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After working in the newspaper and studio businesses for several years, I chose to leave professional photography in 1977 to pursue a career as a mechanical engineer. Over the years, I retained my interest in photography, and the advent of digital processing rekindled my passion. I was able to retire at the beginning of 2009 and began an encore career in photography with an emphasis on fine art large scale landscape and abstract figure photography.

I'm also active in the local Central Illinois arts community. I am an active volunteer member of the ArtsPartners of Central Illinois (www.artspartners.net) marketing committee and I am currently helping organize the Central Illinois Artist Organization (www.ciaopeoria.com) 1st annual CIAO Art Experience and Exhibition as part of the 2014 Ignite Peoria arts celebration (www.ignitepeoria.com). I also publish the website Playing Peoria (www.playingpeoria.com) where I feature photos and stories about local artists and entertainers.

Artist Statement

I have a passion to create, and I'm fascinated with the tools and technologies of creativity. I strive to produce images that are graphically simple, technically precise in order to render beautiful photographic fine art prints. I regularly apply a variety of digital transformations to create an image that reflects my artistic interpretation.

I'm old fashioned in that I still believe that the purpose of photography is to produce a finished print. There's still something special about a beautifully produced print. It's something you can touch, and it doesn't need any special technology to be enjoyed. Small prints can be passed around or bound into albums. Large prints can be framed as wall art.

I'm modern in that I have fully embraced digital technology in my photo art and Photoshop is now an indispensable part of my creative process. Besides having a completely digital workflow, I also designed and built my own websites.

I'm independent in that I like to do things myself. While many photographers have outsourced retouching and printing, I like to perform each step in the creative process. I've invested in high quality professional printers in order to produce state of the art prints up to 44 by 72 inches.

I enjoy learning and sharing. Continuing to learn is one of the most exciting aspects of any hobby, and the rapid pace of change in photography provides a wealth of learning opportunities. I also enjoy sharing what I've learned over the years. That has led to a number of photography and Photoshop tutorials on my website as well as YouTube. I've also been able to provide training and coaching both one on one and in small groups.

Shows and Honors

Artist-in-Residence - Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Arizona, spring 2009. I assisted interpretation staff with photos and photo organization and also conducted photography workshops for rangers and volunteer staff.

Volunteer Photographer – Golden Gate National Recreation Area, California, spring 2010. Provided a variety of scenic and event photos for use by the park service and allied agencies.

Artist-in-Residence – Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, Wisconsin, fall 2011. Created a collection of scenic photos of the refuge that were made available to the Friends of Necedah for fundraising sales. While I was the artist-in-residence, I arranged for a work area inside the visitor center so that I could interact with visitors and share my photos and experiences. I conducted workshops for visitors as well as the refuge's camera club.

My photo of the Trona Pinnacles National Natural Landmark was used by the NPS as the feature photo on a poster to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the NNL program.

June 2012, Featured Artist for “An Evening of Art, Wine and Spirits” at the Morgan Elser Gallery in Delavan, Illinois.

Work accepted for the Peoria Riverfront Museum “CIAO (Central Illinois Artists’ Association) and Friends Invitational Art Exhibit” October 2012 through April 2013.

Work accepted for the “Vernissage” exhibit held during October 2012 at the Prairie Center of the Arts in Peoria, Illinois.

Juried shows:

“2013 Nude Nite – Orlando” in Orlando, Florida.

“2013 Nude Nite – Tampa” in Tampa, Florida.

“2013 Lone Tree Photographic Art Show and Sale” – Lone Tree, Colorado

“2013 Louisville Art Association National Juried Photography Show” – Louisville, Colorado

“2013 Real People” Northwest Area Arts Council, Woodstock, Illinois

Honorable Mention, “2013 Dia de los Muertos” - Peoria Art Guild, Peoria, Illinois

“2014 Nude Nite – Orlando” in Orlando, Florida

“2014 Nude Nite – Tampa” in Tampa, Florida

“2014 Nude Attitude” – Peoria Art Guild, Peoria, Illinois

“Gallery 114 Photography Show” – Davenport, Iowa

Ongoing guest artist exhibiting at “Studios on Sheridan” in Peoria, Illinois

Work displayed for sale at “Studio 825” in Peoria, Illinois

Work displayed for sale at “The Traffik Jam” in Mackinaw, Illinois

Work displayed for sale at Earthen Pottery in Decatur, Illinois

Work displayed for sale at Gallery 510 in Decatur, Illinois

Work displayed for sale at the Joseph Works Art Gallery and Studio in Peoria, Illinois

Represented as an online studio artist by the [Xanadu Gallery](#), Scottsdale, Arizona

Featured on WTVP-TV (Peoria, Illinois PBS) “Illinois: Art in the Works” series.

May, 2014, Invited artist, Eaton Gallery, Bloomington, Illinois

Morton, Illinois Photography Show

2006 – 2nd place, Amateur Division

2007 – 1st and 2nd places, Professional Division

2009 – Best of Show (Amateur and Professional)

2010 – 2nd place, Professional Division

2011 – 1st place, Professional Division

2012 – Best of Show (Amateur and Professional), 1st and 3rd places, Professional Division

Playing Peoria website

In April, 2012 I launched the “Playing Peoria” website. Each week, I post an environmental portrait and brief article featuring a local artist or entertainer. You can see it at www.playingpeoria.com.