



APA AWARDS
American Photographic Artists

AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS

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BACK COVER PHOTOGRAPHY

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American Photographic Artists (APA), established in 1981, is a 501(c)(6) not-for-profit association for professional photographers.

The APA Awards is an annual competition, juried by professionals in our industry who work with and hire photographers. The winning selection is determined entirely by the jurors. We greatly appreciate the time and consideration put into making the selections.

AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTISTS

strives to improve the environment for photographic artists and clear the pathways to success in the industry. Recognized for its broad industry reach, APA provides benefits for its members and works to champion the rights of all photographers and image-makers worldwide.

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Greg Garry, Photo Creative Director, *PETA*
Ally Godfrey, Senior Art Producer, *Mary Kay*
Susan Hatten, Freelance Executive Producer
Erika Henke, Photo Production Manager, *Lands' End*
Ashley Holmes, Senior Art Producer, *MullenLowe*
Renee Jung, VP Executive Art Producer, *Area 23*
Lizzy Lehn, Producer, *BBDO New York*
Nikki O'Toole, Senior Art Producer, *Media Arts Lab*
Sabrina Oliva, Executive Art Producer, *FCB Health New York*
Ilona Siler, Senior Art Producer, *BBDO New York*
Kimberly Stoerker, Senior Producer, *denstu mcgarrybowen*
Jess Torpey, Executive Producer, *Digitas*


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THE APA AWARDS

Entries to the APA Awards arrive from around the world. The jurors make their selection without knowing who the photographer is or any background about the images themselves. Discovering the stories behind the work is a delightful part of producing the APA Awards book.

Learn more about the photographers on these pages and discover additional inspiring talent on APANational.org and on  [@AmericanPhotographicArtists](https://www.instagram.com/AmericanPhotographicArtists)

Flying Stars - Umaru Sandi

Umaru Sandi is the Captain of the Flying Stars team in the city of Bo. When he was five years old the rebels attacked his village, forcing villagers to run into the surrounding bush. Days later, Nigerian ECOMOG soldiers entered the city to drive them out. Hiding in the bush and caught in the crossfire, shrapnel tore into Umaru's foot after bullets from a large caliber gun struck a nearby tree. His uncle managed to carry him through the Nigerian lines to a government hospital. But with services stretched well past their limit and no medication, his leg started to rot, at which point, they decided to amputate his leg to save his life. The image was taken in the jungle surrounding his amputee resettlement village.

TODD ANTONY

Born in New Zealand, based in London, and shooting world-wide, Todd Antony is a multi-award-winning photographer.

Over the last few years, his personal projects have taken him to all corners of the globe, as he seeks out little-known groups or subcultures, people who are extraordinary in their own unique way and who have an inspirational story to tell.

He has been working as a photographer for 16 years and is represented in the UK, US, France, and Australia shooting for clients such as Sony, Samsung, Shell, and Audi, amongst others. He has received numerous awards, including the American Photography Awards, International Photography Awards, AOP Awards, and has been included multiple times in *Lurzer's Archive 200 Best Advertising Photographers Worldwide*.

www.toddantony.com
@toddantonyphoto



Sun Salutations

Though often maligned, snails, when you see the world at their level, offer a magical perspective. Their message of taking things slow and learning patience played well with my camera as I knelt in the dirt, allowing this sweet creature the time and space to be comfortable with me as a temporary fixture in its morning routine. The big payout was the moment it began to stretch and explore as though I wasn't there.

L. STEPHANIE TAIT

Stephanie completed a Bachelor of Arts in Film Studies from UW-Milwaukee. She earned a Masters of Arts from the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies and spent four and a half years pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Edinburgh's Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies Department. In Scotland, Stephanie curated and organized independent film festivals and screenings with the Film House Theatre in Edinburgh and the University of Edinburgh's Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies Department.

Putting her Ph.D. on hold, Stephanie moved to Los Angeles in 2010 to continue producing, writing, and directing. When not creating fantastical realities on stage, page, and screen, she heads Verthandi Press, through which she published her book *Telling it to the Moon: Faerie Tales and Fantastical Journeys*, and the podcast Sisters of Sci-Fi.

Her photography, 2-D, and 3-D artwork are meant to be reflections of her deep-seated love of sacred geometry and the natural world, but more than likely just reveals her inner, well-accepted, and fully loved chaos.

www.lstait.com
@verthandistudio



Golden Hour Wood Duck

I had been laying still in a marsh for over an hour, hoping the skittish wood ducks - the males in their breeding plumage - would venture my way. This dabbling drake nervously inched closer and closer from across the pond. Eventually, it came near enough to make this frame just as the sunset painted the scene with golden light.

JOSHUA
KRAEMER

Josh has garnered photography, video, and editing skills, producing content for nongovernmental organizations and editorial clients worldwide. He has more recently begun to focus on wildlife and conservation.

An early internship at *The Phnom Penh Post* in Cambodia set the tone for his future work as a documentary photographer focusing on countries in transition. He returned to Cambodia several times to train local human rights monitors in photography. His international documentary work has been exhibited at the International AIDS Conference, G20 Summit, international photo festivals, and numerous international development exhibits. He also worked as an assistant editor on the award-winning documentary, “Living Downstream.”

Based in Hamilton, Canada, Josh continues to shoot commissioned work and teaches photography, filmmaking, and media.

www.joshuakraemer.photoshelter.com
[@jkraemerinsta](https://www.instagram.com/jkraemerinsta)



Eye to Eye with a Dragonfly

I love dragonflies; they fascinate me. I get excited whenever I see them. Getting a clear shot of a dragonfly is extremely difficult as they move so fast. They also don't stay still for very long even when they are not in flight. When I saw this dragonfly perched on the lotus flower, I slowly approached with my long lens and was fortunate to capture it from multiple angles. This is one of my favorite insect photos that I've taken through the years.

DREE MORIN

Based in Brooklyn, NY, I am a city dweller and nature lover. I am inspired by architecture and wildlife. I like to take pictures from different points of view to get unique perspectives. I also love to discover the pockets of nature within the city to see who's there to capture. I incorporate my photography into my graphic design projects whenever possible.

I have loved photography since I was a child, though I hated waiting for the film to be commercially developed. As newer technologies became accessible, I purchased my first digital camera. The ability to instantly critique my work allowed me to improve my skills as my passion grew. I have been a photographer for over 20 years. I am a purist with my photography and do minimal, if any, post-production editing.

Photography is seizing a moment in time. You'll never get the same shot again; the conditions will never be identical.

www.dreemerphotography.com
@dreemerdesigns



China Resources Headquarters

Designed by Kohn Pedersen Fox, the bamboo shoot inspired form of the China Resources Headquarters building sits on the edge of Shenzhen Bay. I was looking for a strong view of the tower that amplified its iconic position at the southern gateway to the city. While certainly enthralling during the day, the exquisite lighting on the building each evening during a coordinated sound and light extravaganza seemed most appropriate. The city controlled the whole show, so there were no opportunities to ask for individual settings for our building. As with many larger architectural shoots, capturing this photograph relied on careful planning, then optimistically being in the right place at the right time, hoping events would unfold as desired.

TIMOTHY GRIFFITH

Tim Griffith has been photographing architecture and design-related images for over thirty years. Melbourne-born and working from San Francisco and Melbourne offices, Tim travels extensively on assignments in Asia, Europe, and North America for many of the world's leading design firms. His inventive and graphic images are included in several private and public art collections, widely published in a diverse range of international design journals, and sought after by corporate and advertising clients worldwide.

www.timgriffith.com
@timgriffithphoto



1000 Museum Penthouse Pool

We photographed the Broad Museum at Michigan State University for Zaha Hadid Architects and were eager to work with them again. Unfortunately, most of their work is in Asia and Europe, but they said, “When we have a US project, we would love to work with you again.” The 1000 Museum took years to build due to its exoskeleton design - five plus years of discussions led to this photoshoot. It was probably the last shoot we did before the Covid lockdown, but what a wonderful project. This was the pool on top of the penthouse, overlooking Miami. Probably something you will never see unless you are a resident but a beautiful space, especially at dusk.

BRAD FEINKNOPF

Brad Feinknopf has been shooting architecture and commercial related images for over 30 years. Brad comes from a long line of architects and therefore has spent a lifetime looking at architecture. He received a degree in Design from Cornell University but picked up photography as a junior, and it became his passion.

After Cornell, Brad spent several years in New York City, assisting such notable photographers as Richard Avedon, Robert Mapplethorpe, Arnold Newman, Horst, Joyce Tenneson, and others. In 1988, Brad moved to Columbus, Ohio, making it his home base.

Brad’s images have been published worldwide. Over his career, he has created a wide variety of work for many of the world’s well-known architects and designers. *ArchDaily* recently selected Brad as one of the Top 13 Architectural Photographers in the World to Follow.

www.feinknopf.com
@feinknopf @feinknopfstudio



Manzanita Beach House

Any reason to get to the coast is a good one, mainly if that reason is to photograph a beautifully built and designed home with spectacular views. It was a fun challenge to balance the interior design, architectural features, and outside view.

CHRISTOPHER DIBBLE

Christopher Dibble is a West Coast-based photographer, born and raised in Los Angeles and currently residing in Portland. He graduated from Art Center College of Design and has spent his career photographing projects for commercial and editorial clients, designers, artists, and architects.

Specializing in lifestyle interiors and portraiture, he has been interviewed by *Popular Photography Magazine* about his environmental portraiture and was selected as one of The Advocate's 40 under 40. His work has been featured in editorial publications including *House Beautiful*, *Dwell*, *HGTV*, *Country Living*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *People Magazine*. He's also produced work for manufacturers including Sunbrella, The Shade Store, and Framebridge.

While portraiture and interior design are considered two different photographic genres, Dibble works to combine his understanding of both with the intent of creating imagery that tells a story.

Dibble's first book, *Modern Americana*, was released in April of 2021 and featured over 140 photographs.

www.christopherdibble.com
@dibblephoto



Deja
This image was an outtake from a beauty/fashion story for Vulkan Magazine titled “In Neon We Trust” (<https://vulkan-magazine.com/ux-portfolio/neon/>)

NATHALIE
GORDON

Born and raised in London, British photographer Nathalie Gordon shoots with an unusual but fantastic hyper-realistic style. Her work is packed with high sheen and edge, yet she maintains a realistic and believable representation of her subjects.

www.nathaliegordon.com
[@photonathalie](https://www.instagram.com/photonathalie)



I Dream in Moodboards #724

An unexpected fashion shoot. Fabrics, textures, and the movement of garments. This is part of a series I created where it was not about the model. I wanted to do something different, where the model was not the primary focal point but where I still maintain a fashion story that blurred the line between still life and on-figure while remaining on location.

SAMI DRASIN

Artist Sami Drasin began her career at a young age taking candid pictures of her friends. Having grown up in Los Angeles amid the world of professional wrestlers, actors, and artists, she was constantly inspired by the wide range of characters that surrounded her. Upon her graduation from Art Center, Sami immersed herself directly into the world of professional photography. When she is not shooting, Sami spends time with her husband Sam (yes, Sami and Sam), and their adorable dog, Bogie.

www.samidrasin.com
@samidrasin



Stardust

This image was created with talented makeup artist Yvette Oduro and model Anai Akunei. I think captivating imagery should engage the viewer to want to look at it over and over again. This image of Anai does just that for me. The beautiful makeup created by Yvette reminds me of stardust, and the calm gaze from Anai makes me want to go back and look at the image repeatedly.

MILA UGRYN

Mila Ugryn is a Ukrainian-born beauty and still life photographer based in Chicago. She focuses on creating captivating and vibrant images with a flair of sophistication for cosmetic, jewelry, and skincare brands. She began her career as a photographer four years ago and was first introduced to the beauty world as a model. While working with talented hair and makeup artists regularly, she fell in love with the beauty world and developed an eye for refined imagery. With a Bachelor's Degree in Public Relations from DePaul University, Mila brings all the necessary qualities for commercial and editorial clients to meet their production and artistic needs. During her free time, she enjoys climbing, traveling, and new culinary experiences.

www.milaugryn.com
@milaugryn



Singer/Songwriter Rosey

I created a series of images in September of 2020 to support Rosey’s singles that are planned for release in 2021. Due to Covid restrictions, all were shot at her home in Atlanta. You can see more images plus hear her new single “At The Party” at roseymusic.com.

Credits:

*Wardrobe: Stacey Bell @thestylesanctum
<https://thestylesanctum.com/>*

On Set Dresser: Erin Doster @erinn2

*Make Up\Hair: Piper Von Hoene @pipervonhoene
<https://www.thespinstyle.agency/>*

Assistant: Emilee Ramsier @emilee.ramsier

MARK
HILL

Mark Hill was born and raised in Oklahoma City. While still a fan of the football team, he left the University of Oklahoma to attend the School of Visual Arts, in New York City. After graduating with a BFA in photography, Mark stayed in New York for the next eight years, shooting mostly food photography for cookbooks and publications like *The New York Times Magazine*, *Cosmopolitan*, Alfred A. Knopf, and *Family Circle*.

Mark then headed south to Atlanta where he became Director of Photography for Turner Broadcasting, managing and mentoring a merry band of young photographers. Returning to the freelance world, Mark joined the Local 600 Camera Union, and started shooting for such networks and companies as HBO, NBC, Starz, Coca-Cola, Delta, and A&E, to name a few.

Despite being nominated for a couple of Emmy awards, Mark remains a simple guy. He can often be found camping with his son’s Boy Scout troop, perfecting his smoked ribs, or searching for discounted tee times at public golf courses.

www.markhillphoto.com
@photomark16



Trace Lysette as Madame X

I felt inspired to create a portrait of actress and transgender rights activist Trace Lysett in a style reminiscent of classical romantic paintings such as "Madame X" by John Singer Sargent and "Portrait of a Venetian Woman" by Francesco Hayez. Women in this era were often presented as elegant, poised, composed, and possessing an element of mystery. Due to a patriarchal society, life as a woman has always had extra obstacles, and I wondered what challenges these women faced. Trace Lysette's experience and journey as a transgender woman added a richer context and more profound exploration into female representation versus the reality of womanhood.

ELISABETH CAREN

Los Angeles native Elisabeth Caren is an award-winning editorial, advertising, and fine art photographer. Elisabeth incorporates her lifelong passion for the dramatic arts into her visual art practice, creating cinematic narratives and theatrical portraits. She has been commissioned by clients such as Apple, Atlantic Records, CBS, Citibank, Fox, Discovery, HBO, NBC, and Sony and published in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post Magazine*, *Emmy Magazine*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *Time Magazine*, among others.

www.ecarenphoto.com
@ecarenphoto



Colum McCann
National Book Award winner Colum McCann at his home in New York for The Wall Street Journal. While we set up, Colum’s dog Layla hung off-camera begging for treats, and Colum would occasionally pull one from his vest pocket and give it to her between shots. So I pulled back and grabbed the off moment, and it became my favorite from the shoot.

CHRIS SORENSEN

Chris Sorensen is a New York-based award-winning photographer shooting celebrity and editorial portraiture, travel, and documentary work. Chris was lucky to escape the corporate world and find photography, where he gets to take pictures of interesting faces and beautiful places. Clients have included *American Way*, *Hemispheres*, *ESPN the Magazine*, *MONEY*, *Wine Spectator*, *Popular Mechanics*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Financial Times*, *Washington Post Magazine*, *Monocle*, and *InStyle*.

www.chris-sorensen.com
[@_chris_sorensen](#)



Unspoken Truths

Unspoken Truths is an image that attempts to convey the fragmented mental state that can occur when truths are held in silence to avoid conflict. In order to deter mental fractures and stresses, it is vitally important to find ways of communicating our concerns with people or releasing the tensions that reside in our field of thought.

VALENTINO LOYOLA

Valentino is an artist who uses photography as a medium to convey an honest review of his experiences. Because his photographic images and conceptualized works originate from a place of realism, they become more to him like visual poetry, allowing audiences the ability for personal sentiments to influence their interpretation of his work.

www.valentinoloyola.studio
@valentinoloyola



Don't Take What You Don't Need

DAN ESCOBAR

Dan Escobar is a very funny guy. He's also an award-winning director and photographer who is inspired by the execution of strong concepts. Whether it's the pure interaction of composition and light, the staging of stylized portraits, or the creation of complex environments, Dan artfully crafts humor into his conceptual imagery producing an image that makes you look closer. His versatility and problem solving while keeping the process fun make him a client favorite. Dan has shot award winning broadcast and still campaigns for clients such as American Express, Puma, Netflix, HP, M&Ms, Oracle, Qualcomm, Specialized and Microsoft to name a few. Dan is represented by: John x Ed / johnxed.com

www.danescobar.com
@danescobarphoto



Let Me Grow

JEFF SCIORTINO

I'm fortunate to continue my profession while contributing many years of shooting in the industry. I live for photography and love working with people in a field of memorable creativity. Whether it's a household name or the name of a friend, I'm dedicated to discovering that timeless moment. The focus begins in developing a creative and congenial space to you. With exciting experiences of shooting Barack Obama, Britney Spears, Michael Jordan, Jeff Tweedy and many others, I give the talent I shoot an experience of them feeling like a celebrity. My success is supported by the focus of developing "real people" to become comfortable in front of the camera. I work globally to capture moments of life in all people, products, and places.

www.jeffsciortino.com
@sciortinophoto



TERRY
VINE

Rice Farmer and Son
On assignment shooting portraits of rice farmers and their families.

Terry Vine is an award-winning advertising and lifestyle photographer who shoots stills and motion for ad agencies and corporate clients. *Lürzer’s Archive* recently recognized him as one of the 200 Best Ad Photographers Worldwide.

www.terryvine.com
[@terryvine](#)



Liz Smith, authorized biologist, onsite at the Gemini Solar project on lands owned by the Moapa Band of Piutes in Nevada
I was able to photograph Liz and other workers onsite during a project showing the progress of a solar farm (one of the nation's largest at the time) in late March and early April of 2021. The project is taking place partially on lands owned by the Moapa Band of Piutes. Field biologists like Liz spend up to 6 months of the year living out of their vehicles onsite. Part of her job is to log, track and, later on, relocate populations of endangered desert tortoises during the project.

JOSHUA STEADMAN

Lifestyle, portrait, editorial and commercial director, and photographer, based in Raleigh, NC, USA. I handle a lot of motion projects as well.

I'll start at the beginning. My father's Nikkormat and a 28mm lens captured my childhood. As the son of a newspaperman and a teacher, I inherited a love of learning and telling stories. I think both are used in equal measure to do what I do.

In my work, I try to bring that transformative energy to my projects; whether I'm working on a documentary about cycling, a tv spot about a graffiti artist's design for a new pair of Vans, or a photograph capturing a field biologist tracking endangered desert tortoises in the desert of Nevada.

www.steadyfilm.com
@steadyfilm



Icarus Redeemed

I am renowned for photographing bazillionaires. Forbes commissioned my services to capture David Neeleman, founder of Jet Blue airlines and CEO/Founder of Breeze airlines. I have shot about a dozen assignments for Forbes, each one I killed. This one would be no different; I have a lawyer on retainer for how often I murder photoshoots. Albino tigers, strippers, and gold-plated machine guns are rarely allowed on Forbes photo shoots, so this is the best I could do. Also, the weather was bad.

AARON
KOTOWSKI

My mother is a Cuban immigrant; naturally, we practice Santeria. As a small child, I was warned that one could steal the soul of any human being with a voodoo chant and a camera. With this knowledge, I put my Fischer Price Snap-o-Tron to quick use. I now possess the eternal essence of over twenty-eight thousand humans... Just kidding, I love photography, and brilliant people pay me to take pictures. My clients appreciate my humility and no-nonsense attitude.

www.bigaaron.com
@aaron_kotowski



Home Schooling

A single mother home schools her four young children during the second national lockdown in the United Kingdom.

CATHERINE FALLS

Catherine Falls is a commercial photographer based in Ireland. She graduated from Queens University, Belfast, with a degree in Film and Photography. She travels globally to capture images for internationally recognized brands, including Siemens, Nespresso, Club Med, Samsung, and many more.

www.catherinefallscommercial.com
@catherinefalls



The End
We lost my father in December 2020 during the peak of the pandemic. Like so many other families, we grieved in isolation.

BROOKE
HUMMER

Brooke Hummer is a commercial and fine art photographer based in Chicago.

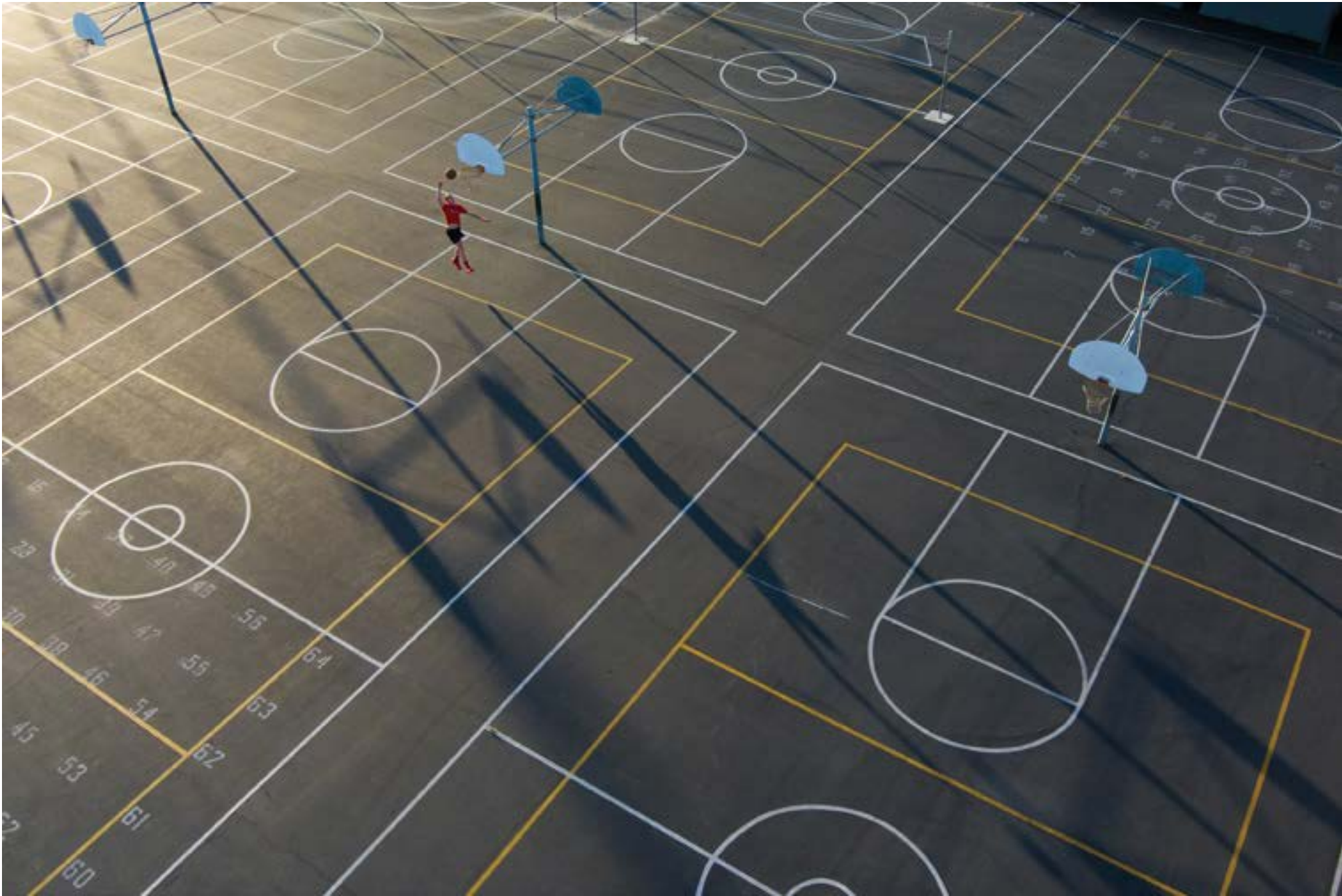
www.brookehummer.com
[@brookehummer](https://www.instagram.com/brookehummer)



Socially Distanced Basketball Practice
When COVID-19 hit, we wanted to tell stories in our community to show how people were adapting, creating, and living in a profoundly changed world. Because we're both former athletes, we knew just how hard the pandemic was for so many people, and we wanted to show how athletes were persisting throughout Covid. This photo was from a shoot with a highly dedicated high school basketball player, who continued to find ways to improve his skills and practice alone despite everything being shut down.

TRACY +
DAVID

Tracy and David are a Southern California-based husband and wife stills and motion team. They create lifestyle, portrait, outdoors, and sports imagery for advertising campaigns, commercial, and editorial clients. Tracy and David are both award-winning photojournalists, and that background taught them to find the moment in everything. Shooting as a team, they're more creative, they get more coverage, more content, and much more memorable imagery. It's what their style of photography is all about – beautiful, passionate images. As a team, they shoot on land, underwater, and from the air, and work to move people to be active and live a fuller life.



MARK
HOLLEY

Walking in L.A.
April 2, 2021, Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills, California—This image spotlights an iconic location during a phase of the pandemic when some had just begun to resume their routines, including consumption and image-making.

www.markholleyphoto.com
[@_mark_holley](https://www.instagram.com/_mark_holley)



(Former) Austin Police Chief Brian Manley

This portrait was made shortly before Austin Police Chief Brian Manley ran into trouble, facing intense criticism and calls for his dismissal when police killed an unarmed man and then seriously injured non-violent protesters.

We were assigned a small, blacked-out room with zero character whatsoever, save for a podium and an 'Austin Police' sign set-up for press photo-ops. I felt that we needed to look outside, add some other elements. I liked the tension created from having the Police Chief peer through the blinds. With policing practices part of an ongoing national conversation, the US flag in the background added an additional narrative element. A strobe was set up outside to accentuate the shadows, increasing the sense of drama.

Chief Manley retired a few months later.

JOHN DAVIDSON

John Davidson is a commercial and editorial photographer currently based in Austin, Texas. Originally from Manchester, England, he has yet to come up with a satisfactory answer to the oft-asked question, "What are you doing in Texas?"

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@johndavidsonphoto



BLM Protest: Lower East Side, June 1st, 2020
On May 28, 2020, the Black Lives Matter protests emerged in response to the institutional police brutality and the killing of George Floyd. On May 29, there was increased activity at Foley Square in front of the Supreme Court. With the blandness of pandemic life, I was curious to see what was going on. It was the first human gathering and interaction I had since the quarantine. The moment I arrived at Foley Square, I was captivated.

I captured this image during the June 1st protest of the East Village gathering where we rallied to the Lower East Side, up the FDR's Civic Center exit, and off the East Houston exit on the FDR. The pandemic led to extreme isolation, but at that moment, the feeling of togetherness was extraordinary.

SIPPAKORN PONPAYONG (MICKEY)

Sippakorn Ponpayong is a Bangkok native, born and raised. He currently works in architectural photography in NYC for Connie Zhou Photography.

www.sippakornponpayong.com
 @iamsippakorn



Pompano

This image was created during the pandemic as part of an effort to continue developing personal work when things were slow. With a very small crew in my St. Louis studio (studio749.com), and my food stylist, Brian Preston-Campbell, I wanted to take the time to simply take photographs. This image is the result of understanding how important it is for me to pursue personal work and the value of creating for its own sake.

JENNIFER SILVERBERG

I am a food photographer and director. I built and moved into my new studio in January 2020. Two months later, when the world stopped, I was sitting in my studio with its beautiful new kitchen and bright natural light and thought an awful lot about why I do what I do. And why I love what I do. The aromas that wind their way through a space, the stained fingers from beautifully messy ingredients, the choreographed dance of a busy commercial kitchen, and the joy and beauty of people gathered around a table sharing memories, laughs, traditions and food. Food is community, connection, tradition, and art. Food is where we can slow down, nourish and connect. Food has provided ways for me to continue to be a storyteller (having cut my teeth in photojournalism), but now I do it for brands and through collaborative partnerships with my clients. I am a food, farm, product, and lifestyle photographer in the Midwest.

When not working with my clients, I spend much of my time working on my cooking skills and trying to make my garden grow.

www.jennifersilverberg.com
@jennsilverberg



Floral and Brine

This photograph is a detail for a cover image for Steelite plateware. Oysters are so inherently beautiful that only a few small flowers and some briny foam were needed to elevate the plating.

ANDREW BURKLE

Andrew Burkle has been a staple on food photography sets for over a decade. He discovered his love for food photography while working in Chicago and has since brought his ingredient-focused, color-rich style to many clients along the way. As co-owner and lead photographer at BurkleHagen Studio in Cleveland, Andrew and his team work with food clients from across the country out of their 6,000 square foot studio, complete with a custom commercial kitchen that is a food stylist's paradise. He strives to provide a unique approach and a collaborative mindset to every project, with a healthy mix of curiosity, hard work, humor, and hunger in every shot.

www.burklehagen.com
@burklehagen



Lemon Bundt Cake

This image is part of a series I called “Waste Not” featuring rescued food and honoring the amazing work of organizations like Nourish LA/Nuestros Alimentos, FoodCycle LA, and Food Forward, who are on a mission to reduce food waste and food insecurity while increasing access to healthy food for all Angelenos.

MARIE BERTIAUX

I am a food and lifestyle photographer based in Los Angeles. I have a thing for creating and capturing polished yet relatable images with evocative light, simple compositions, and strong geometry.

Born and raised in France, food has always been an important part of my life. I grew up surrounded by people who cared about food and for whom food was a way to show they cared. Today, I am more passionate than ever about the issues surrounding food waste, food security, and sustainability. I am looking to collaborate with purpose-driven individuals and brands who share these values.

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Dance Like a Dad

This was part of a larger campaign for fatherhood.gov poking fun at dads while promoting engagement with their kids. The campaign ran nationwide and could be seen on billboards and bus shelters everywhere.

DANA HURSEY

Dana Hursey is an award-winning Los Angeles-based commercial advertising photographer and Southern California native. A graduate of and frequent instructor at Art Center College of Design, Dana's broad-based knowledge has offered him the opportunity to shoot for a wide range of clients. He imbues a sense of vibrancy, cleanliness, and humor, whether it is lifestyle, still life, or quirky conceptual images. His work has been exhibited here and abroad. His years of experience have afforded him the privilege of serving on boards of several organizations, including currently as the Senior Vice President of APA National. In addition to his acclaimed portraits from the "14 Days in Great Britain" documentary project, Dana recently completed a compilation cookbook featuring portraits and recipes from 35 of LA's top chefs.

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Wrangling & Surfing: One Last for the Summer

I photographed this session at the beautiful Oregon Coast. Summers on the Pacific Northwest are a treasure as we have rain for most of the year. “Wrangling & Surfing” was my way of saying farewell to the 2019 summer. The session was shot at Cannon Beach and inspired by the brand Jeep (one of my five dream jobs).

PEDRO OLIVEIRA

Pedro Oliveira is a Brazil-born multi-award winner American editorial, documentary, and advertising still and motion director based in Portland (yeah, the loud one!), Orange County, CA, and São Paulo, Brazil.

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Sun-Soakin'-Spit-Swappin'

This image was from the first set-up of a long day, but it was one of those magic moments when you think to yourself, "Welp, nothing for the rest of the day is gonna top THAT frame!"

PATRICK RYLAND

Patrick Ryland is a lifestyle and portrait photographer based in Los Angeles and Chicago. As a creative, Patrick isn't content merely to capture the trendy, the pre-fab, or the flash-in-the-pan. He prefers to scope out the iconoclasts and eccentrics, the oddballs and overlooked.

Patrick believes that humans are the most interesting things in the Universe, and they'll be his primary focus until something more awesome comes along.

www.patrickryland.com
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Mother and Child from the series “The New Abnormal”

“The New Abnormal” is a large-scale tableau photo series about life carrying on in the new normal of climate change and mega-fires.

This work was made before the pandemic and before that apocalyptic day on September 9, 2020, when the midday sky turned nightmarish orange in the Bay Area.

In this body of work, society may have become used to living in this dystopian world under nightmarish skies. The idea that living with climate change is “just another day” is depicted with a tinge of dark humor and social commentary - kids enjoy a “smoke day” from school, burnt orange/red becomes a fashionable statement, a man vapes underneath his mask. But still, a despondent and uncertain future is ahead.

SUSAN J. CHEN

Chosen by Saatchi Art as one of the top 100 women artists, Susan is an award-winning fine art photographer with a conceptual approach in her photo and motion work. Her work has been described as cinematic, moody, and emotionally charged with color and dark humor. Her work has been shown in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minneapolis, Tokyo, Miami, Moià, Cataluna, Spain, and York, UK. She has won numerous awards for her photo and motion work, including The Art Director’s Club, American Photography, American Photographic Artists, *PDN*, *Graphis*, International Color Awards, and film festivals. Her latest work, “The New Abnormal” has been recognized with an ADC award, published in APA LA curated by Rebecca Morse of LACMA, and will be published in the upcoming American Photography 37 annual and exhibition in NYC this November.

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Healing Water

This image was taken between Anna Rathkopf's chemotherapy and radiation treatments for breast cancer. Our personal project 'Her2' shows the story of how our family has adjusted to our new reality after Anna's diagnosis.

Our project aims to redefine the breast cancer experience from Anna's intimate point of view as the patient and Jordan's as a co-survivor and co-parent struggling with his feelings of masculinity and battling acute anxiety from the trauma of the situation.

The Rathkopfs' project has appeared in Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center campaigns and Susan G. Komen Foundation's Master Brand Campaign, 'Moments.'

ANNA & JORDAN RATHKOPF

Anna and Jordan Rathkopf are a photo/video team creating and producing visual narratives for editorial and commercial clients. Their work focuses on health, personal identity, and what it means to be a part of a community.

Anna was raised in Prague, where she learned about composition, light, and how to capture rare moments from her uncle, a renowned Eastern European photographer.

Jordan, a former social-impact marketer, grew up in Brooklyn, where he learned to connect with people from all walks of life and developed an eye for symmetry and hidden charm. He finds that as different as people are, they're still mostly the same: They want to be understood, they like a good story, and open up when treated with kindness or an unexpected compliment.

Together they capture a unique angle of photography and video, incorporating their personal experience as patients and supporting figures to embed empathy, intimacy, and vibrancy into their work.

www.rathkopf.com
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The Decillis Boys

The Decillis boys carrying on a family tradition of contacting extraterrestrial life.

FERNANDO DECILLIS

Fernando Decillis is a versatile photographer whose career started on film and adapted to the digital world. His work lives in a space that teeters between fiction and reality. He has won awards for conceptual imagery in advertising and personal projects as well as documentary series.

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*James White – Owner of The Broken Spoke
(‘Texas’ Oldest Honky-Tonk.)*

The walls of The Broken Spoke are filled with pictures of owner James White posing at his club with the biggest names in country music from the past thirty years. When I showed up to photograph his honky-tonk bar (for National Geographic Traveler UK), he greeted me as though I was the first photographer to ever pass through the doors. Nothing was too much trouble; he was absolutely golden.

In a sense, this was a found portrait. I was photographing other elements of the venue when I noticed James standing at the bar, lost in thought. He saw me a moment after this, flashed a smile. I hit the shutter. I knew I already had the better shot.

There’s an element of pathos to this image now – Mr. White passed away in January of this year, aged 81.

JOHN DAVIDSON

John Davidson has worked with *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Guardian*, *British Airways High Life*, and *National Geographic Traveler UK*, amongst others; he is a regular contributor to *Texas Monthly*.

John works with cutting-edge tech start-ups such as Hypergiant and global corporations such as Accenture and Rackspace, creating corporate branding imagery and executive portraits.

Based in Austin, TX, John is particularly interested in collaborating with purpose-driven companies and those working to be a force for good.

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who heals the healer?

This image is part of the series entitled, “who heals the healer?”, where I visualize myself in a quest to self-soothe and heal. This series is dedicated to black women, the healers. We pour so much of ourselves into our communities and continue to uplift despite the constant war on our bodies and existence. Some years ago, the question came to me, which was inspired by one of my favorite authors, Nayyirah Waheed’s poem “all the women. in me. are tired.” After healing the world around us, who will save us, protect us, heal us? This work explores how I discover healing through movement and celebration of self.

POOCHIE COLLINS

Poochie Collins is a Richmond, Virginia bred, Brooklyn-based visionary, writing love letters with light. By creating these visual time capsules, she illustrates her journey through reflections of her many subjects. Documenting life is her chosen path of self-awareness, and it is grounded in the unwavering witnessing of the day-to-day. Poochie invites her audience to experience the Black community from a different vantage point.

www.poochiecollins.me
@poochiecollins



The Earls

The Earls are a Drag Comedy group. I photographed them at 3 Dollar Bill in Brooklyn as part of a Club Culture Series.

BILL BERNSTEIN

Bill Bernstein is an American photographer. Since beginning his career at the *Village Voice* in the 1970s, his work has captured a variety of subjects, from celebrities and rock stars to urban subcultures. Bernstein broke new ground documenting the golden age of discos and nightclubs such as the famed Studio 54 where sexual liberation, freedom of expression, and inclusion of diversity reigned supreme.

www.billbernstein.com
@billbernstein



Celebrations in the Storm

During the 2021 National Premier Soccer League season I covered the Georgia Storm Football Club in the fourth tier of soccer in the United States. Their game against North Alabama Soccer Coalition was during one of the heaviest downpours of the summer. It was a 3-1 win for the Storm in Carrollton which included a celebration by forward Avery Sheppard in the monsoon conditions with light reflecting off the puddles all over the turf surface. Avery celebrated his first goal in over a year following two serious leg injuries. The emotion you see in this celebration is one of relief, joy, and a realization following his return to the pitch in which he scored twice for the Georgia Storm.

MATT
LACZKO

Matt Laczko is a 25-year-old Atlanta-based photographer who has worked primarily in sports since beginning his career in photography. In 2018, Matt decided to pursue photography full-time as a career. He works to learn from creatives within his circle while using his own experiences as an athlete to look for the movement, expressions, and storylines in his subjects.

www.laczko.photo.com
@LaczkoArt



Dease Lake

I took this photograph during a shoot with athletes Mason Mashon, KC Deane, Geoff Gulevich, and cinematographer Damien Vergez deep in the British Columbia backcountry. I remember choosing a different (safe) angle the first day we shot it. After finding the courage to climb to the top of the opposite ridge after fighting very loose gravel, I was blown away by an entirely different perspective. I persuaded the riders to ride it the next day one more time. Once they got to the bottom, I knew we had something special. Thank you to the crew for the extra hustle. It sure was worth it.

JUSSI GRZNAR

Teaching himself to ski at the age of three in former Czechoslovakia, Jussi's love affair for the mountains and the exhilaration of a life lived outdoors was solidified at an early age.

Jussi Grznar has a continual appreciation for the environment around him and values photography as a means to document life. At home in the backcountry, Jussi has been witness to our changing climate as world temperatures rise. By sharing the beauty and elegance of these places, he hopes to bring awareness to the importance of conscious environmentalism and sustainability.

His work has taken him across the globe through numerous mountain ranges, rice fields, double-overhead barreling waves to the Ghats of Varanasi. These experiences have earned him a global perspective, resulting in a unique style. Splitting his time between California and British Columbia, Jussi Grznar is a storyteller at heart, always searching for the next defining moment.

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Treasure Mountain Spires at Night

We were tasked with making an epic headlamp shot for a company but the photo editor was let go. We decided to make the shot anyway. It's about a 6.5-hour approach, and my climber had to rope solo his tower, and I had to scramble up my more accessible tower.

DAVID CLIFFORD

David Clifford is an adventure photographer with fixer coursing through his veins. He sees things in f-stops and shutter speeds and doesn't really feel right unless he creates a fresh new image behind the camera. Wet plate, sheet film, pixels, and/or video is all part of his DNA. He has won his fair share of awards and made a lot of friends along the way. David is still searching for that one image...

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[@david_clifford_photography](https://www.instagram.com/david_clifford_photography)



*Returning Home To Celebrate Eid
Sadarghat Launch Terminal, 2019*

*Bangladeshi people were returning home during Eid vacation
by Sadarghat Launch Terminal. It's challenging to get space
inside; many people just put bed sheets on the rooftop of the
terminal to secure space there.*

MD TANVEER ROHAN

Award-winning photographer Md Tanveer Hassan Rohan was born and raised in Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh. He is a passionate and dedicated photographer with nearly seven years of experience. His primary goal as a photographer is to document life's moments as he sees them, preserving them in time. He loves to travel and explore different places and countries, meet new people, and embrace photography's experience to capture the beautiful and awe-inspiring moments on earth. He believes in the power of the image to express emotion and tell untold stories.

He has participated in many photography contests, winning many national and more than 500 international photography awards. He is the first Bangladeshi photographer to win back-to-back *National Geographic* Travel Photographer of the Year Contests (2017 & 2018). He was also awarded Jury's Choice Award in the LensCulture-Magnum Photography Awards in 2017, 1st Prize in Street and Wildlife categories from Toshiba ExceLENS Awards in 2019, Dubai. He also earned 1st prize in the Sports Category from Balkan Photo Awards in 2016.

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Celestial Arch

This picture represents one of my 2020 photographic compilations of the US National Parks, including Arches National Park. It characterizes a newfound appreciation of the green spaces in my backyard during a 3-week midsummer trip to the US National Parks. This trip allowed me the opportunity and time to explore earth's most extraordinary manifestations of beauty in my home country.

BRIAN DOYLE

Brian Doyle works as a conservation and ecotourism photographer. Photography is his creative outlet and how he connects with the world around him. He draws inspiration from the moments of awe he has felt in his career, exploring and guiding in some of the most remote places in the world, and tries to put a little piece of that feeling in every photo he makes. “I like to think of the camera as a bridge connecting the environment to audiences and creating genuine human emotion out of our shared digital experience.”

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RICH SAAL

Free Birds


Sometimes, there's more action than you think on an isolated country road. While shooting pictures of the harvest season, birds that had been feeding on corn rose above the road in front of me. It can be a nuisance to always have a camera within reach. Sometimes, it pays off.

Rich Saal is a commercial and editorial photographer based in Central Illinois, adept at making authentic and relatable storytelling images, listening, collaborating, exploring, discovering, and delivering.

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