

Exhibition



Curatorial Rationale (Word Count: 622)

These eleven photographs explore the idea of motion, specifically through the use of a long shutter speed. Although I can find enjoyment in photographing almost any subject, I gravitate most towards landscape photography and I experiment with shutter speed to create a unique, thought-provoking image. I find it remarkable how the manipulation of time can have such incredible effects on what the resulting photograph is. In essence, you are able to create a scene that really couldn't exist any other way.

The longer shutter speeds alter the reality of the image and add a sense of motion to the composition. Typically, the longer the shutter speed, the less texture in whatever it is that is moving. Long exposure photography takes quite a bit of patience, practice, and tenacity.

In general, photography is an escape from everyday life and a way to explore my creativity. My photos are a reflection of myself. A photo forever records one particular moment in time that will never happen again. I think that is awesome. More importantly, viewing one of your own photos instantly recalls all the memories and stories behind it. As a photographer, I hope that my photos incite an emotional response in the viewer and make them want to be there at the location viewing the scene for themselves.

This collection of work includes photos from a variety of locations ranging from California's Pacific Coast Highway, to Ventura, California, to the small island of Navarre Beach, Florida. I experimented with different subject matter including rocks, piers, docks, and even myself.

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The photo *2.0 Second Seaweed* was captured at Port Hueneme Pier in Port Hueneme, California. In this particular image, I picked a shorter shutter speed (relatively speaking) and attempted to time the wave as it crashed along the sand and hurried up the beach. This takes quite a bit of patience and trial and error, but I knew what type of photo I really wanted. The shorter shutter speed retained quite a bit of the wave's texture and even captured a bit of the pier's reflection. Furthermore it makes it appear as if the wave is "moving" within the photo. Finally, the seaweed serves as a focal point for the viewer.

Contrarily, the picture titled *Subtle Sunset* is almost the extreme opposite as the previous photo. This image was captured in Navarre Beach, Florida. The sun had set several minutes earlier and dark blues were starting to fill the sky. As I walked along the beach I saw this small stick and realized it could make for a compelling image. I used a 209 second exposure to remove almost all the texture in the picture and create something almost fantasy-like. The rigid detail of the stick and the sand along the beach contrasts sharply with the completely blurred and textureless water. The dichotomy between *2.0 Second Seaweed* and *Subtle Sunset* demonstrates just how creative and powerful the manipulation of shutter speed and motion can be.

Finally, the photograph *Transparent* features myself standing along the PCH near Pt. Mugu Rock. Occasionally I decide to incorporate myself into the image such as in this instance. Interestingly this picture was actually a mistake, but features motion in the water on the left side of the frame, in the transparent nature of my body, and the light trails of the passing cars. I used a shutter of 30 seconds to capture strong light trails and remove the majority of the texture in the water. Using a timer, I triggered the shutter and stepped into the frame, but I accidentally left too early which created the transparent nature of my body. The image seems unreal almost exclusively due to the manipulation of time via the shutter speed.

Photograph 1: Rocks Reflections Dock

Size: 26 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

I captured this photograph in Fort Walton, Florida. The photograph was partially inspired by Scott Kelby as he is known to include a strong foreground element within the image. The rocks in the foreground provide a focal point for the viewer and help to anchor the photo. I was intrigued by the pattern in the sand so I used a long shutter speed in order to blur the water and accentuate the sand's detail.



Photograph 2: 2.0 Second Seaweed

Size: 28 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

This particular photograph was captured in Port Hueneme, California. I was amazed at the incredible colors in the sky and I wanted to capture a partial reflection along the sand. The crashing wave helps to bring the viewer's eye into the photo and is reminiscent of the constant motion of life.



Photograph 3: Golden Rocks & Ventura Pier

Size: 28 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

I created this picture in Ventura, California. The texture of the sand and moss-covered rocks was incredible. I wanted to capture such a unique, beautiful scene since the tide is almost never this low here. The naturally occurring leading lines of the sand serve to carry the viewer's eye towards the horizon line.



Photograph 4: Gentle Navarre Beach Pier

Size: 28 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

I captured this image in Navarre Beach, Florida on a calm, beautiful morning. I attempted to mimic the personal serenity I felt while there within the photograph. The picture seems to have a calm, simple feel to it due to the pink sky and silky water. Meanwhile, the waves act as a leading line to the pier and the rest of the photo.



Photograph 5: Hyper Santa Monica Pier East

Size: 28 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

This photograph was made in Santa Monica, California. I noticed the crashing waves along the beach and challenged myself to capture an image that retained the texture of the wave, but also created a sense of motion. I love altering the perception of motion, because there's always varying levels of "motion" in life. My art often imitates life and reflects a personal feeling.



Photograph 6: Vibrant El Matador Sunset

Size: 28 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

This particular picture was taken in Malibu, California. The image was inspired by Matt Kloskowski, a landscape photographer that often incorporates rocks into his beach photos. I used a long shutter speed (30 seconds) to blur the water and remove the majority of its texture, thereby altering the reality of the scene. I often feel carefree when I create photos and altering the reality of an image reinforces that idea.



Photograph 7: Cool Dock Sunset

Size: 28 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

I captured this photograph in Navarre, Florida just after sunset which resulted in the cool tones of the image. This image was partially inspired by Michael Kenna as docks are one of his common subjects. I wanted to create a distinct contrast between the textured wood and textureless water so I used a long shutter speed (52 seconds) to accomplish this. Life is a leading line.



Photograph 8: Transparent

Size: 25 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

This image was created along the Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu, California. I used a timer so I could walk into the frame. I accidentally left the frame before the shutter closed which created the transparent nature of the image. I adopted Terry Isaac's panoramic-like crop for this image. The title relates to the physical characteristics of the photo and reflects some of what I felt at this time. Maybe I felt a little transparent.



Photograph 9: Sound Rocks

Size: 28 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

This photo was taken in Navarre Beach, Florida near sunset. It was inspired in part by Bob Ross and his use of vivid detail. In order to accentuate the detail of the rocks in the foreground, I used a mid-range aperture of $f/8.0$ since most lenses are sharpest here. The clouds blurred as they passed through the sky which contrasts the constant that are the rocks.



Photograph 10: Blue Water & Rocks at Ventura Pier

Size: 25 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

This image was made in Ventura, California at sunrise. I often enjoy simplicity in photos and I thought the single rock accomplished that. Furthermore, it contrasts the crashing wave and helps anchor the picture. Sometimes simplicity is best...in photography and in life.



Photograph 11: Subtle Sunset

Size: 28 cm x 43 cm

Medium: Printed Digital Photograph

I made this photograph in Navarre Beach, Florida well after sunset which reflects a common characteristic of Michael Kenna's photos as he is known to shoot in low-light settings after the sun has set. Once again, this photo has a simplistic nature and the stationary tree branch contrasts incredibly with the textureless, silky water.

