



“If you want to be a better photographer, stand in front of more interesting stuff.”
– Jim Richardson



You don't always see it the first time

This image of juniper trees clinging to red rock comes from a photo I took in the last hour of a recent five-day stay in Sedona, Arizona. It reminded me of a lesson about persistence and perception that I seem to have to learn every couple of years.

I was a little frustrated about photographing Sedona on my recent trip. I had some ok, even good results but could not find that one iconic shot of this very iconic destination. I was in the car almost out of town on the way back to Phoenix when I impulsively decided to make a last minute stop at Yavapai vista trail. A short walk, maybe half a mile, to an area of flat red rocks and gnarled trees. I took a few shots, then turned to leave and saw the view in the photo above and immediately realized it had potential. I even knew immediately how I was going to process it to get the clouds to stand out. The result was more than I expected. It has received some attention including a request from

the town of Sedona to use it on their website. I almost quit and walked away too soon, but felt like my work wasn't yet complete - there's a lesson in that. I'm a believer in an old project management saying, that perfection is the enemy of good enough. Well, in this case good enough required a little more and I'm glad this happened. When I see this shot it reminds me of the entire trip and gives it a feeling of success. I guess there was indeed more interesting stuff to stand in front of.

More images from Sedona, one of the truly special places on the planet

Sedona 2024



A daily commitment



Earlier this year I started a social media program of posting a daily image for the categories of my photography work. That's a *daily bluemarble image*, and a *daily action shot*. I find that it requires me to think about consistently producing content for two ideas that differ broadly. Using themes keeps ideas coming. The challenge is to be effective, and not too time-consuming. This has been useful in developing processes to prepare and post images more quickly. Links to my social media are below at the end of this newsletter. Let me know what you think. I hope you enjoy the results.

Lots more to come



It's time for speed!

There will be a lot of raw material for action photography soon. It's just 3 weeks until the Radical cars are on the track at Area 27, and just a few weeks after that Superbikes are back at Mission Raceway. I'm really looking forward to this season of racing, and the photo opportunities. Last year's Radical cars action is on my website to give you an idea of what's coming. Follow the link below.

[2023 Motorsport Action](#)

And, finally...

I appreciate all the support from everyone over the past few months. There's always lots happening on the sidelines of life, but I've learned that finding a balance that allows you to have time for the things that motivate you is truly important. Photography continues to be one of those things for me. Roger Crawford said it better than most when he said "Being challenged in life is inevitable, being defeated is optional." I believe that is true.

Until next time.

