

Photographs play an important role in everyone's life. They connect us to our past. They remind us of the people, places, and feelings that we encountered during our life's journey. They can help us to know who we were and who are by telling us a story that highlights a subject, and expresses an emotion.

Black and White photography is, by its very nature, a departure from reality. Color depicts reality, but a colorless photograph shows us things that we may have overlooked, or chose to dismiss as unimportant. Black and white rendering removes this distraction of color and helps us to discover the other more subtle building blocks of a scene, such as its subject, its textures, and its shapes and patterns and repeating elements. Lines that are horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, can create unusual perspectives that can lead the eye to the center of interest. All of these elements can then focus our attention upon the image composition and its storyline.

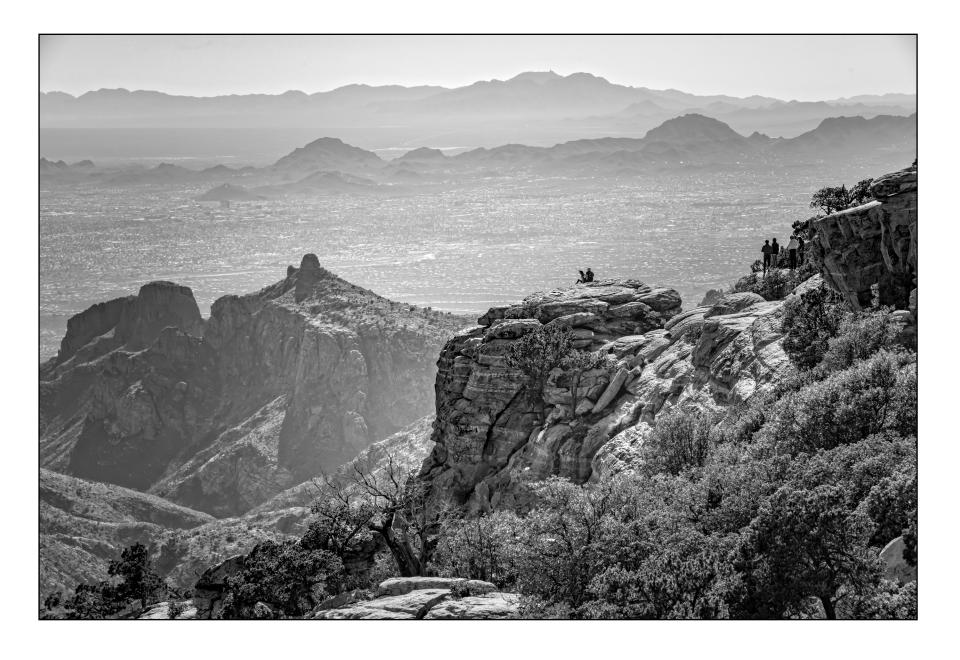
With Black and White images, we are forced to focus on its story without being distracted by its color. The use of light also accentuates the emotional appeal. It is very effective at creating drama and mood and surprise, history with a sense of mystery, by exploiting the contrast between the varying shades of blacks, grays, and whites.

With all of this in mind, my project here presents works which are used to express a mood and a feeling through symbolic representation. You may identify with something metaphorically; you may just happen to notice someone or something that personifies how you might have felt at a similar moment in time. It is within this quiet exploration that we can discover and unlock new dimensions which can add a sense of value, solace, and curiosity to enrich our every day existence.

Any image found within this book or on my website is available as a print purchase. Just email me at jerrygrasso96@yahoo.com, or visit my website at jerrygrasso.com.

Enjoy life!









Otranto, Italy













Garden Of The Gods, CO



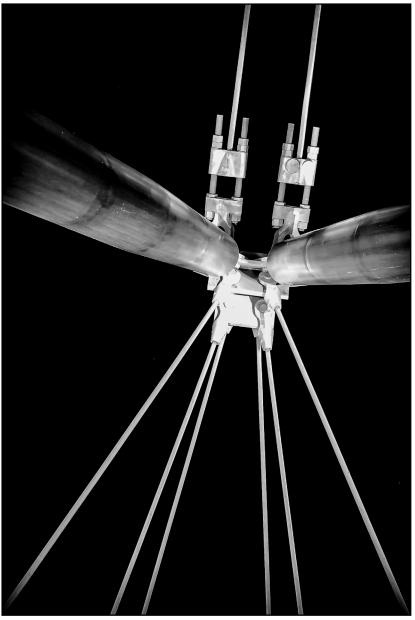




Tampa, FL



Cordoba, Spain



Hartford, CT



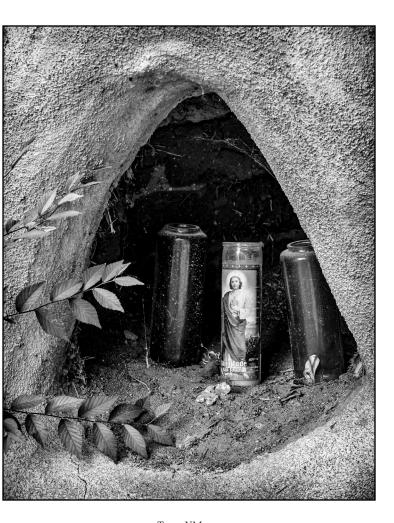
Farmington, CT











Taos, NM





Ghost Ranch, NM



Lowell, MA



Mystic, CT

Vernon, CT



Sturbridge, MA





Jerome, AZ Quakertown, PA







Matera, Italy



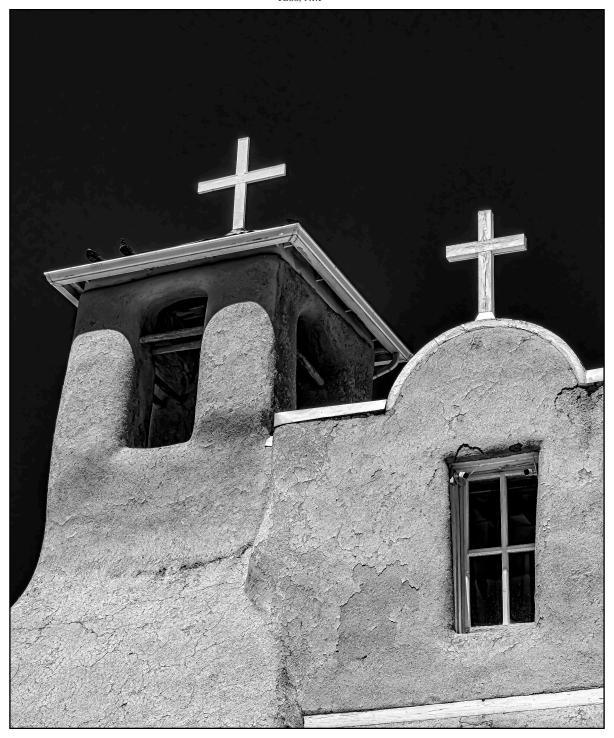
Paris, France











Taos, NM



Hartford, CT









Atlanta, GA Clinton, CT













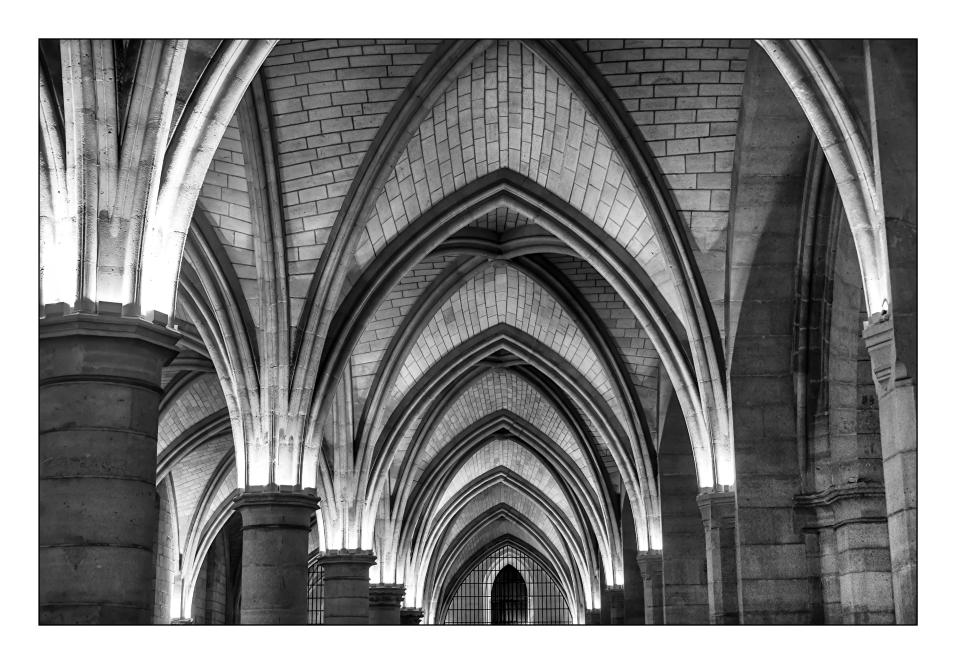
Taos, NM Paris, France



















Alberobello, Italy

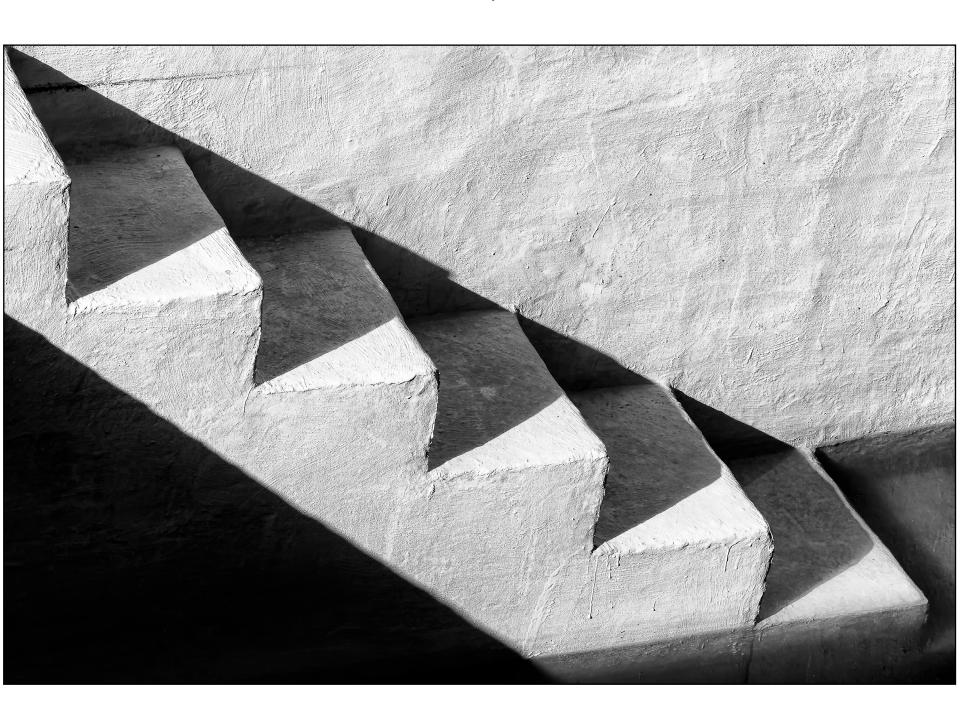






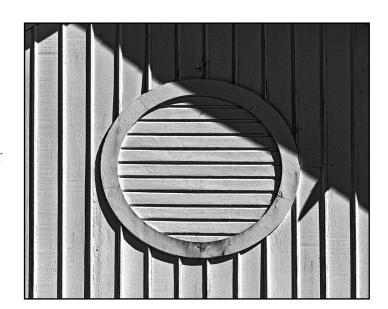










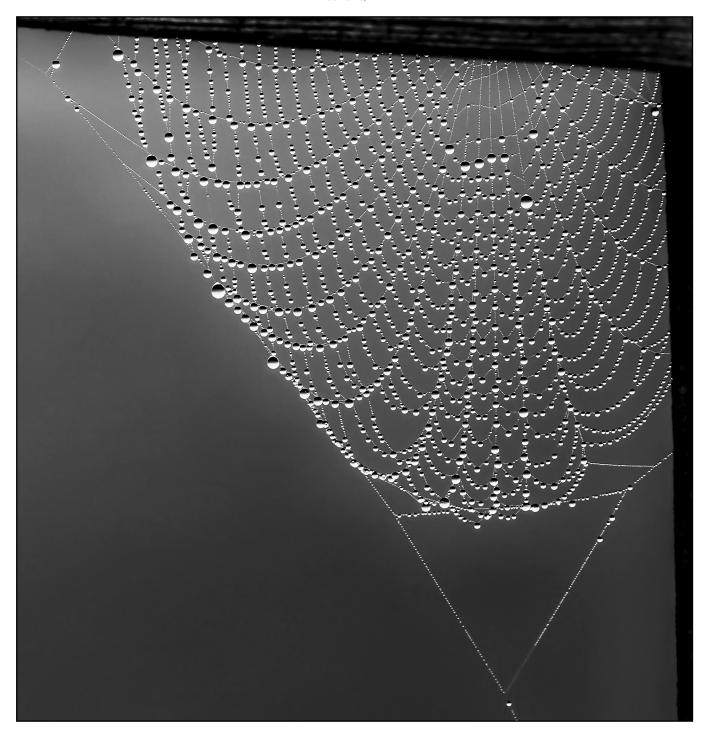


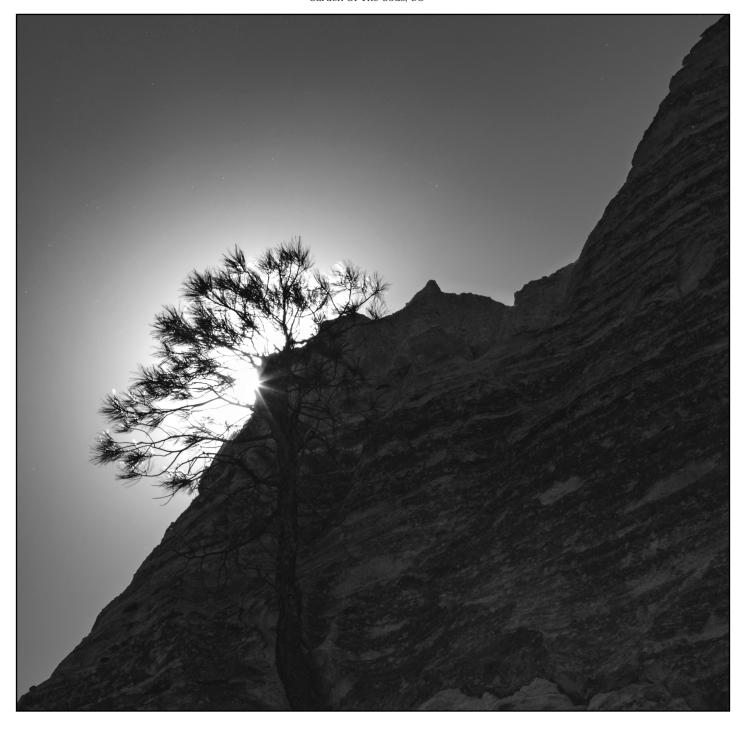
Stonington, CT



Otranto, Italy







Rockland, ME Kent, CT





Rockland, ME



Bristol, CT





My Artistic Mission

Child-like wonder and inquisitiveness

are qualities frequently put aside once we become adults. We tend to slowly become sterilized by our right-or-wrong kind of world which too often has too little time to explore the what-if's and the what-could-be's. I believe we all need to re-connect with these qualities to reenrich our lives. A first glance at a photograph of an onion often reveals the fact that, indeed, it is an onion. But what also lies beneath its surface? We won't know until we peel back its layers.

Animation innovator, Walt Disney, recognized this and tried to bring back the power and importance of imagination. Inspired by his spirit, my mission therefore is to encourage the use of viewer imagination. My work attempts to explore and suggest what often lies hidden within the personalities and mysteries present in the world that was, and the world that is around us.

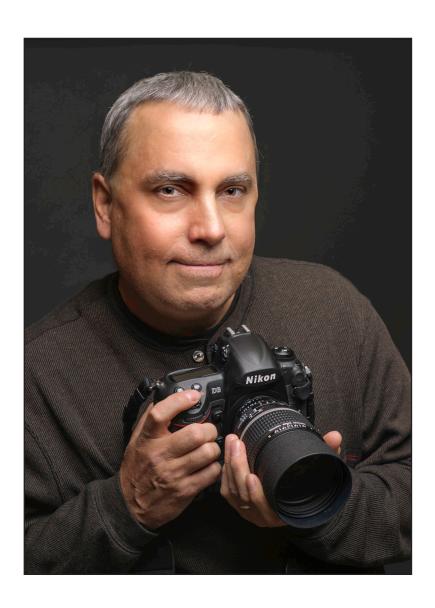
For me, my photography often is not so much about the decisive moment. Rather, it is about creating an awareness of place and a sense of history, with an aura of mystery. It is the starting point for my artistic journey, not the destination. I try to use what I produce

as personal metaphors for my reactions to what I saw and felt. My favorite motivational quote is that "Life begins at the edge of your comfort zone." My works attempt to reflect this as I probe the emotional, mind's eye after-image that was captured by both the eye and the heart, and which often defies logical explanation by the mind.

My goal is that my projects will serve as a springboard into inventiveness and exploration with the hopes of awakening my viewer's inner child. I try hard to show the connections and implications of things that others may not readily see. My hope is that my work may also help viewers discover the beginnings of their attempt to understand and perhaps even learn to tolerate and sympathize with the human condition and the world in which we live. I will try to do whatever I can to make viewers linger longer in front of my works so as to ignite their imaginative response through discovery and inquisitiveness.

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Enjoy life!



JERRY GRASSO has been an award-winning, international fine art photographer and visual artist since 2002. He has mentored locally with photographer, Mallorie Ostrowitz, and then with internationally-renowned visual artist, John Paul Caponigro. Photography is only the starting point for many of his projects. His favorite motivational quote is that "Life begins at the edge of your comfort zone."

In addition to his travel photography, Jerry specializes in the intimately abstracted architectural photography, the photo essay, and the photo composite series.

Jerry's mission is to awaken his viewer's inquisitive inner child by creating an awareness of place and a sense of history, with an aura of mystery.



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