



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