The journey for Jon Barnes began when he moved from New Jersey to San Diego in 2004. Jon drove across the country with close friend and fellow photography enthusiast, Dan Cleary with one stipulation from Dan in return for accompanying Jon on the trip. Dan simply requested that they could stop several places anywhere at any time to shoot some of the many places that neither of them had ever seen. Jon agreed and their seven day, 3000 mile adventure began. Little did Jon know that this request from Dan would ignite a great passion and change his life forever. This passion still drives him today, day after day, to create his work that amazes, inspires and impresses so many people.

Jon's newfound hobby resulting from the cross country voyage quickly became more. He showed and sold his work at a few local fairs and art shows. Surprised by the overwhelming feedback, interest and success he had at the shows along with his own addictive, growing love for photography, his passion grew exponentially. The number of shows and sales of his work increased as quickly as his passion did. Awards began to follow thereafter. Jon received his first two awards, both honorable mentions, at the same show in the San Diego Fair International Photography and Fine Art Exhibition. The next year Jon humbly accepted a second place ribbon in "Landscape, Summer Scenic" for "Reflecting in La Jolla" which is still one of his most popular pieces today. In 2011, "Sunsets Footsteps" received the first place ribbon in the same category. In 2012, Jon's work exploded at the fair. Fourteen pieces were accepted and four of them received ribbons including another first place ribbon for "Pfeiffer Beach" and a third place for one of his personal favorite photos, "After the Storm."

Jon's work is known for its bright, luminescent colors and unique perspectives. Jon credits his seemingly ever-growing passion for giving him the persistence and driving him to prepare so well to achieve the final image that he visualizes long before he ever takes the camera out of the bag. Also, working in his favor and not going unnoticed is the long line of artistic talent in his family. Jon's mother, Susan Barnes, is an extremely successful artist on the East coast. Her paintings are featured in galleries all over New Jersey and the Philadelphia area where she also now teaches her craft. Her work is also now traveling with the American Society of Marine Artists and being featured in museums across the country. This family talent goes all the way back to Jon's great grandmother Lydia MacFall who Jon likes to model his persistence to attempt to achieve perfection after. Lydia, born in 1899, would create the same painting several times in many cases always trying to make each better than the last. Jon can be seen shooting the same photograph over and over when possible attempting to achieve the same 'perfect' result that Lydia chased into her mid 90's.

Perspective

"Perspective" is a collection of Jon's work in which he has shot most of the subjects from a very low, unique perspective, often times from just above the ground, looking outward or upward. This shows everything leading into the world he has created in a way that really tells the whole story and gives the viewer a humbling feeling of what is before them. Jon's goal with these unique perspectives is to give the viewer the feeling that they are in some cases just a step away from entering the image that appears to begin right at their feet. Jon creates this feeling by drawing the viewer forward slowly into the rest of the image. The unique perspectives featured in this collection of work makes you feel like you were right there by his side. In effect, you get to see the world through Jon's eyes.

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