Savannah

Georgia

June 2017

Bob Neiman

At age 10 my dad gave me a medium format box camera with film. We purchased some chemicals, reels, and a developing tank and set up a makeshift darkroom in our bathroom. My first attempts at developing film and making contact prints were mostly unsuccessful.

After graduating from college, I wanted to travel out West. I wanted to get a camera so my Uncle Joe who was an art director at a NYC ad agency and serious photographer helped me buy a 35mm Pentax Spotmatic II film camera with several lenses. I spent lots of time over the next few decades hiking in the outdoors in the Pacific Northwest where I was living at the time. I would take my camera with me, and reaching the viewpoint sometime during the middle of the day, would take a lot of photos of the great view. I was documenting my hiking. In 1991 I climbed Mt St. Helens and one week later climbed on Mt Rainier to Camp Muir at 10,000 feet elevation, the "non-technical" part of the mountain.

At this time I decided to explore photography more and make better images. I enrolled in several local photography workshops. I also set up a makeshift darkroom. I had taken a couple of darkroom photography classes by this time. I was becoming more interested in black and white photography as I could manipulate the images in my darkroom.

Eventually, I purchased a 4x5 wooden field camera to do large format black and white fine art photography. I wanted to up my game, become a better, and more serious photographer.

In 2007, I purchased my first digital SLR camera and, Adobe Photoshop. Since then I have worked almost exclusively with digital capture. Having a strong background in the darkroom, I approached my Photoshop work in the same manner as a darkroom print.

Working on an image out of the camera, I generally do some global adjustments including lightening or darkening, raising or lowering contrast, or cropping. Next I will spend a lot of time working on small areas of an image to adjust local contrast and tone. Black and white, being inherently abstract allows the artist to do more manipulation than in color images. All of my images have a lot of local manipulation.

My goal is capture the viewer's imagination and to create a path for the viewer to travel through and explore the image.

Bob Neiman, July 2017

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I visited Savannah Georgia in June 2017 on a photography workshop with Mark Hilliard and Jamie Konarski Davidson. Savannah in June is very hot and humid and this made for uncomfortable days out in the field. Despite the weather we spent our time photographing in and around the area. Places we photographed included the 100+ year old Bonaventure Cemetery, downtown Savannah, Tybee Island, and Fort Jackson.

I brought several cameras with me including my Nikon SLRs, my Fuji Mirrorless, and my Nikon Infrared converted Point and Shoot. My Nikon SLR is used primarily for "Straight" images. I use the Fuji Mirrorless camera for in-camera double exposures. After I have made the first exposure the camera shows a faint image of that exposure on the LCD screen. This greatly aides in composing the second image. My Nikon Point & Shoot does black & white infrared. Foliage generally records as white using infrared while clear skies often go to black.

I also recently purchased a Plug In for Photoshop called AlienSkin X2. This plug in allows me to create and modify images with vintage film types, borders, grunge, and other intersting effects.

These images are the result of using these cameras along with the AliendSkin Plug In.

Bonaventure Cemetery 1070
Infrared

Bonaventure Cemetery 6045

Savannah House & Tree 1108
Double Exposure

Wormsloe 6117

Bonaventure Cemetery
Trees 1074
Infrared

Savannah Forsyth Fountain 1117
Double Exposure

Cemetery 1130 - Double Exposure

Bonaventure Cemetery
6073

Fort Jackson 6082

Bonaventure Cemetery 6040

Savannah Tree & Headstone 1127
Double Exposure

Bonaventure Cemetery 6072

Savannah Staircase &
Tree 1125
Double Exposure

Bonaventure Cemetery 1075
Infrared

Savannah Buggy & Tree 1111 - Double Exposure

Tybee Shipwreck 6109

Savannah Trees 1094 - Infrared

Bonaventure Cemetery 6075

Savannah Square 1087
Infrared

Bonaventure Cemetery 1076 - Infrared

Bonaventure Cemeatery 6070

Wormsloe 1077 - Infrared

Bonaventure Cemetery
6034

Savannah 1091
Infrared

I currently live in Delray Beach Florida. I've exhibited in numerous solo and group juried shows across the U. S. since 1996. I am currently a member of Viewpoint Photographic Art Center in Sacramento, CA. My personal fine art photographic work includes, manmade objects, abstracts, interiors, botanicals, and landscapes.

I am primarily self-taught, having no formal training in photography or art. I've been pursuing my passion in photography actively since 1991. I have attended numerous workshops over the years. Looking at photographs and fine art, watching master photographers, and experimenting, all contributed to my photographic education. I found that I respond to the world in a visual manner. I realized that I needed to learn more about composition and technique to make stronger images. My intuition provides a strong guide in my composition and subsequent printing.

I currently work shooting digital raw files with Nikon D810 & D800 cameras. I also use a Funi XT-1 mirrorless camera, and a Nikon P 7100 converted for infrared. Previously I used film in a 4 x 5 Wisner wooden field camera, 2 1/4 inch format Hasselblad camera, and 35mm. Film, both color transparency and black & white negatives, are scanned with an Imacon 646 film scanner. Digital images are first adjusted using Adobe Camera Raw. Both film scans and the adjusted raw files are brought into Photoshop for processing. I often do heavy local manipulation of my images in Photoshop. I use Photoshop in a manner similar to how I worked previously in my chemical darkroom. I use ImagePrint RIP software to print my images on an Epson 4800 printer.

Some of the awards that I have won include:

Black & White Magazine Portfolio Contest Merit Award Winner in 2017, 2015, 2012, 2010, 2008, & 2006

Black & White Magazine Single Image Contest 2016, & 2015

Black & White Spider Awards - 36 awards in 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, & 2010.

International Color Awards - 17 awards in 2017 & 2016.

Silvershotz 2008 Folio - one of 32 photographic artists whose work was published.

I teach individual and small group workshops on photography including, Creating the Fine Art Digital Print, Layers, Masks, & Curves Using Photoshop, Black & White Photography using Photoshop, Digital Printing Workflow, and Developing A Photographic Style

Bob Neiman Photography
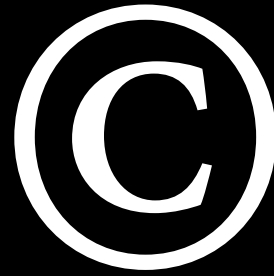
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