The Inevitability of NUMBERS

Joe Lipka
When I was young, my Grandmother Lipka asked if I could “cipher.” Her generation learned reading, writing and ciphering. It took a while for my young mind to figure out that ciphering was actually arithmetic and working with numbers. When reading and writing skills were neither required nor possessed for daily living, the ability to cipher approached sorcery.
When the world embraced standardized products and mass production, numbers became the language of the designers and builders of machines.

As I began photographing in the boatyard everything I saw was numbered. I thought about trying to work around the numbers but the sorcery of ciphering cast its spell and inevitability I photographed numbers.
“To the Egyptians these numbers were the secret harmonies of the cosmos and they incorporated them as rhythms and proportions in the construction of their pyramids and temples.”

Jonathan Black

As an engineer, I know numbered parts were needed to assemble grand machines. None the less, I thought it amazing that machines were assembled by the numbers. That the assembled parts functioned as one is magic.

Even after assembly of the numbered parts, more numbers were placed on the exteriors of the machines. Those that needed to know the meaning of these numbers had the knowledge. It was all part of the sorcery of ciphering.
The Inevitability of NUMBERS

Joe Lipka

The images in this portfolio were made September, 2017 in the Dakota Creek Shipyard, Anacortes, Washington

© 2018 Joe Lipka Photography

Web site: www.joelipkaphoto.com
Blog: http://blog.joelipkaphoto.com/

The contents of this computer media are copyrighted materials

Please note that this computer file has been provided as a consumer product for the private and non-commercial use of the purchaser only. Its' contents are copyrighted in its entirety and may not be duplicated by any means. Each article, portfolio and photographic image is copyrighted by the author and may not be duplicated for any purpose or by any means without his consent.