

Robert Creamer

## ARTIST BIO

Using photography as an art form has been a part of my life throughout the various careers. Whenever I would travel I would extend the stay so I would have time for the art of exploration through large format (8X10 camera) photography. My early work concentrated on the cultural and natural landscape. My first exhibit was in the Baltimore Museum of Art and I have continued exhibiting my work in galleries and museums. I have also received two artist grants to create work for the Baltimore's Art in Public Spaces Program.

This new work submitted concentrates on a blend of interests in technology and how it allows me to visually describe and create previously unstudied imagery. These images were captured using a scanner as a camera. The work began as "look what technology can reveal" to my present command over technique to have it work for me and my intentions. Digital photography / technology is a vital and integral part of this process but is not what interests me most. The scanner is a tool that enhances my ability to observe. These images are about time, transformation and transitions. The new beauty of my subject twists its way out of the familiar. The expansive surrounding deep black becomes graphic shapes that isolate yet allow the subject to merge towards the viewer. It is that, teamed with my imagination that allows me to search, analyze, observe speculate, and capture the true essence of my investigations. Working with a flat bed scanner is not without limitations. New procedures and techniques push the artwork and demands growth as an artist. My imagination and determination in conjunction with a new understanding of patience constantly gives birth to new ideas. Concepts of composition and the decisive moment provide new rules to break.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2005-Present

Community Colleges Of Baltimore County

Associate Professor in the Art, Design, Interactive Media department.

1983-2005

Catonsville Community College, Catonsville Maryland Instructor of Photography, Adjunct Faculty. Presently teach basic and advanced Digital Photography. Conventional photography classes taught include Basic, Intermediate, Studio and Color Photography.

1985 to Present

Oldfields School, Glencoe Maryland

Photography teacher part time. I teach a conventional basic class in the fall and a basic and a digital photography class in the spring. Oldfields is a private girls boarding school in Glencoe Maryland.

1986-1987

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore Maryland

Instructor of Photography Continuing Studies Program

1979-1983

Massachusetts College Of Art, Boston Massachusetts

Instructor of Photography and Studio Manager. I designed the color darkrooms and taught the first color photography course at MassArt. I also taught a large format camera class and during my last year shared the title and duties of Photography Head. The courses taught were advanced classes and frequently included graduate students. Other faculty included Baldwin Lee, Nick Nixon, Gus Kayafas, Sage Sohler and Len Jenschel. The program was strong in documentary photography with workshops by Gary Winnogrand, Larry Fink and Lee Freidlander.

1966-1973 and 1995-Present Echo Hill Outdoor School, Worton, Maryland.

President of Board of Directors responsible for fundraising and head of the Board of

Advisors. Co-Founder of the School, Assistant Director, Teacher and Naturalist. Echo Hill is a non-profit school, which teaches environmental education. The school now has 35 staff members and operates year round teaching 5500 middle school aged students the value of our natural world.

## WORKSHOPS TAUGHT

1999                                      Photography workshop In Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming. This was a weeklong workshop concentrating on landscape photography.

1997 and 1998                              Photography workshop in Yosemite National Park, California. This was a weeklong workshop concentrating on landscape photography.

1982-1985                                      Truro Center for the Arts, Castle Hill, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. As a visiting artist I presented weeklong workshops in landscape and color photography.

## Exhibitions and ART Awards

### *Transitions Photographs by Robert Creamer*

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History: Visiting Scholar /Artist 2007-2010

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History                              October 2006-June 2007

The National Museum of Natural History presented my recent artwork of scans of three-dimensional objects (flora, fauna, and fossil specimens) in a solo exhibition named *Transitions Photographs by Robert Creamer*. The subject of this exhibit was observations of botanicals in the state of degradation. This event comprised 39-framed images with print sizes from 20x28 to 40X56 inches. A documentary video interviewing me and showing my innovative technique accompanied the exhibit. *The Smithsonian Magazine* (May 2007) presented my images and an in depth discussion on my work in an article, "What Camera?" by Marion Smith Holmes. Addition international recognition is in a photo essay in *Muy Intersante Magazine* in Madrid Spain.

This exhibit is now part of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit Service (SITES) and was available for installation in museums for the next 3 years.

**Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service Itinerary;**

([www.sites.si.edu/exhibitions/exhibits/robert\\_creamer/main.htm](http://www.sites.si.edu/exhibitions/exhibits/robert_creamer/main.htm))

- 2010 California University of Pennsylvania
- 2010 Georgia Highlands College Rome Ga
- 2009 Piedmont Arts Association, Martinsville, VA
- 2009 Montshire Museum of Science, Norwich, VT
- 2009 Spartanburg County Public Library, Spartanburg, SC
- 2008 State Botanical Garden of Georgia, Athens, GA
- 2008 Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg Counties, Charlotte, NC
- 2008 Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago, IL
- 2007 Daura Gallery, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, VA

#### **Gallery Exhibitions**

- 2013 Process: Photography, The Athenaeum in Alexandria VA
- 2013 Cultural Context: Integration and Exchange. Nepalese Academy of Fine Arts. Kathmandu, Nepal.
- 2012 Casewerks, What Remains, Baltimore Md
- 2011 deMilne Gallery Groton Ma
- 2010 Transitions, University of TN
- 2008 Art for the Cure, Baltimore Maryland
- 2008 Carla Massoni Gallery, Chestertown Maryland
- 2008 Corcoran Art Gallery, Anonymous Art, Washington DC
- 2008 Longstreth Goldberg Gallery. Naples Florida
- 2007 Carla Massoni Gallery Chestertown Maryland
- 2007 Claudia Marr Gallery Santa Fe New Mexico (Collaborative)
- 2007 Allen Sheppard Gallery New York NY
- 2006-7 Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History
- 2006 Heineman Myers Gallery Bethesda Maryland
- 2006 Carla Massoni Gallery, Chestertown Maryland

- 2006 Longstreth Goldberg Gallery, Naples Florida
- 2005 Carla Massoni Gallery, Chestertown Maryland
- 2003 Gomez Gallery Baltimore Md. Members exhibit.
- 2003 Catonsville Community College Faculty Exhibit
- 2002 The Light Factory, Charlotte NC.
- 1999 American Institute Of Architects, Baltimore
- 1995 Catonsville Community College Gallery
- 1990 American Institute Of Architects Gallery
- 1984 Southeastern Massachusetts University  
Fitchburg State College  
University Of Massachusetts, Amherst
- 1983 Baltimore Museum of Art, Permanent Collection
- 1977 Baltimore Museum Of Art, Solo Show  
Towson State College  
Washington College

**Awards and publications**

1990

Artist Commission, One Per Cent for Art from Baltimore City

Baltimore has a program where art is commissioned to be part of new building construction. One per cent of the building cost is granted to a selected artist to make art relevant to the building and neighbor hood. This particular award (\$26,000) was granted to me to produce 3 photographs (framed backlit transparencies 4'X 6') to be installed in the Garrison Middle School.

1989

Artist Commission, One Per Cent For Art from Baltimore City.

This commission was granted to me to produce 3, 7' X 9' backlit display transparencies to be incorporated into the design of the Clarence Du Burns Soccer Arena. This particular award (\$19,000) is installed in the halls along the open-air arena becoming part of the architecture.

Published Books;

Andersonville, The Story Behind the Scenery by Michael Alan Marsh, K.C.

DenDooven, Cheri C Madison, and Robert Creamer (Jul 2001)

George Washington's Mt. Vernon, The Ladies of Mt Vernon Association and GWWO  
2008

Video about Robert Creamer by Jeannie Yoon (for Smithsonian Exhibition)

Transitions Photographs by Robert Creamer. Biographical documentary of my process and my work.

Web site addresses of interest;

<http://www.mnh.si.edu/exhibits/creamers>

<http://www.creamerphoto.com/>

## WORK EXPERIENCE

1982-Present

Photographer Architectural Services

I am the sole proprietor of APS and perform services directed to architects, construction companies and graphic design firms. We produce photographs for architects for their portfolios, wall décor, www., and for publication. My pictures of house interiors and restaurants appear in book form and various publications. My award winning images are also used for design competitions. My most recent published book project is on the Prisoner of War Museum in Andersonville Georgia released in spring of 2000.

Over a period of 7 years I have had a contract with the National Park Service (Design Center, Harpers Ferry). This contract was a result of winning a national competition offered to find a photographer who would photograph throughout the United States. After a lengthy review process I was selected. I have traveled to various National Parks to photograph their new exhibit centers, historic buildings and furnishings, and, wayside exhibits including prominent views of the Park. Parks and National Sites photographed include the Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, Valley Forge, George Washington Birthplace, Martin Luther King Memorial and Birthplace in Atlanta, Allegheny Portage and Lemon Tavern, The Everglades, Andersonville Prison Camp, The Head Trails of Lewis and Clarke, Arches and Canyonlands in Utah, and Chamizal in Texas where the Rio Grande establishes the border between the US and Mexico. The pictures made become a record of the park for the park and are also used for public display, publication and on the Park Services web sites for those particular locations.

This expertise in exhibit photography has led to other museum work. This summer I photographed the new Morgan Pierpont Library in NYC. This Renzo Piano architect design, houses one of the world's finest collections of art and historical works. In February 2006 I photographed the recent renovation at the Alamo in San Antonio Texas. A trip to Louisville Kentucky included photographing the new Frazier Amour Museum. In December 1999 I was photographing the newly opened Getty Museum in Los

Angeles. My client was the exhibit designer who designed and fabricated the earthquake proof cabinets and wall units that housed various glass collections, marble statues and other rarities. For this same client I have photographed at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. In the summer of 1999 I photographed the new Samuel Harris Dental Museum in downtown Baltimore. I made on location views of the unique exhibits and also did studio photographs of historical objects that included George Washington's teeth (not wooden after all!) and Queen Elizabeth's dental kit. All of these images went into publication as the Museum's reference catalogue. Recent assignments have been at the Smithsonian Institute photographing the new Viking exhibition and the Buccellati jewelry collection exhibition. I have recently returned from a photo trip that took me to the Cleveland Art Museum to photograph mummies, Harvard University to photograph a rare Mercator Globe, and other collections at the Rhode Island School of Design Museum and the Maritime Museum in Virginia.

At the City Life Museum of Baltimore I was their photographer entrusted with printing their rare glass plate negatives. I produced images for their displays and also photographed exhibits for publication as post cards and catalogues. I did a re-photographic survey for the museum duplicating an earlier documentation of views by A. Aubrey Bodine.

In addition to on location photography I also am also very familiar with photographing in the studio. I have photographed executive portraits, models, catalogues, art objects and elaborate architectural models.

2004- Present

Lotus Design Studio.

As a co-founder of LDS along with 3 other Baltimore graphic and fine artists I concentrate on the licensing of art images under the name "Tyler Jones". International Continental Art has produced selected artwork through our participation of the New



York event Surtex Licensing Show. Editions Limited and Papyrus Card Co. have also selected works and are produced as greeting cards, wall décor, posters and calendars. Distribution of products is to home furnishing stores and are in Marshalls, Papyrus and Kirklands et al.

2006 - Present

The Arts at Stillpond Station, Kent County Maryland.

In February of 2006 I made a presentation to the Board of Commissioners of Kent County Maryland requesting the conversion of the abandoned Coast Guard Station at Stillpond Creek into a non-profit organization and arts community center. They granted me permission to develop this site into 10 artist studios, open classrooms and a ceramic studio. This center will localize and solidify the various arts organizing of Kent County and promote artists who use nature as their subject in order to preserve our natural surroundings. Scheduled to open Spring 2007.

1999-2001

Photoworks LLC.

I created a gallery and darkroom rental business in Hampden Maryland. Workshops include digital and conventional photography. Local photographers utilized this location as a resource and outlet for their professional and fine art photographic images. This 4000 square foot facility boasted the finest in digital and conventional photography workshops, equipment and a gallery featuring local and nationally known photographers. The staff of 9 included some of the areas best teachers and professional graphic artists. I sold this business in 2001