

Eternal, Ephemeral Mojave

An ephemeral experience in an eternal landscape



J. Marie Huston
PHOTOGRAPHY

Artist Statement

J. Marie Huston combines her former career in public service (working with local, regional and state governments and serving two California governors) with a life-long appreciation of the outdoors to create portraits of nature and people that challenge viewers to think about her often-familiar subjects in new ways. Her years working in politics taught her the power of a compelling phrase to inspire change and encourage action. Now, she uses her camera to tell the compelling story and to garner a deeper appreciation of and care for the landscapes and people without their own voice.

She was chosen as a National Park Service Artist in Residence and exhibited *Eternal, Ephemeral Mojave* as an NPS Centennial Celebration artist (2016) at the Desert Light Gallery in the historic Kelso Depot in the Mojave National Preserve.

Ms. Huston has also exhibited her portfolio, *Exiled to My Mind: The Darren Project*, as a solo exhibit in Orange County and the project was recently accepted for consideration at the Webb Norris Book Weekend sponsored by Radius Books in Santa Fe.

Her formal education includes, a BA in psychology from University of California and a Master's in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government as well as numerous courses to learn the digital darkroom and how to print her own work.

Her landscape work is decidedly old school (each image is single shot, minimal editing) and she is working on new projects that involve the analog processes of platinum palladium printing and instant film, as well as photograms.

With rare exceptions for very large sizes, the artist is her own printer. She considers printing an extension of the photographic process and is as meticulous about her final prints as she is every other step in the making of an image.

Eternal, Ephemeral Mojave represents one artist's experience of being transformed by her ephemerally human experience in an eternal landscape. The Mojave National Preserve is a landscape of extremes, land forms that have been evolving for billions of years, wildflowers that wait 100 years to bloom and live mere days.

The Mojave rewards the patient and the reverent, drawing you into natural rhythms that have remained unchanged for tens of thousands of years.



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