AURÉ MAGAZINE

FALL, 2026 | VOL. 03

A PORTFOLIO OF LIGHT & COMPOSITION



CELEBRATING THE WORK OF THE MASTERS

OF PHOTOGRAPHY PROGRAM

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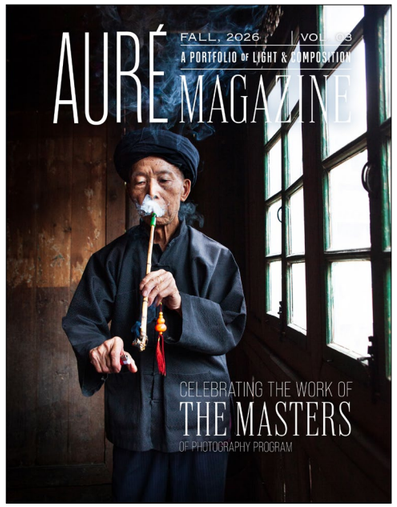
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AURÉ Magazine is produced using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe InDesign. Composed in Lato, Minion Pro, Vincente, and Bebas Neue Pro by Kelby Media Group Inc.

COVER SHOT



Our cover shot for this issue is from KelbyOne Masters of Photography program member Paul Kober. Here's how Paul describes the shot:

"This guy was nice enough to let us into his home for a quick photo session. He had gorgeous light streaming through the frosted windows, so when he lit his pipe, I started firing away to capture the mood. I was really excited when I saw how this frame came out. It's easily my favorite."

See more of Paul's work on page 52 of this issue, along with an interview with him on page 6.

EDITOR'S NOTE

We're back with our biggest issue yet—nearly 140 pages packed cover to cover with gorgeous, intriguing, and flat-out captivating images.

This issue includes two exciting new updates inspired directly by feedback from our Masters of Photography community. As soon as these suggestions came in, we knew they'd make the magazine that much better.

First, we're including Instagram handles (when available) right below each artist's location, so you can easily follow the creators whose work inspires you.

Second, we're highlighting recent award-winning images from our members. For example, fresh off the Photoshop World conference, you'll spot badges like "Guru Award Winner." The conference includes the prestigious Guru Awards competition, which honors excellence in photography and post-processing. With so many of our Masters members taking top spots in global competitions, it's a way to give their hard work the extra recognition they deserve. As always, members can choose whether or not to share their Instagram handle or awards.

It's incredibly rewarding to watch this magazine grow and to welcome new artists to this issue who met our high bar for inclusion.

Enjoy the pages, and we'll see you next issue!



Best,

Scott Kelby
Editor-in-Chief

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SEVEN QUESTIONS WITH **PAUL KOBER**

Q. Beyond the technical details, what was actually going through your head the exact second you pressed the shutter button for the cover image?

A. I was at a workshop in China. I asked the subject to light the pipe and puff some smoke, and I thought the window light would make the smoke show up, so I watched for the smoke patterns until they looked good. There were actually three smoke patterns in the one picture, and I knew it would be split-second timing. In the split second when I pressed it, I was thinking, "This is the picture that I came to China for." That's what I was thinking. I took it.

Q. If we pulled the camera back five feet during that shot, what chaotic or unexpected things off-camera would we have seen?

A. Twelve other photographers who were also at the workshop, lots of clutter, camera bags, and backpacks.

Q. What was the very first photo you ever took that made you think, "Okay, wait…I might actually be good at this"?

A. Bobby playing the drums. Bobby was one of the squirrels in the backyard. That photo started my whole music, animals, and nature photography series. We had some instruments set up in the backyard, and squirrels and birds would land on them, and they were okay. Then the one squirrel got on the drums, and I got one of my favorite pictures of all time. I learned a lot from that; I was actually portrait shooting with animals, but I had flash going.

Q. What's something in your camera bag that isn't a camera, lens, or tripod, but you can't live without?

A. Lens cleaning cloth, business cards, and Sudafed and Airborne. When I'm traveling, I always take Sudafed so my sinuses are clear so I can think properly. I hate being on a photo shoot and not being able to think clearly. And being congested hurts your creativity, in my opinion.

Q. When you're stuck in a creative rut, what's your non-photographic escape? (A specific album, a hobby, or just a long drive?)

A. I just take some time off shooting. I figure if you're in a creative slump, it's best to just step away for a little (it's *all* about being creative, and you can't force creativity), just like in music. You can't fight to be creative. What I do with music and photography is just stop trying to be creative and work on *all* techniques, so when the creativity starts to come back, I'll have worked on improving a certain skill set that will help down the road.

The other thing I try to do is go find something boring and just try to think of a creative way to photograph it. That helps awaken the creative juices again. It can be anything as basic as something on your table or around your house; just try to make a great picture of a doorknob.

One of your [Scott's] classes I watched talked about just using your creative mind every day. Try to take a picture every day of something basic and make it as creative as possible. If I'm not taking a picture, I'll just look at something and look at the light, see where it's coming from. I think it may have been Jay Maisel, actually, that was talking about that. Just keep working on your creative mind. I do, and of course I listen to a lot of jazz that always recharges my mind. Coltrane live at the Village Vanguard; I'm sure it will wake up your creative side.



Paul Kober

Q. How would your friends describe you when you don't have a camera in your hands?

A. Amusing, entertaining, never know what's going to come out of my mouth, creative. Outside the box. Thinks differently. A very loyal friend.

Q. Tell us about a favorite shot of yours that was a complete, unplanned accident that turned out brilliant.

A. My wife and I were on vacation in Seville, walking around, when we came across a young couple performing flamenco in a courtyard. We caught the last couple of minutes, and I got about 10 photos, a couple of which were very good. I said, "That's a complete stumble-on."

Bonus question: What's your favorite piece of art hanging in your home?

A. It would be Tavlos' picture of the Chicago River and Marina Towers.



Arnarstapi, Iceland

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Alison Tuck

Porthcawl Lighthouse, Wales



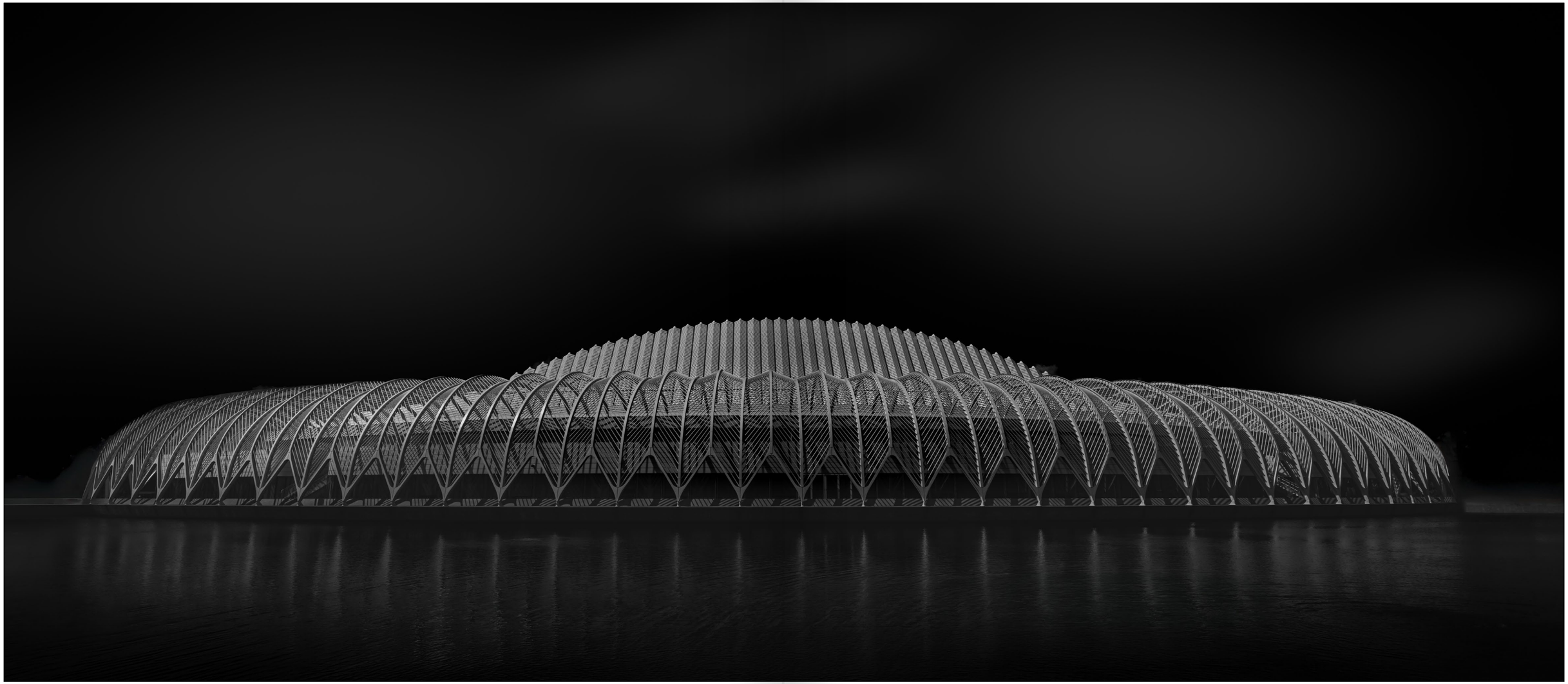
Alison Tuck

The Watchman, Zion National Park, Utah



Alison Tuck

Torres del Paine National Park, Chile



Innovation, Science, and Technology Building, Florida Polytechnic University, Lakeland, Florida
EPA 2026 Platinum Award Winner



LIZ LEIBHAM
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Liz Leibham

This is a composite taken at Bryce Canyon in an area known as Wall Street. The individual is real; however, I added a light on the walking stick and a Milky Way sky replacement.



Liz Leibham

One Thousand Museum, Miami, Florida

EPA 2025 Platinum Award Winner



La Maison Rose, Montmartre, Paris



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Karen Grillion

Havana, Cuba



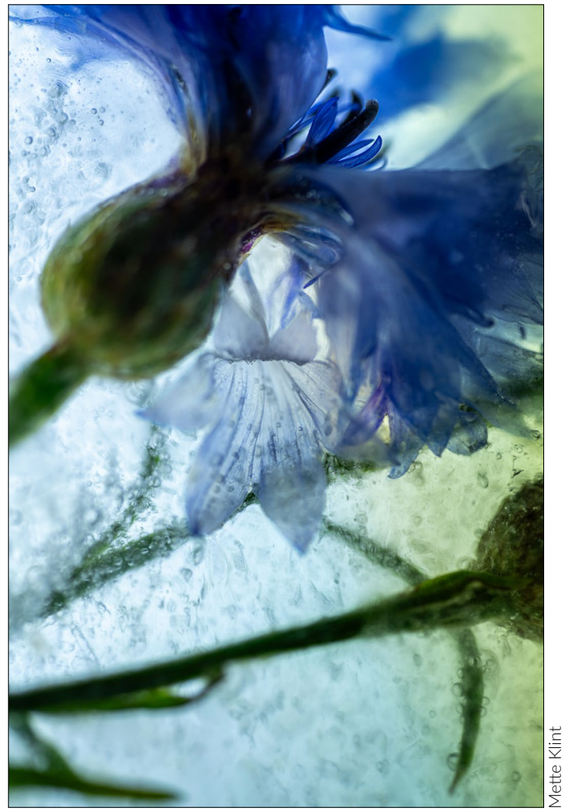


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Smith Rock State Park along the Crooked River, Oregon



Dodie Ross

Sparks Lake with South Sister, Oregon



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2026 Photoshop World Guru Award Winner





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A magical moment at Mont-Saint-Michel welcomed the morning sun.



Annie Barsky



Annie Barsky



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The Bell Tower, Perth, Australia
EPA 2025 Platinum Award Winner



Satheesh Nair

Harpa Concert Hall, Reykjavík, Iceland
EPA 2026 Platinum Award Winner (2 Awards)



Satheesh Nair

Lindis Pass, New Zealand

TIFA 2024 Gold Award Winner





PAUL SWEPSTON
HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS



Paul Swepston

Bailey's Dairy Treat, Hot Springs, Arkansas



Paul Swepston

McClard's Bar-B-Q, Hot Springs, Arkansas



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The classic view of K2 from Concordia in the early morning light.



The F-15E Strike Eagle wearing the classic tri-tone F-111 camouflage scheme in honour of the 40th anniversary of the 1986 Libya airstrike. (Kama 52)



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Paul Bartell



Paul Bartell



Paul Bartell







Susan Scharenberg



SUSAN SCHARENBERG

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An iconic tree in Africa, also known as the Tree of Life. These trees can live for thousands of years, storing water in their trunks to withstand harsh droughts. They also play a vital role in their ecosystem, providing food and shelter to many species. This tree is in the Moremi Game Reserve in Botswana.



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ALBANY, NEW YORK



Michael Buckman

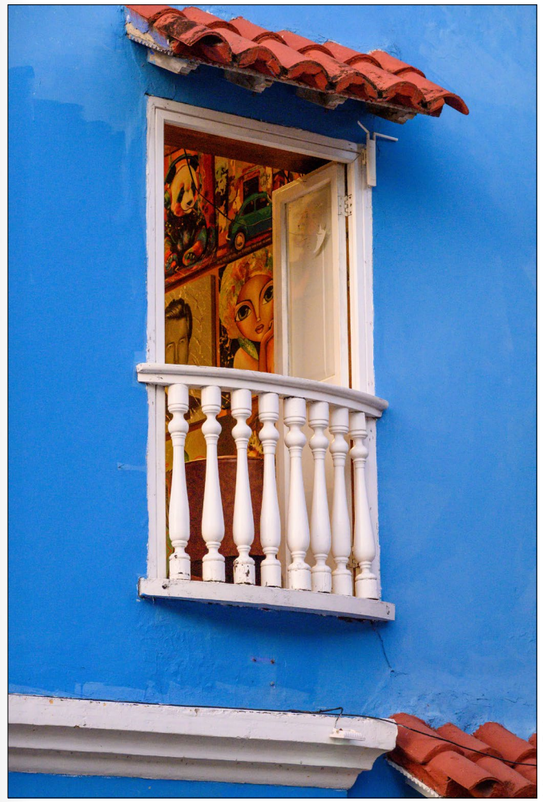




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Miguel Bejar



Miguel Bejar



Miguel Bejar



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EDWIN A. BOWE
NICHOLASVILLE, KENTUCKY

During the rut, which peaks in September, bull elk have only one thing on their minds. They "bugle" to attract females and discourage competition from nearby bulls. (The larger the bull, the louder and deeper his bugle.) This image was taken after a light snowfall; the Harvest Moon was the proverbial icing on the cake.



Edwin A. Bowe



Edwin A. Bowe







Mary Anne Worrell



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Canna lily seed pods serve as nutrition for local feathered friends and propagate the next generation.



HOLLY ELMORE

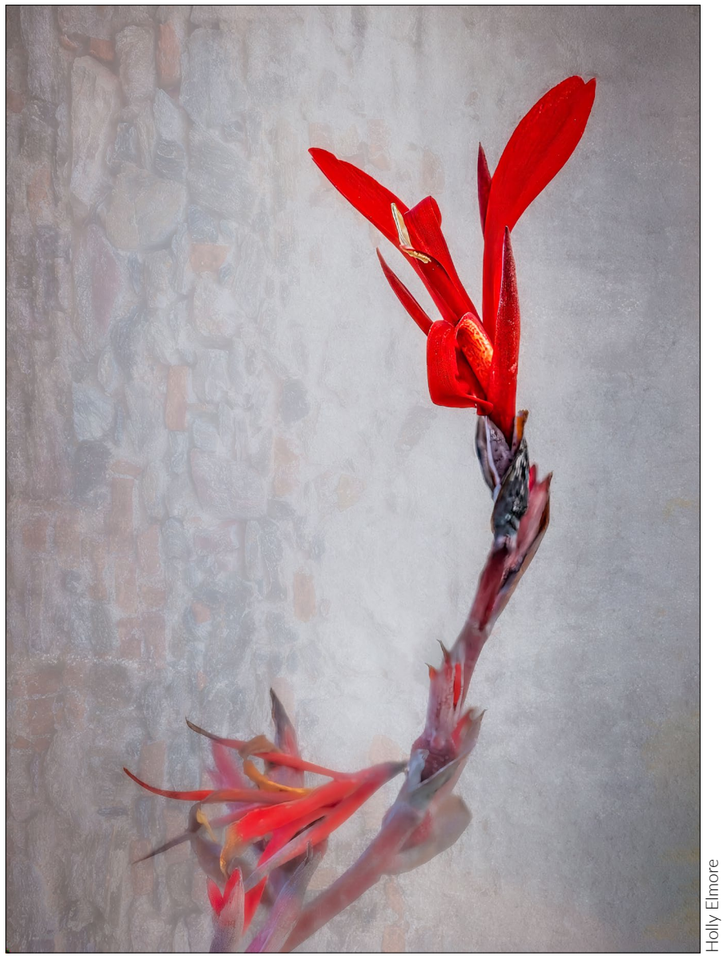
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@hollyelmoreatl



Holly Elmore

The first principle of nature—diversity—is well established in the garden; the star of the image is a black swallowtail caterpillar preparing to enter its fourth instar.



Holly Elmore



Holly Elmore





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Jeffrey Lamarche



Jeffrey Lamarche





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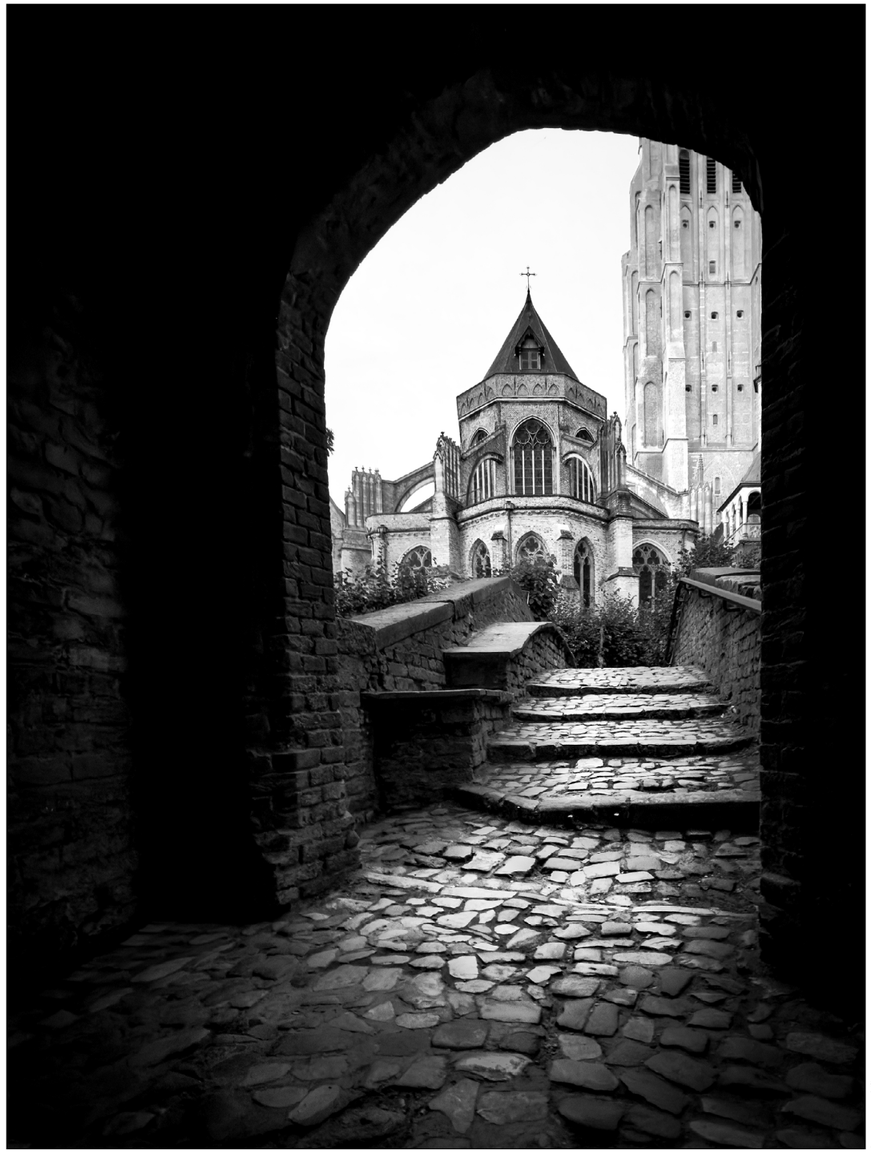


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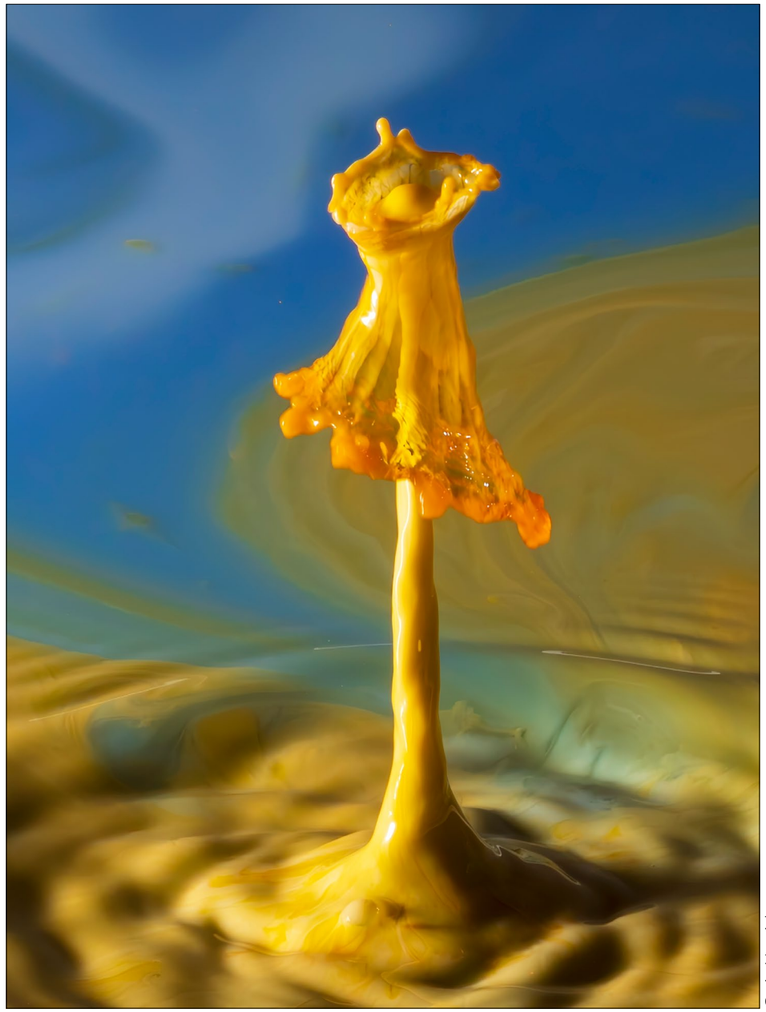
June Norsworthy



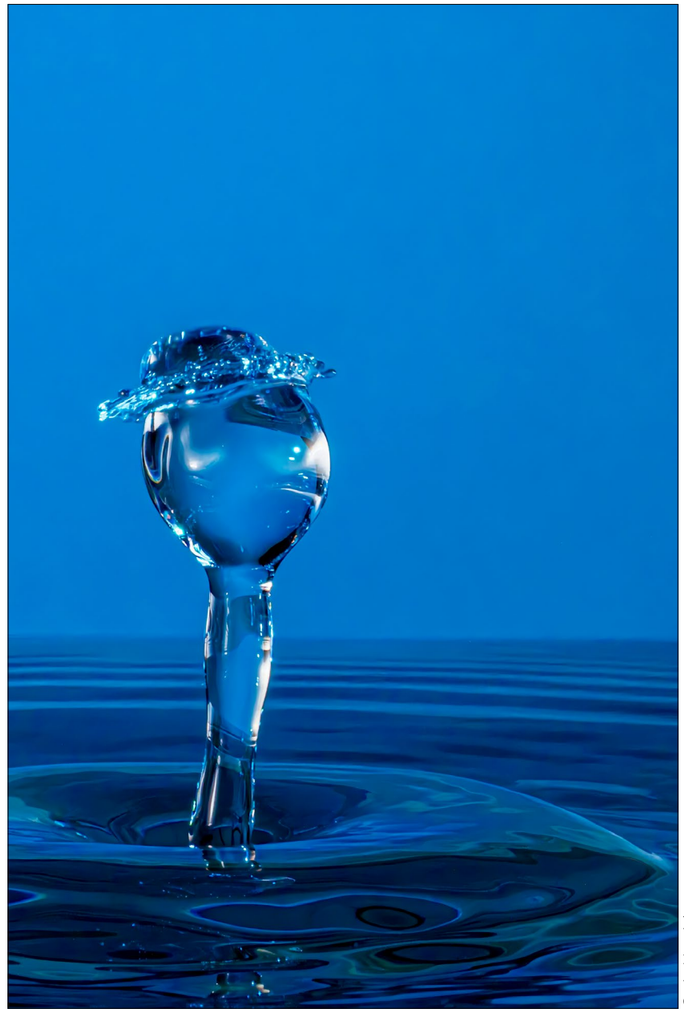
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Lighthouse Pond, St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, Florida



Susan Fears



Narai-juku, a well-preserved post town that has been an important stop on the Nakasendo trail since the 1600s.



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James Blask

Mobius Arch, Alabama Hills, California



Blue Angels performing their opposing knife-edge pass.



MATT POULSON
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH



A composite of a Lionel model railroad carnival 1/48-scale Ferris wheel and carousel. Some people are from Woodland Scenics, some are scanned with a LiDAR camera and 3D-printed, and some are composites of models.

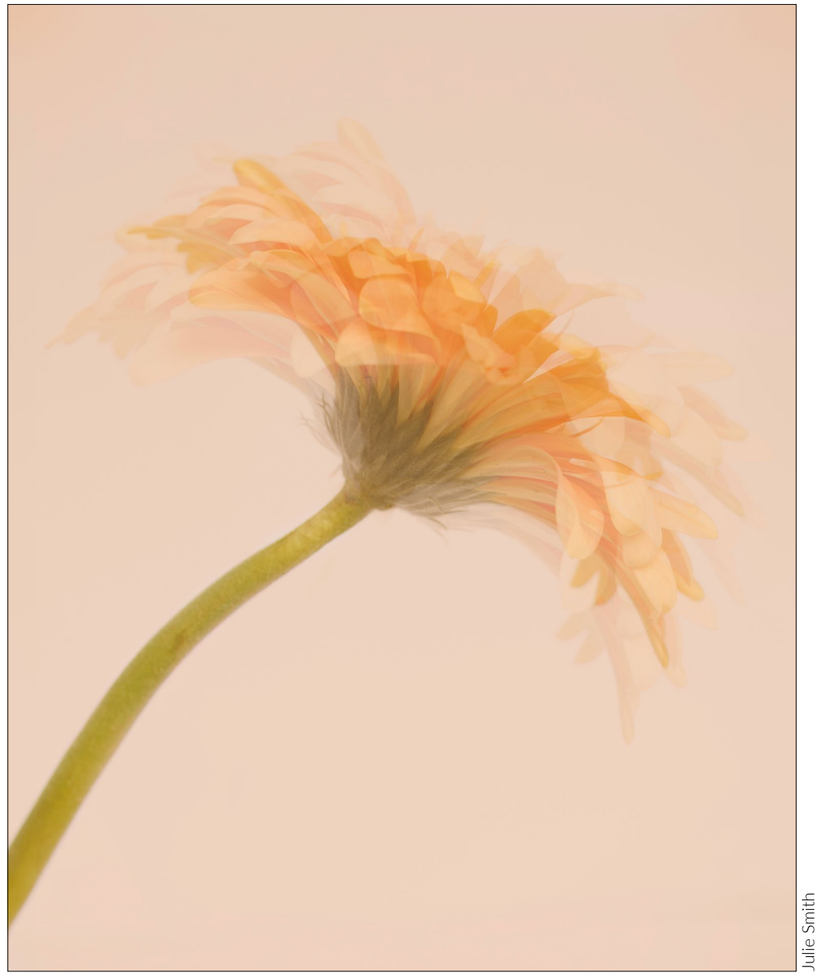


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Back Bay, outside of Twillingate, Newfoundland and Labrador

© Matt Jernigan



St. Paul's Cathedral, London

RON VAN ROODEN
WASHINGTON, DC



Ron van Rooden

A late and rainy February evening in London's financial district, looking toward the Shard across the River Thames.



Grand Central Terminal, New York City



Stu Greenberg

The Oculus, New York City



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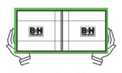


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