

Mike Masella, photographer



Photographer's Statement

My main interest in photography mirrors my career background, in that my focus is on the mechanics of cameras, lenses and light as well as modern technical advancements in the field. I am passionate about using my photographic equipment to capture an image that stands on its own merits, with minimal or no enhancements, while delivering a punch of impact to the eye of the viewer.

One of my main satisfactions is the many discoveries to be made with the macro lens... capturing images that one doesn't normally see. I enjoy taking advantage of our property and gardens that we've worked to develop. They've become some of my favourite inspirations, so I needn't stray far from home for unlimited subject matter. I find I don't need or want to 'stage' an image since living in the sunny Okanagan offers great opportunities to shoot using natural lighting in situ. My photos showcase mostly plants in whichever state of growth or sleep they may be throughout the seasons.

Although I've done darkroom special effects in the past, my idea of digital photography is capturing the information that's available to give the viewer a sharp, natural perspective of the image. I'm not into manipulating the image with filters, screens, blurs - to me these special effects fall into the category of digital art rather than digital photography. That being said, there is no doubt in my mind that there is an art to capturing something special with photography.

Photographer's Biography

For as long as I can remember, I've always tinkered with intricate objects and liked to puzzle out technical challenges. Although I did a brief stint studying and working in the field of geology, it was electronics that was my natural calling. After an eighteen month intense program of study at the Radio College of Canada, my first 'serious' career step was becoming the electronics technologist for the Faculty of Medicine at McGill University - a position I enjoyed for fifteen years.

During that time I gained experience in medical photography in addition to having to handle the various and sometimes challenging electronic needs of the department. Later, I moved into a more high-tech environment dealing with fibre optic trans-Atlantic communication. I've been fortunate in that for all of my working years I was able to mesh analytical thinking and technical inclinations with a hands-on comfort zone.

My interest in photography goes all the way back to the late sixties. While working as a geology student a couple of summers up in the Canadian arctic, I shot black and white film for prints and slides. Back in Montreal a friend and mentor took me into his photography store and taught me darkroom techniques. In the intervening years between then and now I've enjoyed being an occasional photographer of holiday locations.

Now that I'm recently retired I can return to more regular and in depth camera activity. I just happen to be able to take advantage of having a live-in designer who is knowledgeable in graphic arts. Together, we're having fun creating expressions of our creations in pigment and megapixels for you to enjoy.