



Don Jacobson Photography
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Artist Information

The world of photography and the world of the natural wonders of the Sierra Nevada opened to Don Jacobson simultaneously. The photographs he took with his little Kodak Brownie were woefully inadequate to express the grandeur of the Range of Light. Within a week of his first backpack trip into the high country, he bought his first SLR, a Pentax Spotmatic and began to take photography classes.

His degree is in electrical engineering and he worked in that field for three years. Working for the defense industry became more of a contradiction with his political views initiating a search for a desperately needed a creative outlet. For the next twenty-eight years he worked as a glassblower. His work was shown in galleries across the United States, and the Corning Museum included a piece of his in their 1986 collection of 200 international glassblowers. Although glassblowing was his "day job," he continued to practice the art of photography, studying photography with Edmund Teske at UCLA for a year. The two different mediums, are connected by light. The magic of glass is in its ability to transmit and reflect light while photography is the capturing of light.

During the years he lived in the San Francisco Bay Area, 1973 through 1976, he amassed 135 images of owner decorated vehicles. He is currently a member of the Portland Photographers Forum and the Interim Group, a critique group originally formed by the influential photographer Minor White.

His love of taking photographs of our beautiful native wildflowers contributed to his interest in botany. He led trips for the California Native Plant Society, the Native Plant Society of Oregon, Bark, Oregon Wild (formerly ONRC) and Portland Audubon. For sixteen seasons, he was a naturalist/guide for the Middle Mountain Foundation, leading hikes in the Sutter Buttes of the Sacramento Valley in California. "Beauty of the West," a book of his photographs was published in 2007, "Owner Decorated Vehicles" in 2009, "Alaska!" in 2010, "An Intimate View of Japan" in 2011 and "Pacific Northwest Architecture - A Photo Essay" in 2012.

Artist Statement

I see the world differently now. The camera, which narrows the field of vision, has actually expanded my vision. When I realized I was viewing reality as if it were a series of photographs, I initially questioned that perspective. Now, I know my perception is enhanced and enriched from my pursuit of photography. An already dynamic and interesting world has become more so.

I am delighted by quality of light, vibrancy of color, unexpected and often unnoticed detail. The stunning structure of an orchid, the intricate ornamentation on an older building, or dishes stacked in a dish drainer are fascinating to me. Abstractions and patterns are richer and invite investigation. My subject matter is limitless. Anything that appeals to my eye is fair game for my camera.

SELECTED AWARDS

Finalist Oregon Wild Photography Contest, 2005, 2006
First place, Endangered Places, 2007 Oregon Wild Photography Contest
First place, two honorable mentions 2006 Architectural Heritage Historic Door Contest
Two honorable mentions 2007 Architectural Heritage Historic Porches Contest
Theme Award, 2007 International Photography Exhibition, Oregon State Fair
Award Of Excellence, Photographers Forum Magazine, "Best of Photography Annual 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014
First place, Photography, Showcase 2008, Beaverton Arts Commission
Second place, People's choice, Audubon Native Plant Photography Contest, May 2008
Three honorable mentions, Architectural Heritage Center's 2008 Photography Contest
Honorable Award /Diploma of Excellence Global Photo Planet 2009
Two Merit Awards, Color Magazine, May 2010
Third Place Tualatin River Wildlife Refuge Photo Contest May 2010
Third Place Infinity Gallery Summer 2010
Washington Trails Magazine, Summer 2010
Merit Award, Black & White Magazine, February 2011
Art Director's Award, Infinity Gallery, Fall 2010
Gold Award (1st place) Landscape, Color Magazine, May 2011
First Place, Plant Life Prints, Nature Photographers of the Pacific Northwest, Spring 2011
Special Recognition, Light Space Time Gallery, April 2011, October 2011
Finalist, Defenders Of Wildlife Photo Contest, April 2011
Best of Show, University of Oregon Pacific Northwest Art Annual, June 2011
Best Of Show, Landscape, Portland Photographer's Forum Exhibit, June 2011
Honorable Mention, All Photography, LightSpaceTime Gallery, October 2011
Merit Award, Black & White Magazine, February 2012
First Place Architecture, Portland Photographers Forum Exhibit, Cheleham Cultural Center, July 2012
Gold Medal, New Images, Gallery Photographica, San Francisco, CA November 2012
First Place Photography, Visual Arts Showcase, Beaverton, OR, November 2012
Merit Award, Black & White Magazine, February 2013
First Place, Nature, *Human Nature*, Portland Photographer's Forum Exhibit April/May 2013
Honorable Mention, Artist Portfolio Magazine Landscape Competition, August 2013
First Place, Plant Life Prints, Nature Photographers of the Pacific Northwest, November 2013
Finalist, *Destinations*, Digital Photography Magazine
Three Honorable Mentions, Neutral Density International Photo Contest 2014
Honorable Mention, 6 nominations, Spider B&W Awards, 2014
2nd Place, Emotional Beauty, Lightbox Gallery, November 2014, Astoria, OR
Special Merit and Special Recognition Awards, Light Space Time Gallery, February 2015
First Place, California Native Plant Society Photo Contest, January, 2015
Juror's Choice: Filoli Gallery- Angles, Lines and Curves, June 2015
Merit Award: Portfolio Contest, Black and White Magazine, June 2015
Two Gold Selections, *2015 International Juried Photography Show*, North Valley Arts League, May 2015
First Place Photography, *West of the Mississippi*, Clymer Art Museum, May, 2015
USA Landscape Photographer of the Year 2015 Award, Urban Category
Portfolio published in *Lenswork*, including cover photo, May 2016
Honorable Mention, ArtCompetitions.net, *Nature*, September 2016
First Place, *Think In Threes*, Concordia University Library October 2016
Honorable Mention, Friends of the Gorge Photography Contest, 2017
Winner, Black & White Magazine, Singe Image Contest 2018
Honorable Mention, Patterns, Exhibition Without Walls, Dec. 2017