

STEVE SPEER

BIO - 2008

STEVE SPEER, Photographer

Steve Speer is a Calgary based photographic artist whose primary focus is the rural and urban landscape. His introduction to photography began in the early 70's when he borrowed his brother's 35mm Nikkormat camera. He then bought the same body with a different lens and they traded optics when out shooting. His early efforts were shot on Kodachrome 25 which came with a yellow envelop used to send the film directly to Kodak for processing. It was extremely exciting, after waiting a week or more, to head to the post office and view a batch of newly processed images.

Steve's photography is film and digital based, shot on Ilford HP5 and Fuji Velvia (4x5 and 8x10) or high resolution (22mpix) digital capture. His images are printed on museum rag paper using archival pigmented inks and are processed to museum standards and mounted on 100% rag matt board and framed using conservation glass. Although Steve shoots and exhibits some imagery in colour he prefers to shoot in black and white because he feels that when you strip away the "crutch of colour" only the key elements of composition and quality of light remain. When these elements come together, the resulting image evokes a response on an emotional level which is gratifying to the viewer and photographer alike.



photo by Todd Korol



fourbyfive.com
photography by Steve Speer

ARTIST INFORMATION SHEET

Artist Steve Speer

Philosophy Photography has been a common thread throughout my life. From the time, as a teenager to the present I have had a passion for photography that has never waned . . . in fact, I am as excited now about my photographic pursuits as I have ever been.

Photography provides me with a sense of perpetual gratification. It is exciting to see a potential image on the ground glass or through the view finder of my camera and that excitement returns when I look at the freshly developed negative or digital file. Each progressive step (from the first work print to the finished fine image that is framed and hung on the wall to share with others) enhances this excitement. I am particularly excited about what I haven't shot yet. I prefer to print in black and white because when you strip away the "crutch of colour" only the key elements of composition and 'quality of light' remain. It is an exciting challenge to work within these limits to create an image which is strong enough to draw in a viewer and resonate with their sense of connection.

Style Black and white and colour landscapes and environmental portraiture.

Technique Works with large format film (8 x 10 and 4 x 10 film) and high resolution digital. Photographs are produced on silver gelatin (darkroom) or pigmented inks on fine art, rag paper.

Background Studied photography at the Alberta College of Art and Design and has been self employed as a graphic designer and photographer for 20 years. Is the founder of The Gallery of Photographic Arts, Canada; a photo gallery in Calgary, Alberta dedicated to showing the work of prominent western Canadian photographers and to the promotion of photography as an art form. Teaches graphic design and photography at the Alberta College of Art and Design.

Publications Mosaic, Avenue Magazine, Galleries West

Pricing \$350 to \$2400. Signed and framed in limited editions of 40.



fourbyfive.com
photography by Steve Speer

CURRICULUM VITAE - 2009

STEVE SPEER, Photographer

PERSONAL:

Address: 146 Tuscany Ravine Close N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T3L 2Y6

E-mail: steve@fourbyfive.com

EDUCATION:

1984 Alberta College of Art and Design
Calgary, Alberta | Photography Program

1990-08 Multiple workshops in composition, film exposure and darkroom technique, digital capture and desk top processing for fine art photography

EXHIBITIONS:

July 2009 **Group Exhibition**
Edmonton, Alberta

June 2009 **Group Exhibition**
Temagami, Ontario

May 2009 **Solo | Connection; 25 Years od Landscape Photography**
Todor Gallery, Drumheller, Alberta

Apr. 2009 **Group Exhibition; Faculty Show** – Illingworth Kerr Gallery
Alberta College of Art and Design, Calgary, Alberta

March 2009 **Solo | Connection; 25 Years od Landscape Photography**
Gallery of Photographic Arts, Canada
Art Central, Calgary, Alberta

Oct. 2008 **Group Exhibition** – Gallery of Photographic Arts, Canada
Art Central, Calgary, Alberta

Mar. 2008 **Solo | China** – Gallery of Photographic Arts, Canada
Art Central, Calgary, Alberta

Oct. 2007 **Solo | A Walk in the Woods** – Gallery of Photographic Arts, Canada
Art Central, Calgary, Alberta

Nov. 2006 **Group Exhibition** – FourbyFive Gallery of Photography
Art Central, Calgary, Alberta

Sept. 2005 **Solo Exhibition** – FourbyFive Gallery of Photography



fourbyfive.com

photography by Steve Speer

Art Central, Calgary, Alberta

Nov 1998 **Group Exhibition** – Webster Gallery
Calgary, Alberta

Nov 1997 **Group Exhibition** – Webster Gallery
Calgary, Alberta

May 1995 **Group Exhibition** – Stride Gallery
Calgary, Alberta

Sept 1992 **Solo Exhibition** – Devonian Gardens
Calgary, Alberta

PUBLICATIONS:

Mosaic Magazine (on the Arts) – article on collecting photography, Galleries West – article on film photography