

### Artist Bio

Born in Western New York, I grew up surrounded by great examples of Nature: Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, Niagara Falls, and old-growth forests. From these, I learned appreciation for Nature's beauty, respect for its power, and understanding in the need for its protection.

My interest in photography began as a teenager, borrowing the family's camera to photograph birds and squirrels in nearby forests. At 14, I learned the magic of the darkroom from a friend's father. After college, I worked for years as a management consultant, teacher, and then Professor where I also authored several books. During all those years, photography remained my primary avocation. On one occasion, when a publisher urgently needed photographs for an upcoming book, I supplied several of my images. The response from that publisher and then later, from readers encouraged me to begin showing my work. Gradually, my images began appearing in calendars, books, internet websites and during the past several years, in exhibits and as fine art prints.

As a photographer I have always sought to share, through images, the beauty of this world with others. Over the years, my photography has evolved from simply a skill to a form of meditative practice--an extension of my being. Early in my career, I sought out subjects relying solely on my eyes and 'the rules of photography.' Now, the cameras are guided by my heart and a sacred respect for the perfection and beauty in all things. Instead of looking for subjects to photograph, I now listen quietly to the land and its creatures. Over time, some begin to speak or move themselves to the forefront of my awareness and reveal their beauty in ways my eyes alone would have never seen. When this occurs, I often discover the camera has already taken the photograph.

My images convey a single, often timeless moment and tell a story about the subject and its relationship to the world around it. When viewed quickly, these images present a glimpse into the visual beauty of a moment. But with slow, mindful observation and reflection, the subtle details of the subject, its past and relationship to its surroundings also reveal themselves. The length of a shadow explains the time of day, a blurred leaf exposes a gentle breeze, a white frost on a leaf, the chill of a late Autumn morning.

My photography has been influenced by the work of Eugene Atg t, Ansel Adams, Bill Brandt and Josef Sudek and by the writings of Bill Jay. It is also deeply informed by my Native American heritage (Iroquois/Tuscarora), its philosophy and practices, and by Buddhist teachings. Native American culture, for example, recognizes, acknowledges and honors the spirit in all things of this Earth, while stressing its fleeting physical manifestation is of less importance. Similarly, the Buddhist *Heart Sutra* states that "form is emptiness; emptiness is form." The images in my works such as *The Ancient Ones* and *A Priori* aim to present and convey these teachings and beliefs from a visual perspective.

I am constantly guided by the principles of walking gently upon the Earth and honoring the land, its people and creatures to help maintain a harmony in Nature. Where that harmony exists, beauty flourishes. My wish in each photograph I capture is to share the beauty of Nature and of the Earth. The more others can see and appreciate this beauty for themselves, the more they may come to realize the importance of helping to maintain it for future generations.