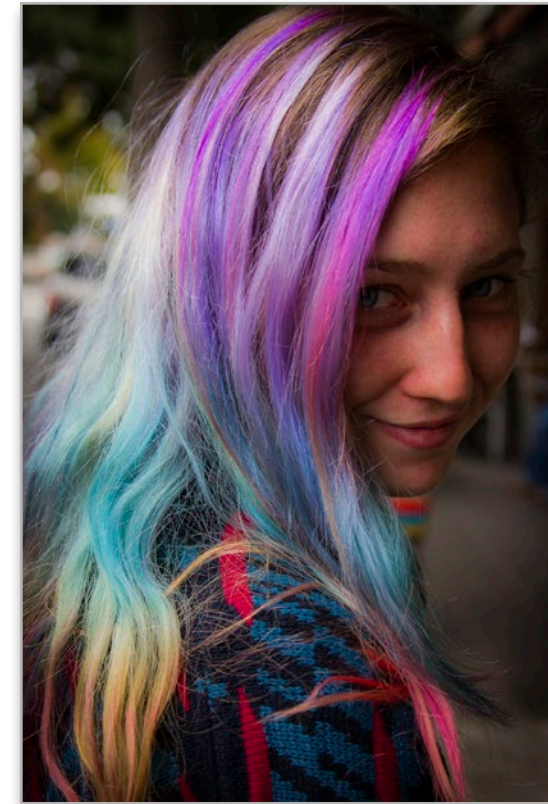
Alan Friedman

alf.photographs@gmail.com

Everyone has a story and I try to capture those stories in my photographs. Often the people I photograph are poor. Some are drug addicts and/or prostitutes. They and the neighborhoods they live in are unseen by many. I don't use telephoto lenses. My photographs begin with a conversation about my subjects' lives and sometimes my questions are very personal. I ask permission to photograph. I edit my portraits with varying levels of saturation or selective colorization as a story-telling device. At first, it wasn't easy to talk to total stranger on the street but it has gotten easier. Its surprising how many people, after forming a connection, are willing to pose. Victor Frankl, the holocaust survivor and psychiatrist, felt that there was meaning even in the most absurd, painful, and dehumanized situations. It's my hope that my photographs convey the many challenges as well as the meaning and dignity in my subjects' lives.

Rainbowlocks

San Francisco Fisherman

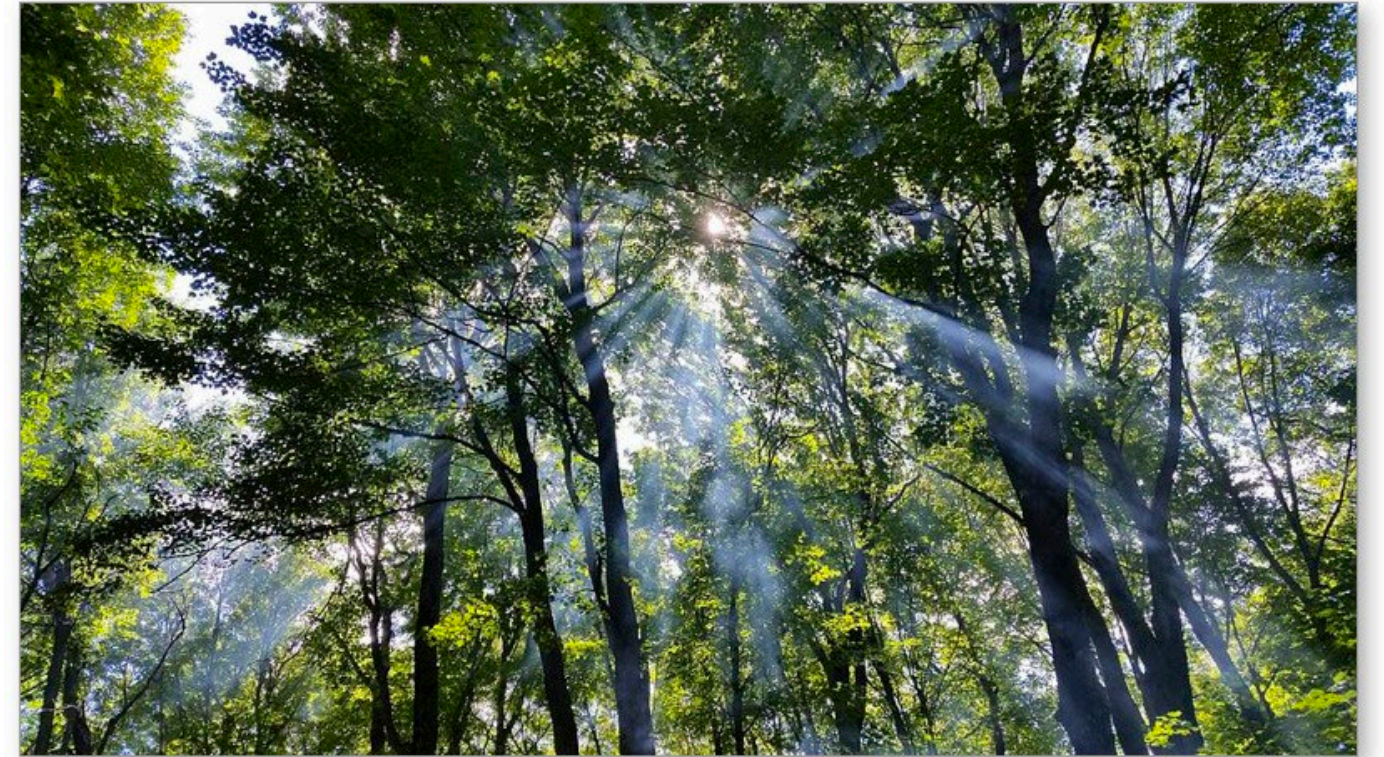


Tom Kiebzak

tom@TomsAbstracts.com

Starting with 35mm film, eventually graduating to 2-1/4 then 4x5 format, and now in the digital world, Tom's photos have been featured in web sites, brochures, gallery exhibits, posters, CD covers, and as cover/feature story images in various publications. Tom brings a wide array of experience as a studio, event, landscape photographer, and educational artist-in-residence.

The Woods



Jack Kleinman

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As a physician, I have been taught to notice things. To this, I add a deep immersion in art nurtured by visits to many of the great museums of the world. I have studied photography with local photographers at the University of Wisconsin and with nationally known artists at travel photography workshops.

I look for interactions of organisms with their surroundings that reveal meaning. An animal takes on a human characteristic or vice versa, a pattern takes shape from seemingly random activity, living things fit into their surroundings with a perfection that belies randomness. These are the images I make.

I work primarily in digital format using cameras with optical viewfinders, so that the camera becomes an extension of my eye. Although my darkroom is digital, for the most part I engage in activities that simulate the processing and printing of film: altering exposure, dodging, burning and cropping. I often transform images into black and white.

He's Got his Eye on You



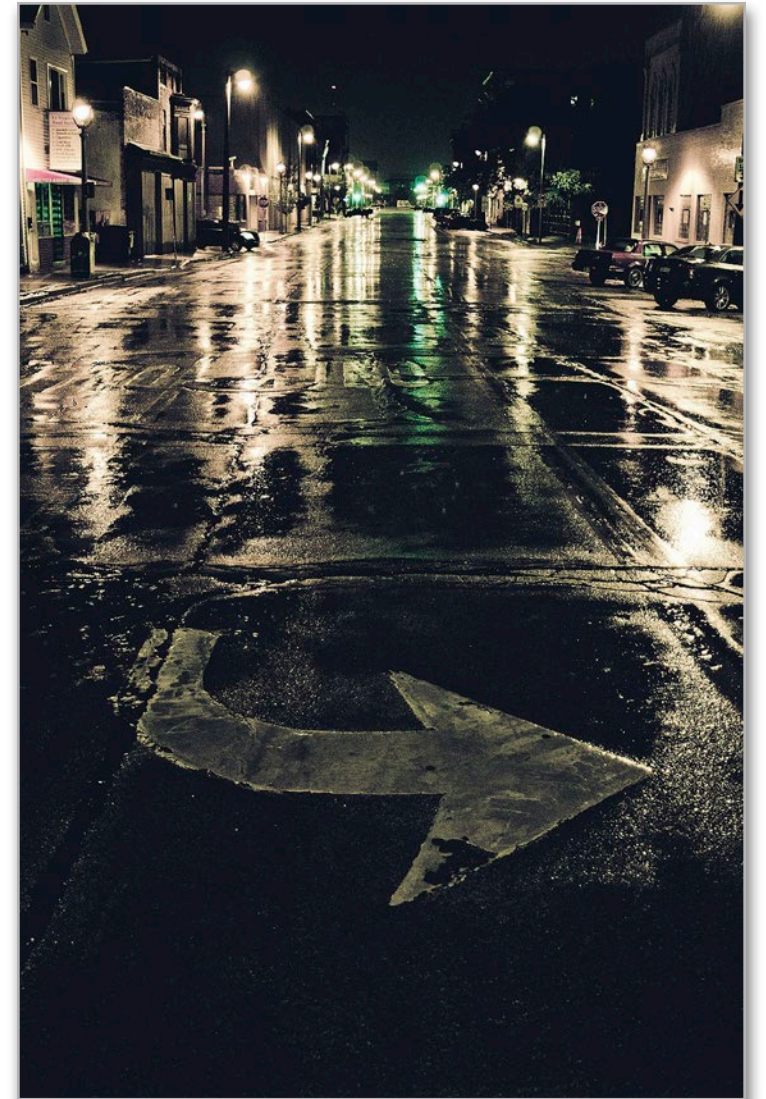
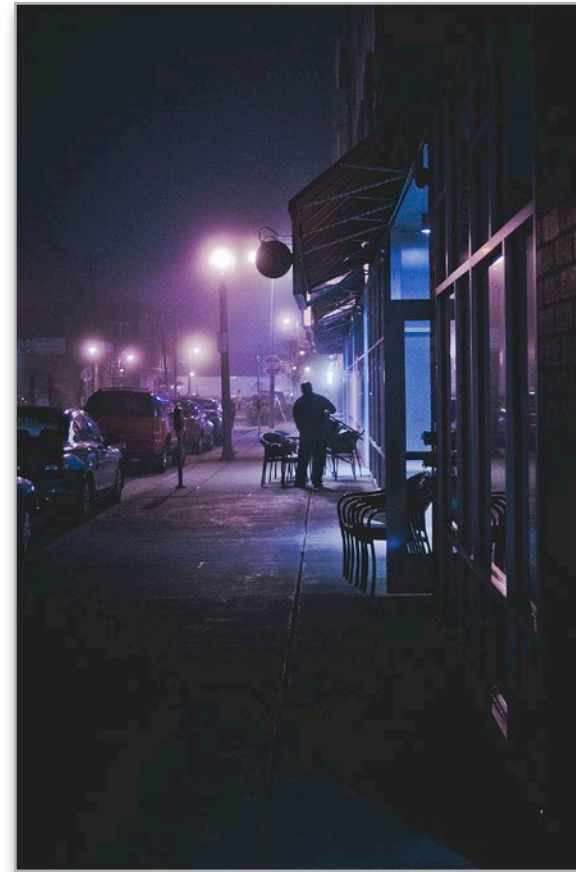
Kenneth Kornacki

krkorn@gmail.com

I'm a Milwaukee native taking photos of my environment and posting them daily at kenkofoto.tumblr.com.

Closing Time

Upside Down



Geri Laehn

GeriLaehn@Gmail.com

My Night Sky Images are a work in progress. I became interested in the night skies when viewing the Aurora Borealis in Alaska years ago but only recently have taken on the challenge to capture the night sky. These images were taken in South Dakota where DARK skies can still be found.

Milky way near Sylvan Lake SD

Aurora Borealis w/Big Dipper, Badlands SD



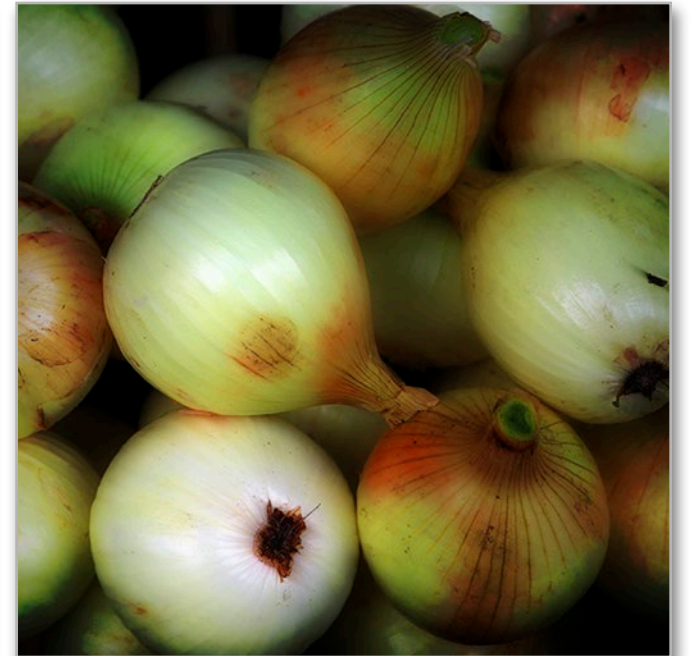
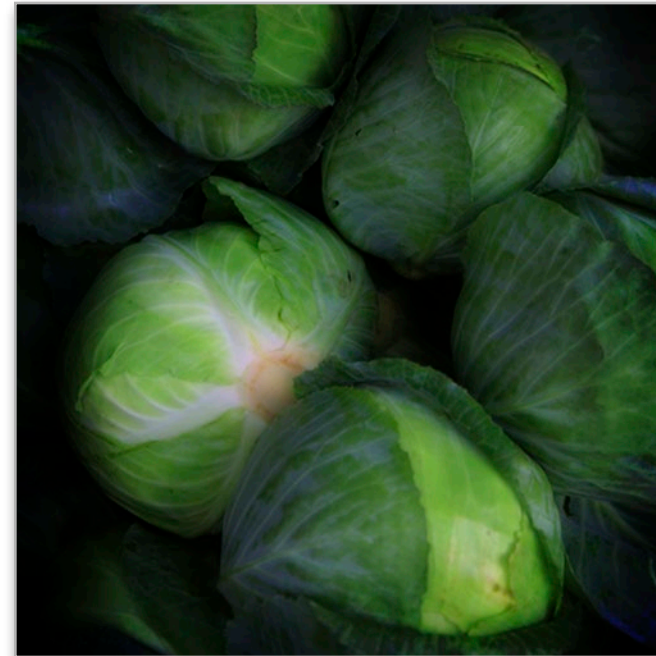
Cindy Lesky

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Boundaries are meant to be pushed. Waiting for someone else to say it's okay, is far too late for me. I want to bathe in color and wrap myself in texture. I think in layers. Those layers consist of dozens of photos that I have taken over time. They are transformed into layers of color and texture. This is what makes me tick. They say life is a journey. So is my work. Come and enjoy my journey!

Cabbage

Onions

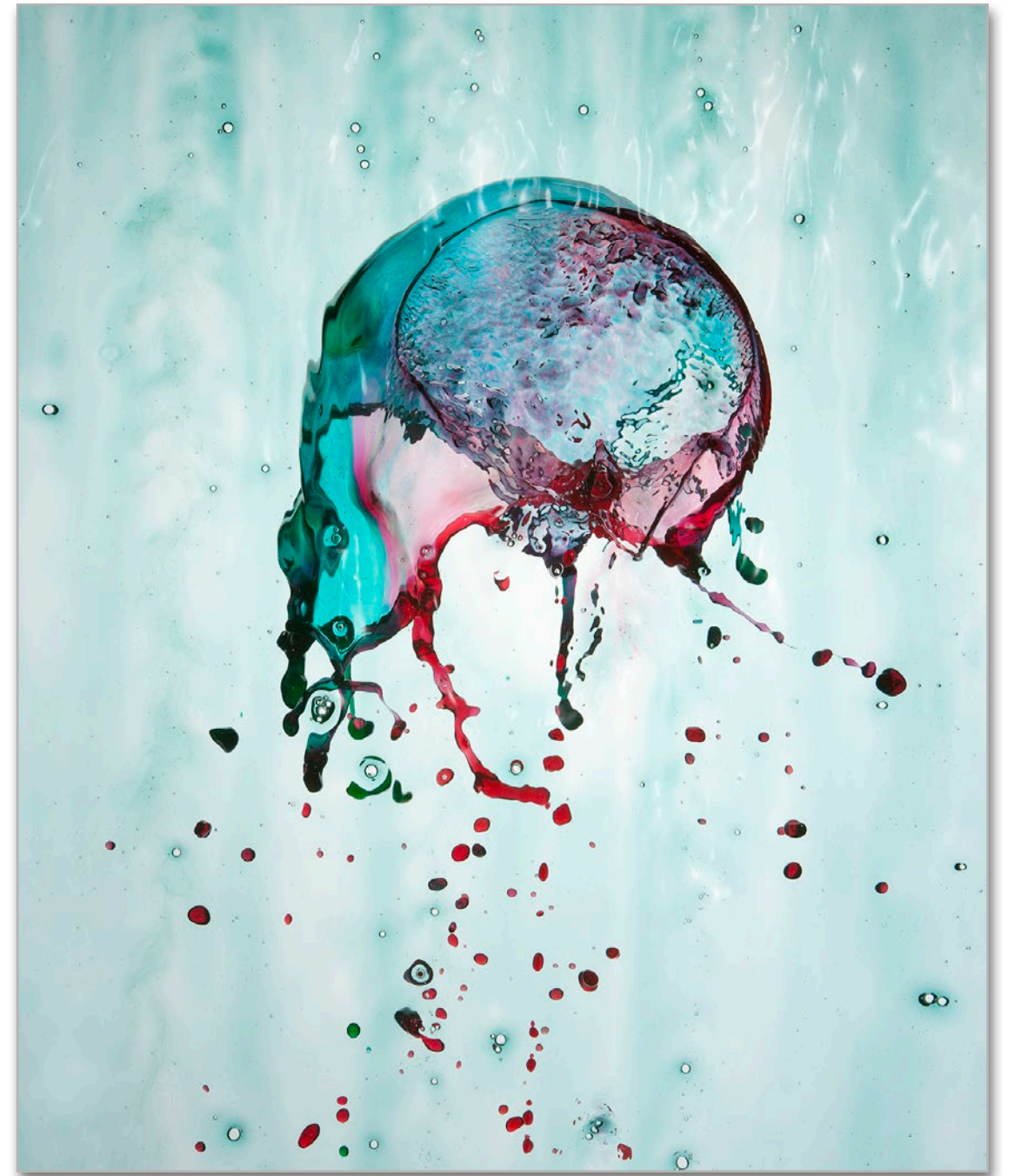


Jack Long

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Jellyfish, mushrooms, flowers, balloons, and even skulls: these can all be seen in my work. Sometimes intentional, other times by chance, but always precisely controlled and captured with high speed photography, I create liquid forms never before seen using stop-action photography. The works are original in concept and completion. While primarily working with liquids, other materials are often used. The art is very much in the creation of temporary three-dimensional sculptures in mid-air. Existing for only a fraction of a second, these amazing sculptures are captured in a flash. Photography, through composition and lighting, is the only means to view these very brief events. Although employed as an advertising photographer throughout my career, I have never lost the passion to create beautiful and unique imagery. My drive for self exploration continues to sustain my creative ambition.

Skull_4233



Gail Marquardt

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The images in this series were inspired by the poem “Death Experience” by Rainer Maria Rilke. They represent the final phases of death and returning to the earth.

going away - a chaotic, elegant death.

like it or not, death plays too.



Paul Matzner

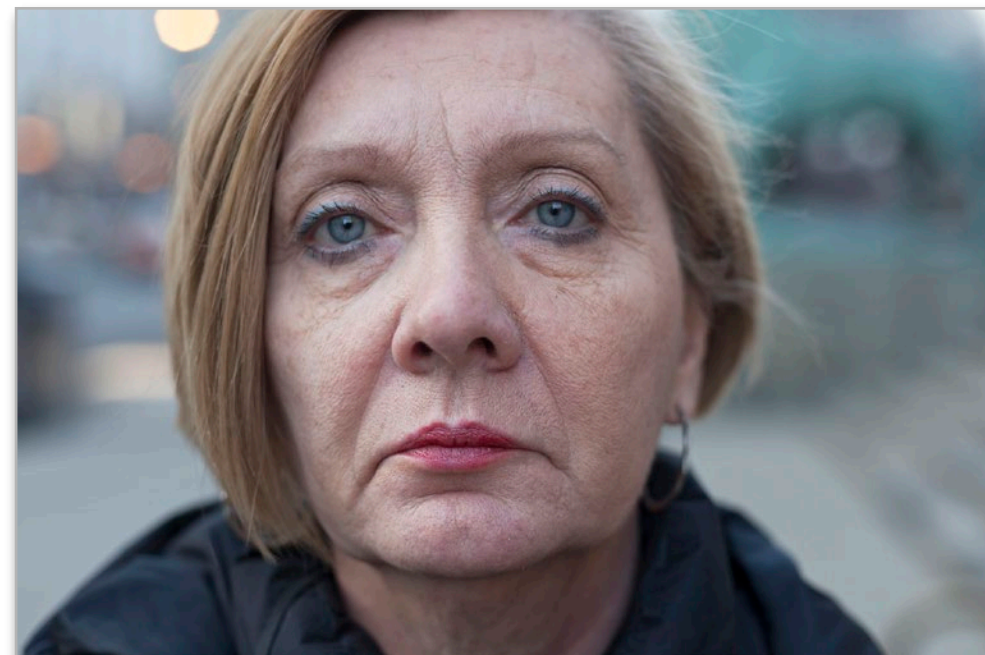
pmatzner@wi.rr.com

It is intimidating at first to directly approach a stranger on the street and ask permission to make a portrait of them. There is a risk factor for both individuals. So, gaining trust in a very short time span is the key. I just stop people and say, "Excuse me, I'm working on a photo project of people's faces. Can I take your picture?" If they have further doubts, I hand them my business card and let them know this project will be posted on my website.

Asking people to not smile is important because I'm not looking for typical snapshot poses. I am more concerned with the actual face, especially the eyes. As a result, in this series, we get to examine people in a way we can't do in person. We allow ourselves to stare at their features, study their face and maybe think more deeply about who we are as individuals and collectively as humans.

Michigan Avenue #54

Michigan Avenue #62



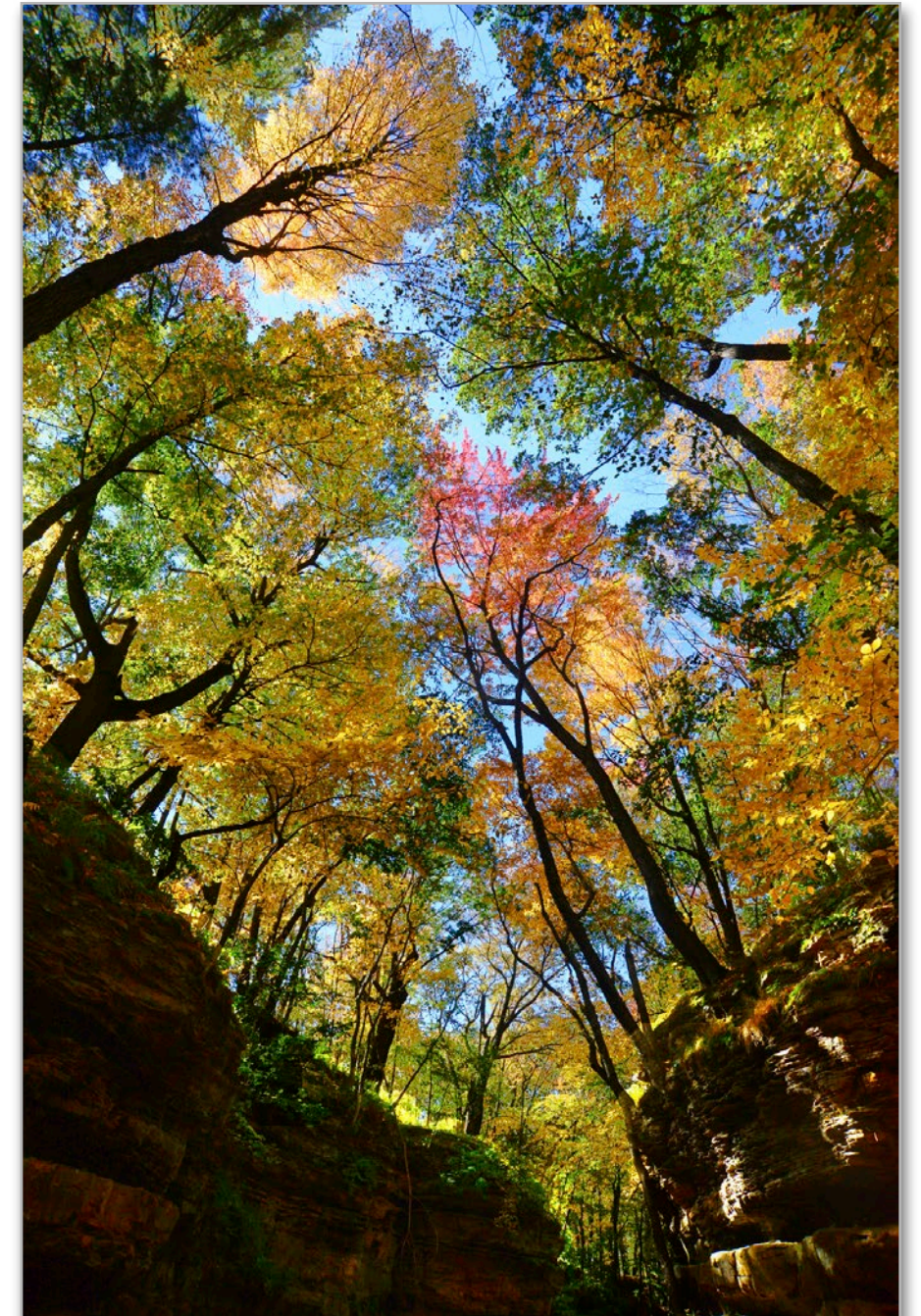
James Meldrum

jmeldr@yahoo.com

This body of work represents a significant departure from my earlier approach to photography. Prior to 2013, I had always used traditional equipment and materials for making photographs. While I continue to use black and white film, I have had to change my approach to color. With so many film labs closing, I have been forced to start doing my color work digitally.

These images result from a shooting session at Pewitt's Nest and represent some of my best work to date. The landscape in this location is truly inspiring in terms of subject matter, color, and landforms. My inspiration for landscape and nature studies comes from the Sierra Cub photographers and those working in that milieu who continue to guide this body of work.

Autumn Splendor



Bernard Newman

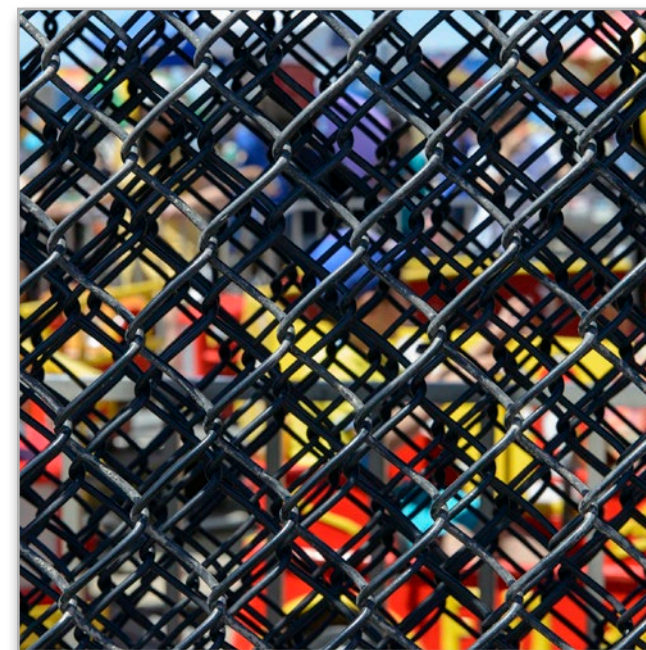
bnewman@wi.rr.com

My favorite theme is the commonplace viewed in an uncommon way: an overlooked detail in a landscape or street, a fleeting occurrence of light and shadow, motion or stillness. Hidden patterns and abstractions are all around us, but we need to stop and look to recognize their presence. I strive to send you a visual message describing the wonder of discovery that I felt when first encountering the image that has finally been captured in print.

Bernie Newman began photographing in his teens. For a long period, a recurring theme was a “glorification of the banal” inspired by one of his favorite photographers, Harry Callahan. An important goal of his work is to engage in a visual conversation with the viewer. Bernie’s work spans the boundary between representational and abstraction. His themes are the unseen patterns and abstractions in everyday settings. Bernie has been a coop member of Milwaukee’s Gallery 218 since 2006, which exhibits many of his works.

Tessellation

Picnic



Judith Pannozo

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A resident of Racine, Wisconsin, I began initially as an enthusiastic family photographer. Through a variety of workshops and travel experiences I strive continually to develop my craft. While I enjoy capturing the variety of natural landscapes in my images, I have a special passion for interesting people going about their daily lives, doing the everyday things that make their life work.

The art of photography, in all of its varied spontaneous and meticulous forms, transforms the light to express a moment, capture an emotion, or treasure a memory.

Morning Conversation

Can He? Will He?



Vicki Reed

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Vicki Reed, a former newspaper photographer and magazine art editor, specializes in limited edition fine art photographs. She uses plastic cameras as well as vintage, pinhole, and digital cameras to explore the natural environment. She loves experimenting with alternative processes including lith, hand coloring, photogravure and encaustic, as well as several cameraless techniques such as lumen and cyanotype. She has won numerous awards and has been widely published in international journals including *The World of Lith Printing*, *Fuzion Magazine* (UK), and *Fine Art Photo* (Germany). *Ice Crystals*, a video she captured a number of years ago on the shores of Lake Michigan, was recently acquired by the National Geographic Channel. An image from her series *The Growing Season*, was purchased by the Racine Art Museum for their permanent collection. She is represented by Unlimited Grain Gallery in Rotterdam, NL. More information is available at her website, www.vickireed.com

Polar Vortex

Waiting for a Mumuration



James Schaff

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As photographers we are confronted with capturing the properties of light or its absence. In the end, we must settle for an approximation of what we saw in our mind's eye and strive to reproduce that image to the best of our ability using the mediums available to us. At the end of this process we can only hope that the image conveys the feeling we experienced when we composed the image in our camera. I'm often humbled by nature's beauty. I hope the images you see before you reflect some of the beauty that we as human beings are so fortunate to witness.

Conversations

Tumblers



Mark Stall

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For me, the art of photography is portraying the familiar as I see it, or imagine seeing it. I make images to express my love of the world. I enjoy roaming events and fairs to capture people enjoying themselves in character. These images inspire me to study, capture, and then experiment. My goal is to have the final work cause a passionate response in the way others relate to situations or events. Showing people outside the confines of daily life, I hope to inspire people to get out and see the world and take a chance by going outside their normal experience.

I've been a serious fine art photographer for the past twelve years and have over 45 years experience in photography. All of my images adhere to strict numbered additions based on the image size.

Two Women in October



Carol Starr

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There is a lot to love and appreciate in people, places, nature, color, and abstractions. Photography, both the process and the result, helps me express my love and appreciation of these things. Among my favorite subjects to photograph are the places to which I travel, particularly Asia, and the people I see and meet. I often get up before dawn to capture the activity that takes place before everyone wakes up. I try to isolate people within their environment and capture the intensity and focus of everyday working people.

Sculpting the Buddha - Mandalay

Hoi An Fisherwoman

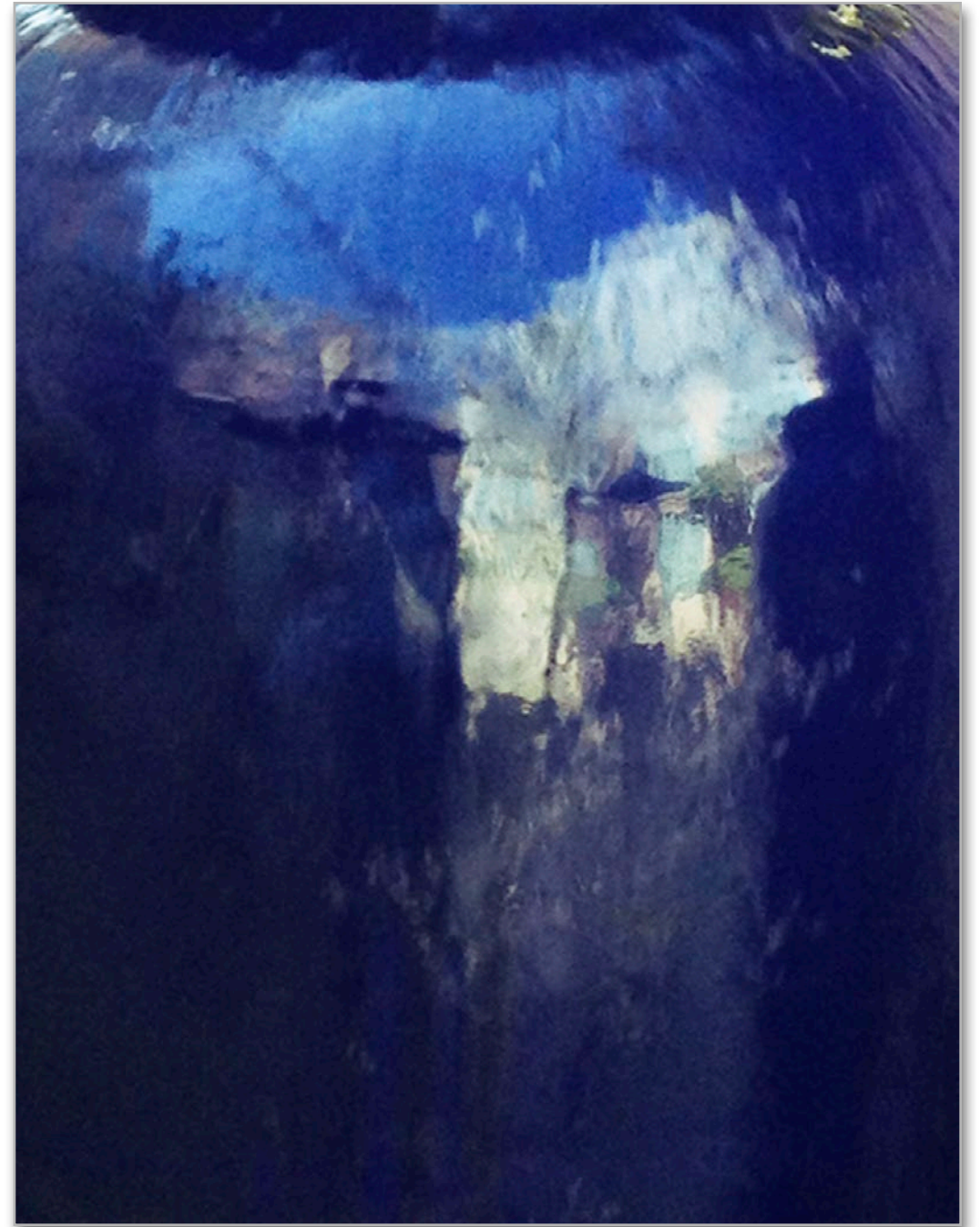


Cardi Toellner-Smith

thrumyeyes@mac.com

The majority of my life has been spent as an artist: drawing, painting, and for the last 10 years, doing photography. My background is in scientific illustration but I found it too restrictive; photography has given me a lot more freedom for expression. As in life, I find it intriguing to find the unexpected in art, to see images where you least expect to see them. Reflections are the perfect vehicle for this. The hope is that I, as an artist, can get you to see everyday items or places in a new light, real or imaginative.

Wolf in Blue Vase



Meredith Watts

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For years, I photographed while traveling in Eastern and Western Europe during my earlier career as a social scientist; now photography is central to my travel, but the social scientist still travels along on recent lengthy visits to India, Brazil and elsewhere. In India I spent time at ashrams, and studied for several weeks at a yoga institute in Pune. I was able to photograph those settings in a way that only an extended visit can allow. This gave me time to walk on the banks of the Ganges, tour the waterways of Kerala, and experience daily life in cities like Bangalore, Pune, and Mumbai. My eye is especially drawn to human cultural activity and to the rituals of daily life, spiritual practice, celebration, and performance (especially dance).

Sunday Kerala

Devotee Rishikesh





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MISSION STATEMENT:

Walker's Point Center for the Arts supports visual and performing arts and learning in a multicultural environment. The center fosters creativity in children through innovative education and encourages audience development and artistic talent with a diverse blend of programming.

Walkers Point Center for the Arts is a nonprofit organization in support of visual and performing arts and education. For nearly 25 years, WPCCA has prided itself on being a haven for the youth of our community, as well as a place to showcase Milwaukee's premiere artistic talent. With two gallery spaces and seven yearly exhibitions, WPCCA has formed a firm grounding as one of Milwaukee's premier art venues. Our East and South galleries allow us to showcase emerging and established artists from around the country. Our exhibitions aim to reinforce dialogue and bring together the diverse cultural and art communities that Milwaukee offers.

WPCCA-MILWAUKEE.ORG

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