

A photograph of a snowy landscape. In the foreground, a dark, still pond reflects the sky, with concentric ripples on its surface. The pond is bordered by a snow-covered bank. In the background, a line of trees, including bare deciduous trees and evergreens, stands against a clear blue sky. The overall scene is serene and wintry.

THE LIPKA JOURNAL
PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS
JOE LIPKA

OCTOBER 2022

WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL

OCTOBER 2022

Beginning trips and ending trips and having a whole bunch of fun making art to specifications. We begin with a middle of the night wake up to experience a sunrise from atop a Hawai'ian volcano. As a landscape photographer, I've seen many sunrises and this one was pretty good. Returning to a great location, Paint the Desert Hotel in Arizona. Rather than focusing on the eyes, the graphic designs of the building get a close up treatment showing the artistic value of the building at any distance. We are ending a trip with a late afternoon drive in the Palouse. We just had rain, but the few miles that separated us from the airport made a big difference between rain and snow. The end of the trip was the beginning of winter.

But that's not all. There's a bonus project in this issue!

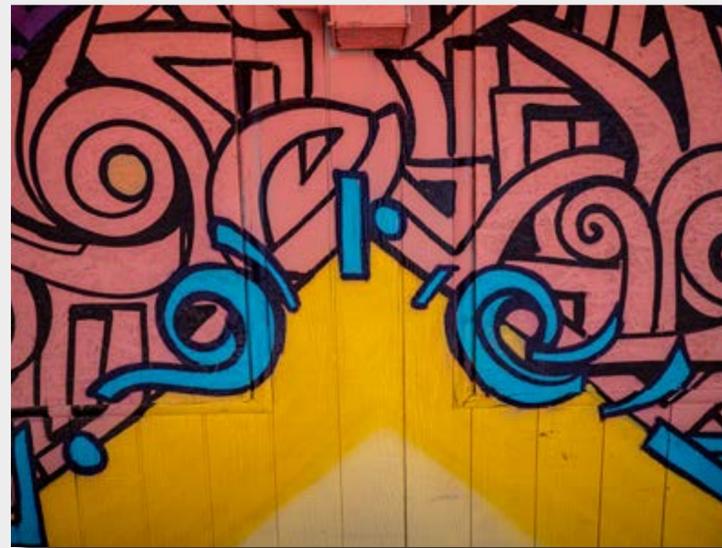
I like self-directed projects and the choice to produce art to the specification of a themed exhibit is always a fun challenge. We read the specifications, ponder, determine a response, and create work. Creating is always more fun when there are constraints, guidelines, and rules. It's an artistic challenge I always enjoy.



Haleakala Sunrise



Early Snow



A Question of Scale



Revēlō

Haleakala Sunrise



Haleakala Sunrise

The sun still rises in the east every morning. This event is something we expect and usually we pay little attention to the aesthetics of the event. Making a sunrise special requires effort. In this case, witnessing a sunrise from atop a volcano and watching the sun come up through the clouds is a special event.









Six Word Project

He thought solitude.

She thought isolation.



Early Snow



Early Snow

It comes as a surprise. All of a sudden, the first snow of the season shows up. When it happens in the middle of autumn it's a wake up call to us. Winter is coming. It's a reminder to us that months of pleasant weather will soon change to dark, cold, and windy. The first snow is not heavy, doesn't stay long and barely leaves a mark on the land. It announces a warning and quickly leaves.























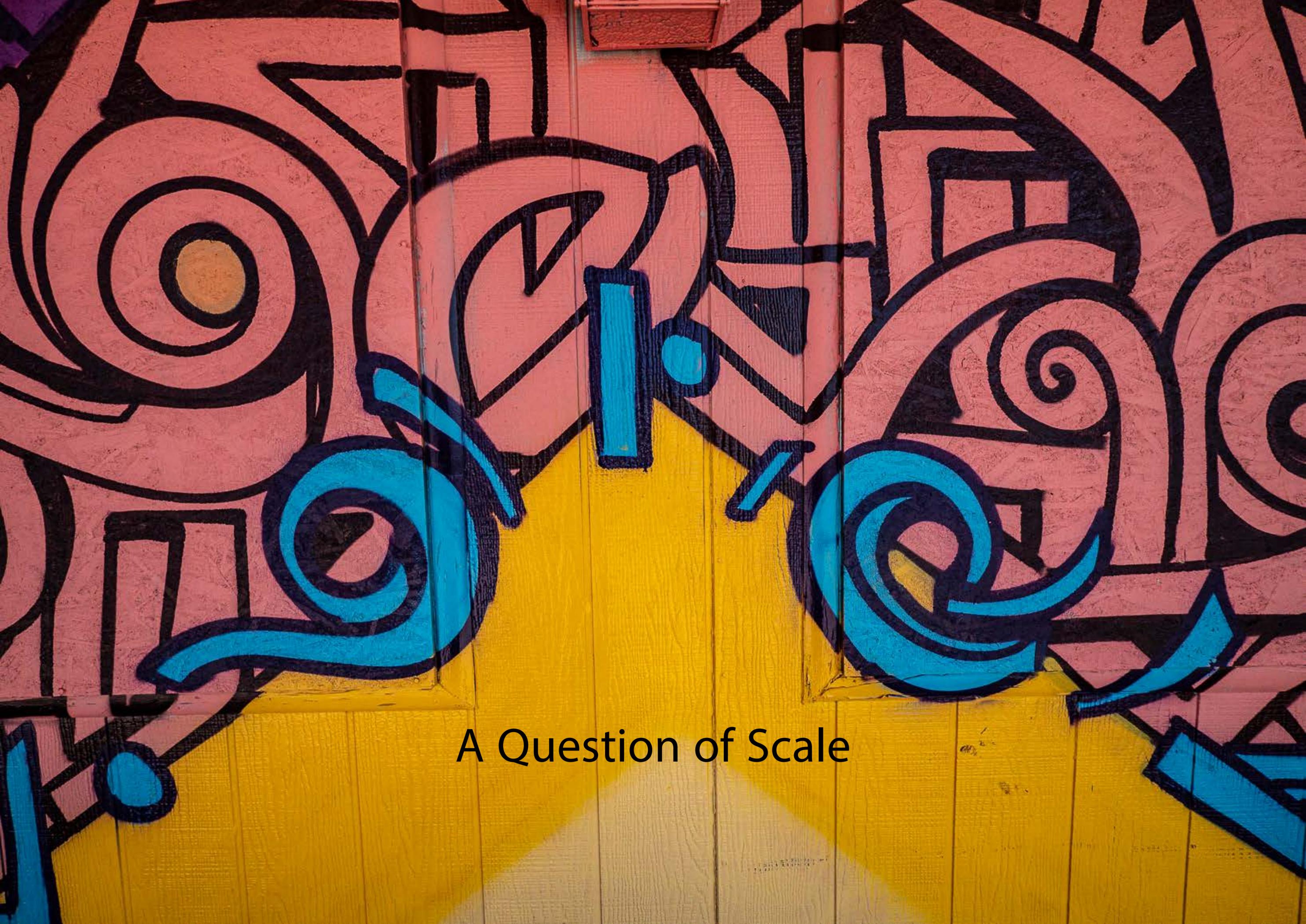




Six Word Project

Deciding on the best photographic viewpoint



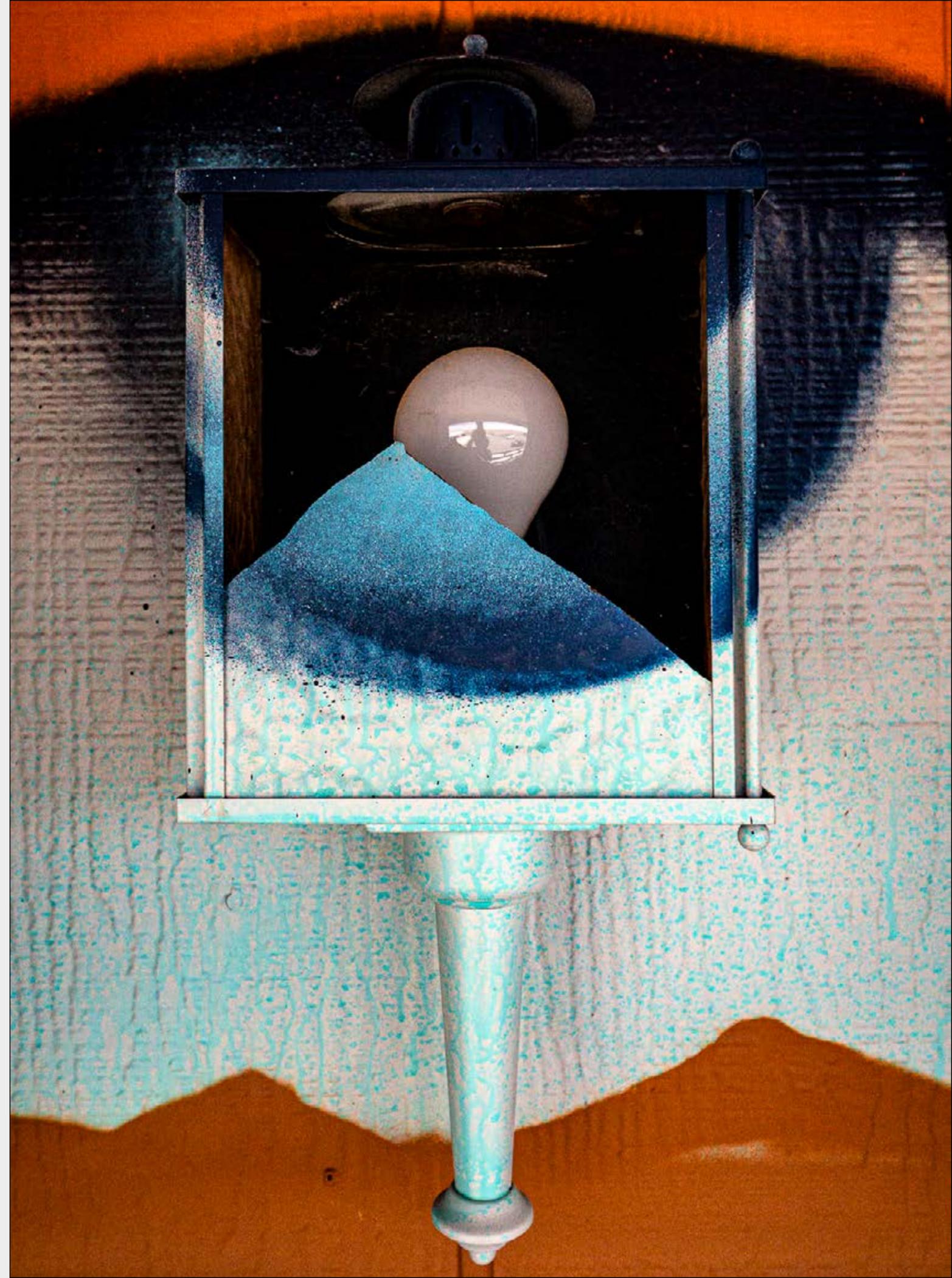


A Question of Scale

A Question of Scale

It is a question of scale. The Art was made to draw your attention from a distance while you are speeding by on a highway. The imagery deserved more than a quick glance from a speeding vehicle.

If the imagery is created with that audience and viewing in mind, will the art hold up to a slower and closer inspection? Looking closely at the artwork from a very close distance the question of scale was answered





Red graffiti tag on the blue metal railing.

Black graffiti tag on the central pillar.

ALFA

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ALFA

ALFA

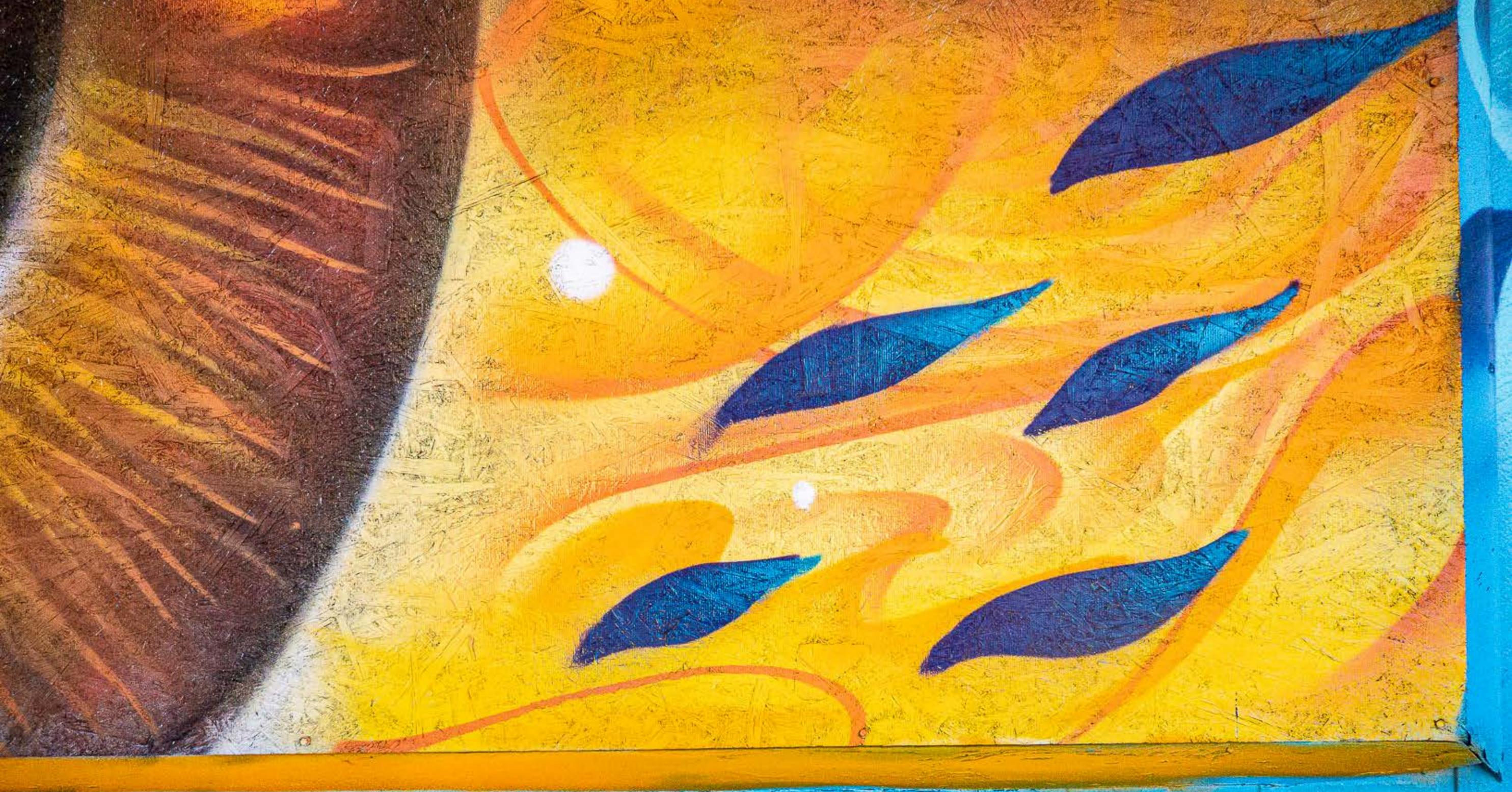


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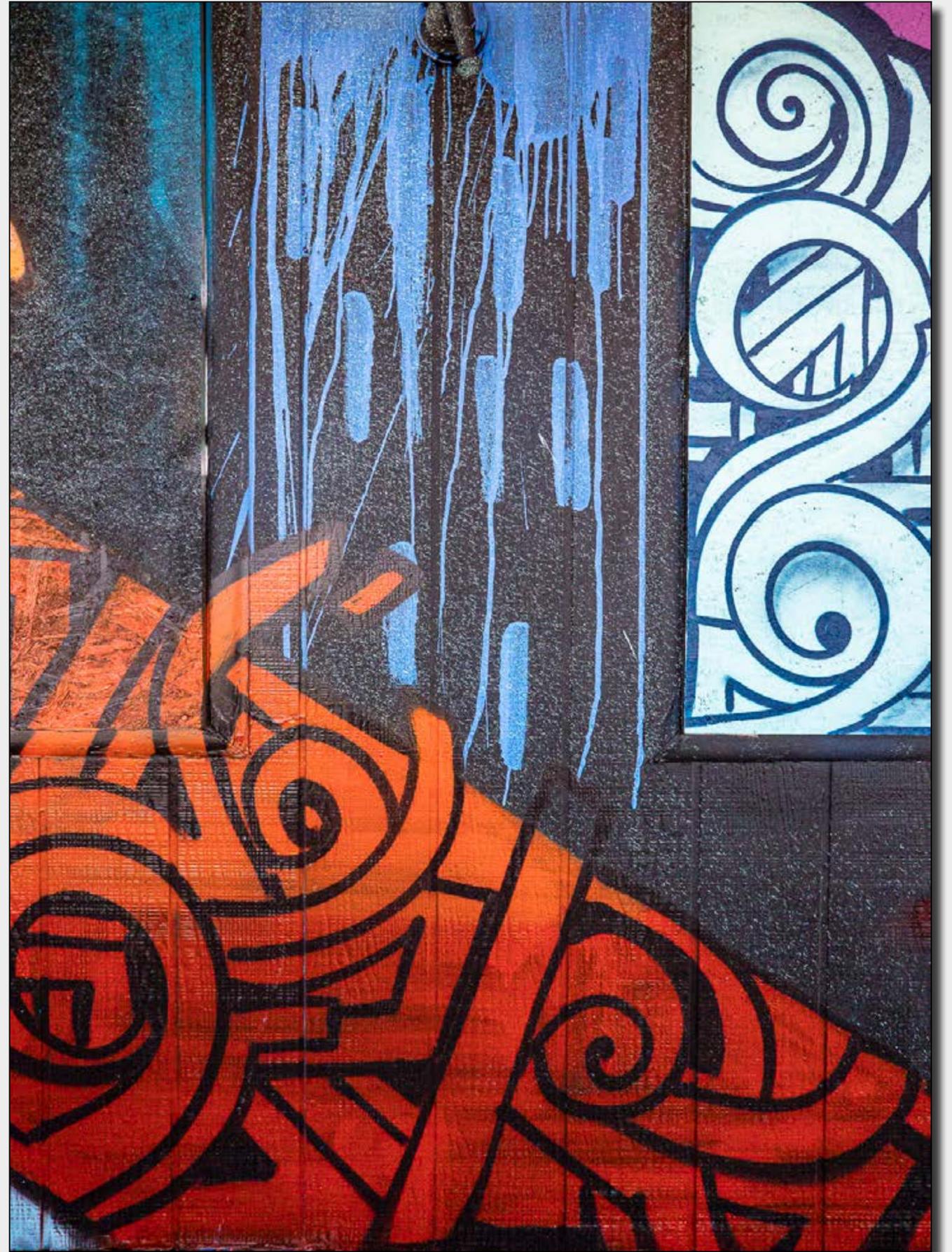
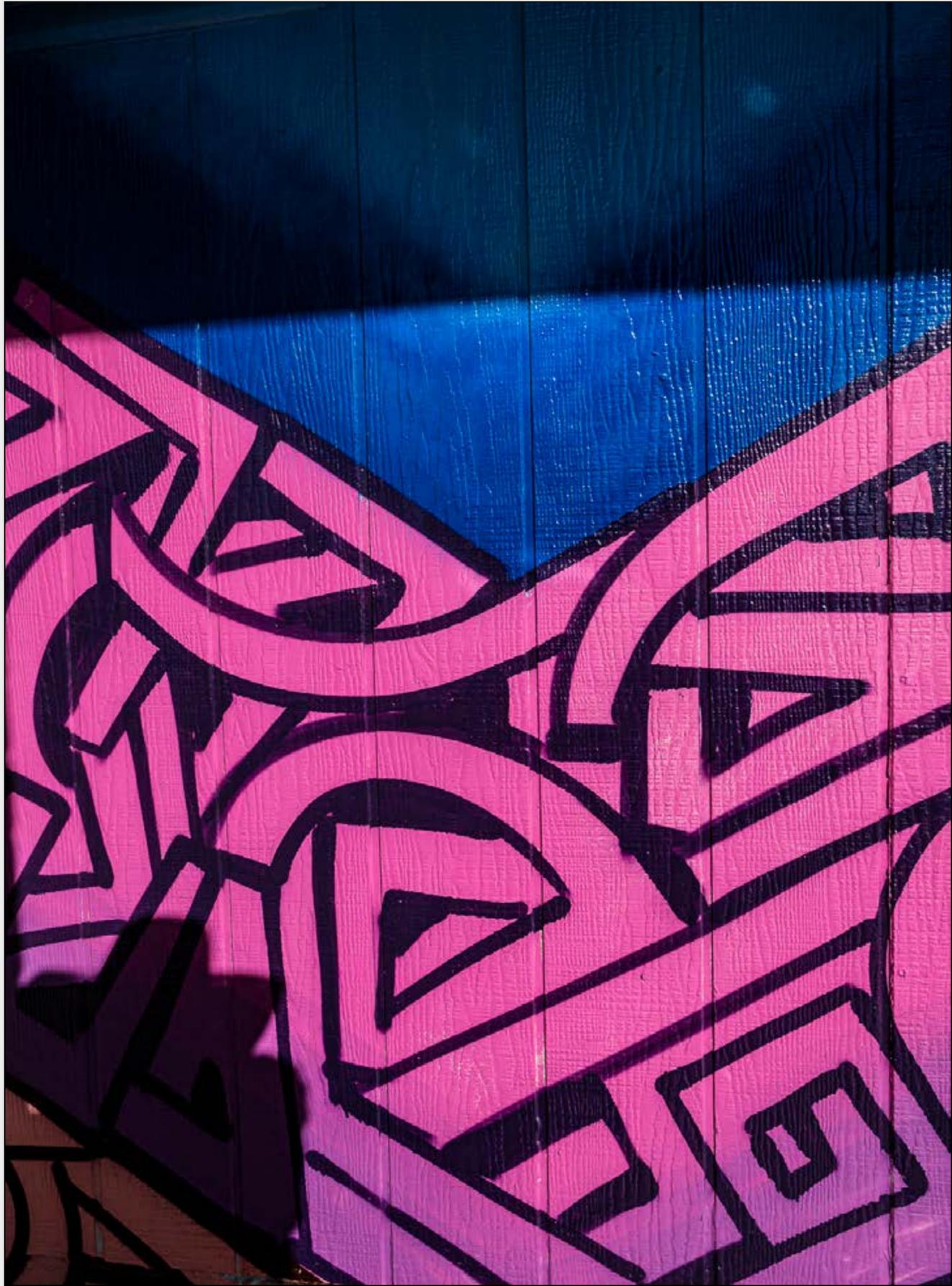
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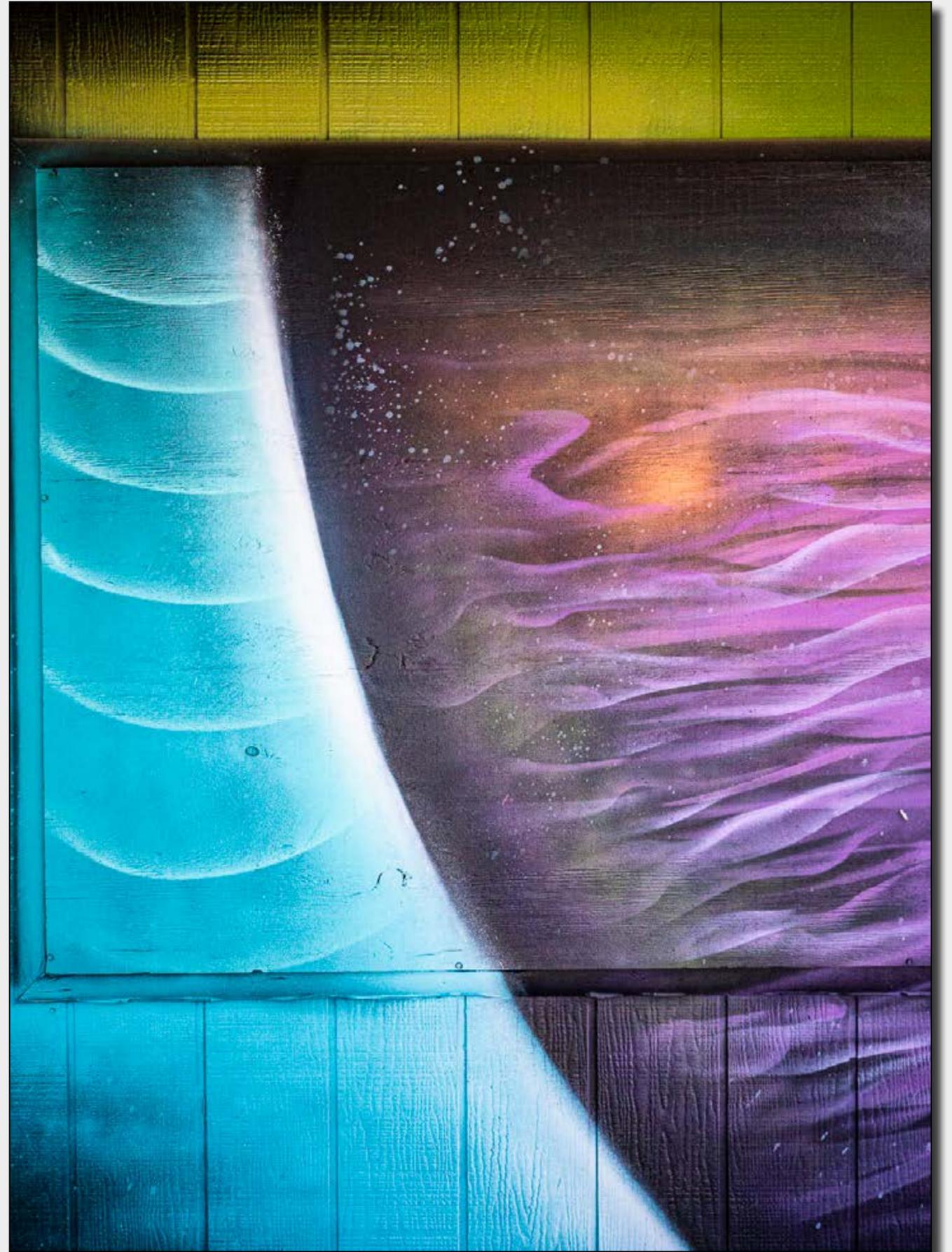
















Revēlō

WOODY TOLD ME A FUNNY STORY

Revēlō

Sometimes I see a juried exhibit that piques my curiosity. One such exhibition intrigued me. Here is the invitation:

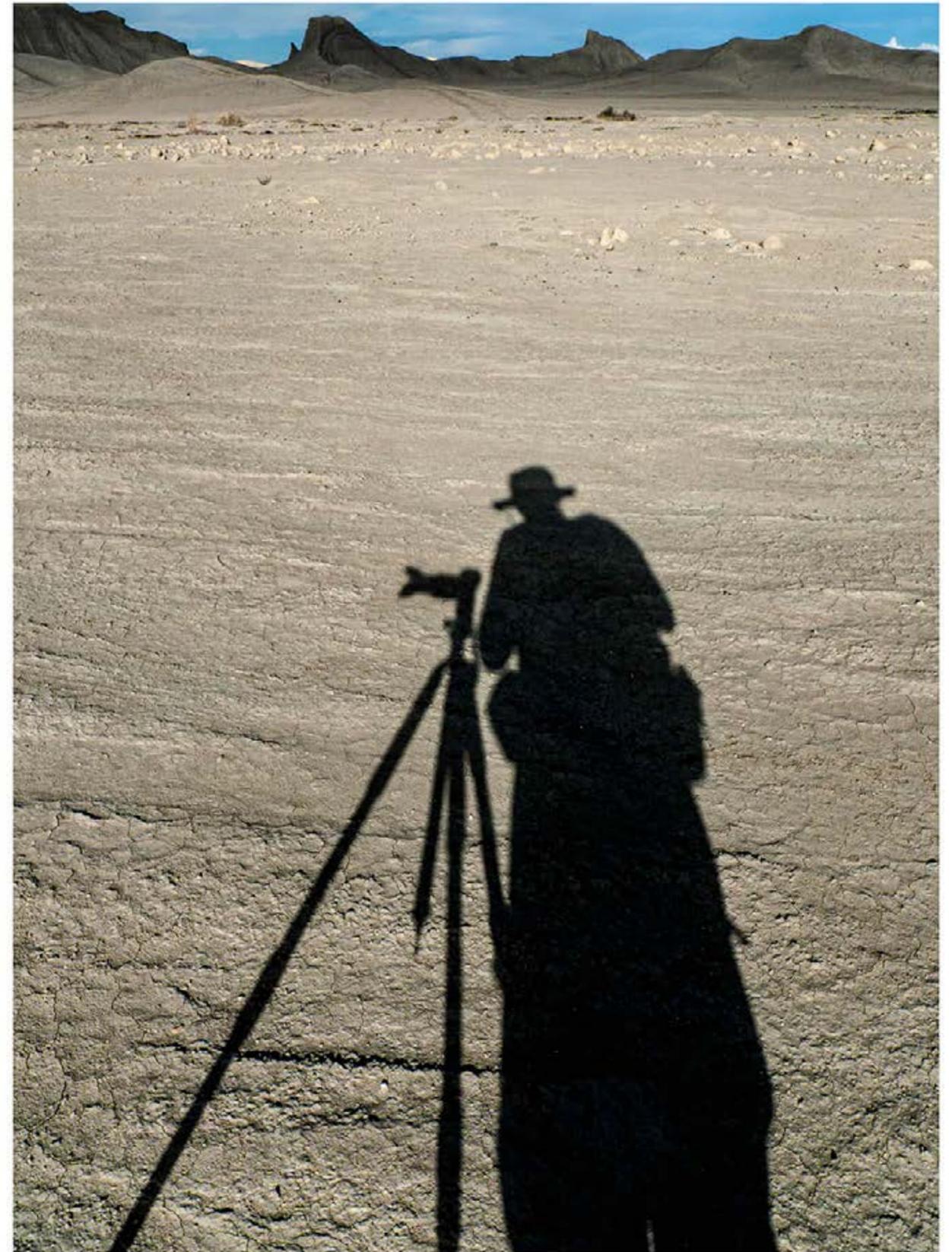
Revēlō (to show, uncover, reveal or disclose)

Portraits and self-portraits have been fixtures in art for centuries. They can reveal both hidden and visible characteristics, create fantasies and myths, describe performative roles, and question identity. How do we construct and project our identity and reality via portraits? Do they open a window into ourselves and our lives, or protect our vulnerabilities?

...Who are we now?

Well, that's what I had to work with. It was a bunch of fun to figure out how to do this my own way.

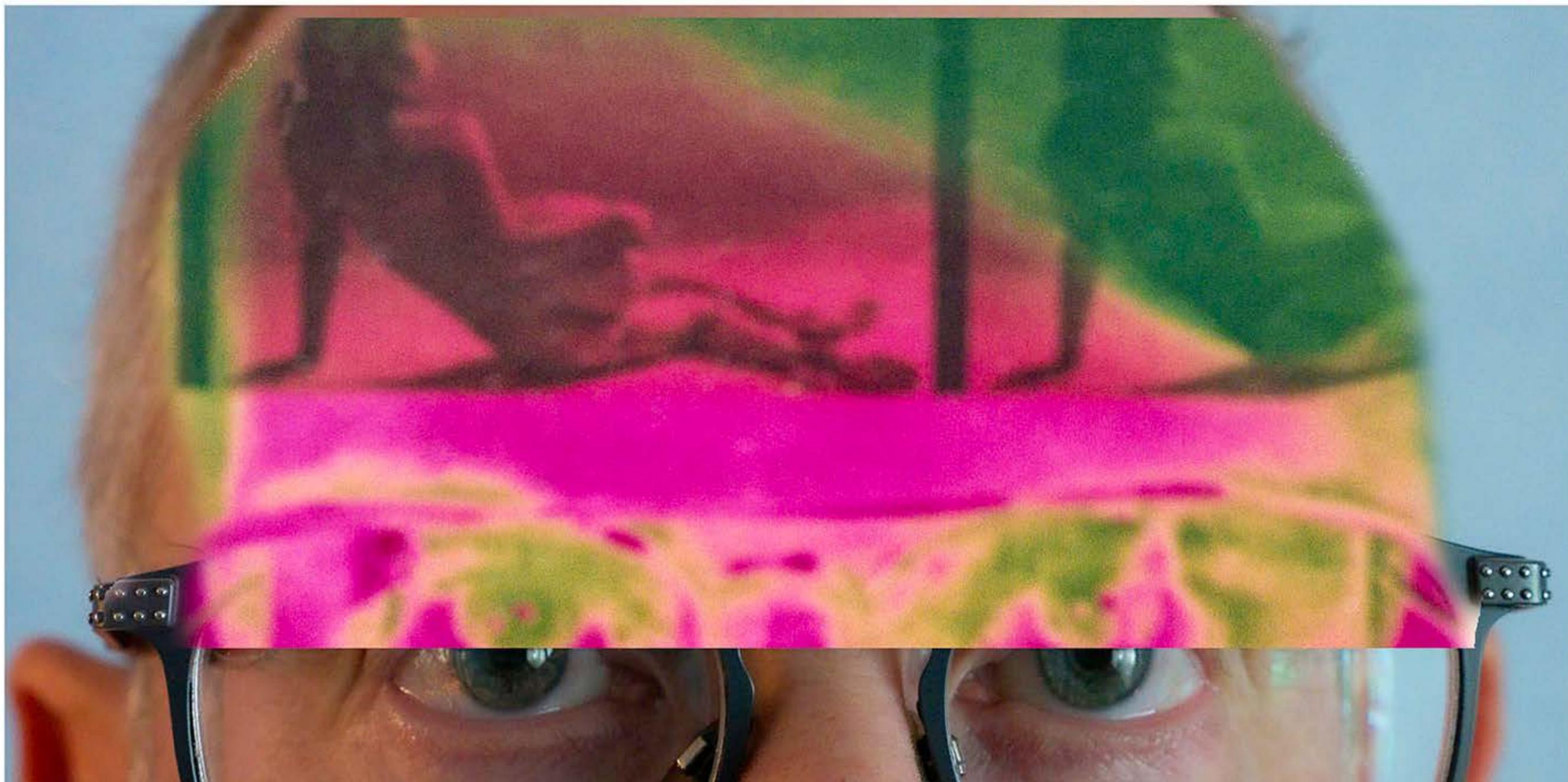
Sadly, the jurors saw fit to reject all my works. I might have a clue why these happy, not quite serious photographs were rejected, when I see what was accepted.



PHOTOGRAPHY ? SERIOUS
ME ? NOT SO MUCH



NO LONGER EMBARRASSED BY LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY



FLASHBACK OR MEMORY ?
STILL CANT REMEMBER



STILL TOGETHER STILL SMILING STILL PHOTOGRAPHING

Postcards from the Creative Journey

August 2, 2020

Do As I Say Because I Don't Do

When I was learning photography (so long ago I don't want to think about it) the instruction came from other photographers; people with a lot of experience in the creation of photographic prints from film negatives. They showed us their photographs, examples of their art created through technology. Their profession was making images and they shared their knowledge of photography.

Look at the current crop of photographic teachers. Pleasant people, very good at explaining the arcane functions of increasingly complex electronic contraptions and how software works. Have you seen anything other than "example photographs" in a book?

We have reached a point where photography is so sophisticated, we separate the instruction on camera operation, software and photography. We worry so much about hardware and software we have little time left for the aesthetics of photography.



A FEW CLOSING WORDS

Halaekala Sunrise

Jet lagged and waking up in the middle of the night is made more palatable because it's the perfect time to take a journey to the top of a volcano to watch a sunrise. The sad news is that there wasn't much time to photograph during a whirlwind tour of "seeing what tourists want to see."



Early Snow

Being on the edge of seasons is always interesting. The difference of about fifty miles was the difference between a rainstorm we endured and missing a snowstorm. We were heading back to the airport and had the time to stop along the way to photograph the first incursion of winter. ,



A Question of Scale

The Eyes continue to have it. Here's a second project from Paint The Desert Motel in Arizona. (The first project was in September's Journal.) The exquisite detail created by these artists was entrancing. These are easy photographs to make because all I needed to do was work the edges and make sure the framing was correct. It was fun and very entertaining to make these images.



Revēlō

Having fun with photography is something serious artists don't want to do. Thank heavens I am not serious. These images were not judged to be worthy of exhibition by the jurors. None the less, I consider them successful because I had a lot of fun creating some photographs that just might be recycled as a six word project somewhere down the road.





Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last thirty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred twenty juried exhibitions, more than twenty solo exhibitions and his images have been published in *LensWork*, *Black & White Photography* (UK) and *F-Stop* Magazines.

His website www.joelipkaphoto.com has continuously evolved since it was launched in 2004. His blog *Postcards from the Creative Journey*, published weekly since 2010, feature a photograph and a little bit of writing.

His newest blog, *The Daily Photograph*, is simply that. A new and interesting image posted every morning at 8:00 AM.

COLOPHON

The Lipka Journal, October, 2022

Joe Lipka

© 2022 Joe Lipka Photography

Web site: www.joelipkaphoto.com

Blog: <http://blog.joelipkaphoto.com/>

Blog: https://joelipkaphoto.typepad.com/the_daily_photograph/

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