STILLNESS BORNE ON THE WIND

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
JOE LIPKA
Stillness borne on the Wind

Abandoned places are always silent and still. Some places like Alkabo, North Dakota have a silence that is all encompassing. The quiet there surrounds the buildings and machinery in what’s left of this little town. It's as if the weight of the continued silence has collapsed buildings. There is a protective hush in this place that wants to keep me from entering the buildings. There is no motion except my own. I push through the silence to make photographs.

I have been in places like Alkabo many times and each time the silence changes my behavior. I walk slowly. I pick my path carefully and I photograph the stillness quietly. There are no shouts of joy at finding a good composition, no enthusiastic camaraderie, for such joyful revelry is deadened and absorbed by the silence. While there I experience a profound sense of melancholy. I feel a sense of loss while photographing these mute places which are filled with things and with memories which have been abandoned and left behind. I find that it is not difficult to portray the stillness of these places because it is so pervasive. Perhaps that is why I am drawn to these places like Alkabo where the stillness is borne on the wind.
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