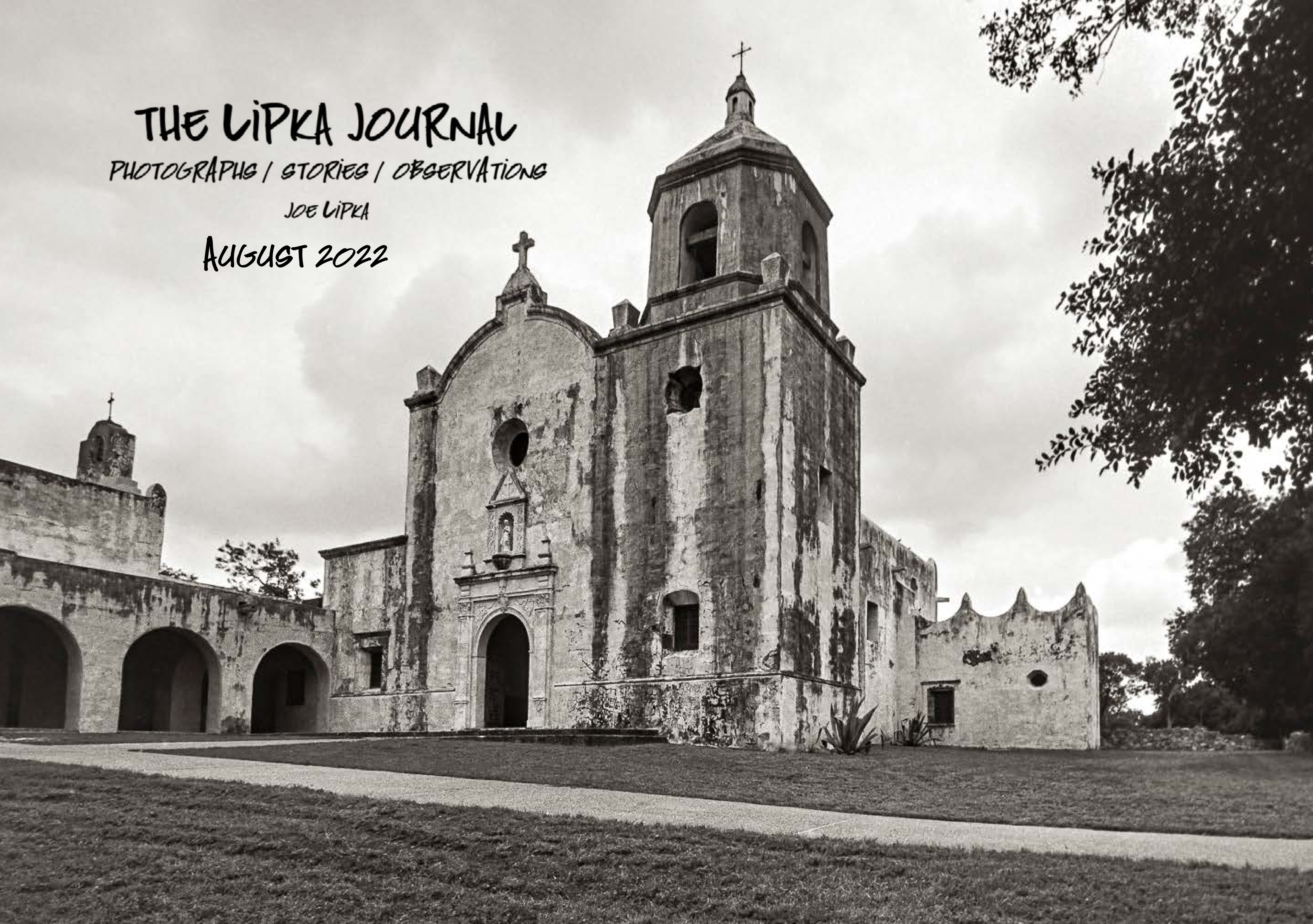


THE LIPKA JOURNAL

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

JOE LIPKA

AUGUST 2022



WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL

AUGUST 2022

This month it's two thirds serious and the rest is fun. On the serious side, the topic is reflections to two types. There is the obvious reflection of a lovely French country pond with lily pads and other colorful flowers. We go thousands of miles away to the coastal plains of Texas and an old empty mission to reflect upon mortality.

After all that seriousness, we need a little bit of fun with shadows. As photographers, we do our best to avoid putting ourselves in the frame. But sometimes, making yourself part of the composition is just the right thing to do.

If you've made it this far, please download this issue of the Journal and view it in Adobe Acrobat Reader. The interactive features of the Journal will be available for your enjoyment when you use Adobe Acrobat Reader.



A Tranquil Pond



La Bahia



Me and My Shadow

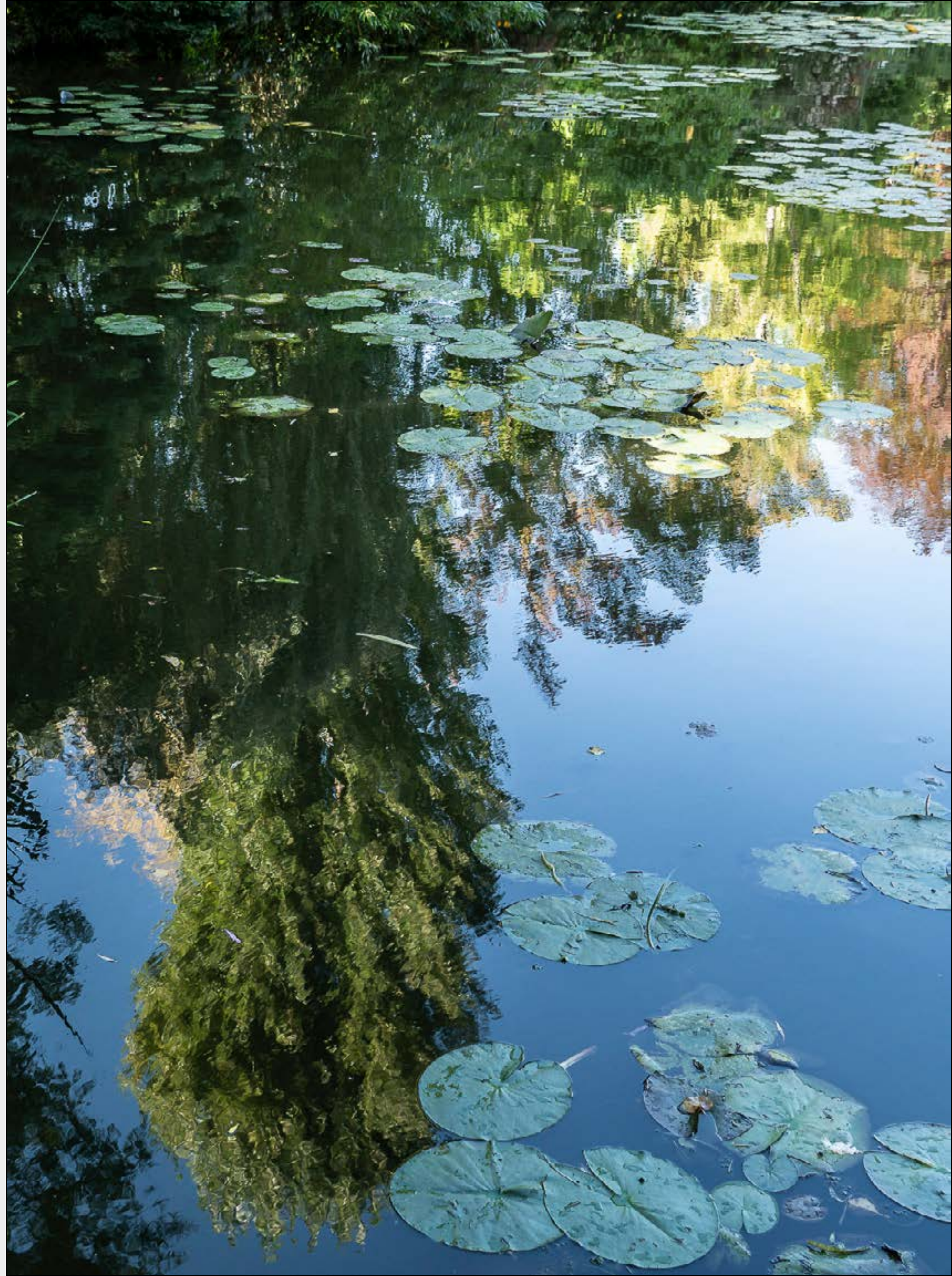


A Tranquil Pond

A Tranquil Pond

Pop culture calls it a “Happy Place.” While we give that phrase an eye roll, we all have such a place (or if we’re lucky more than one) where we feel immediately comfortable and at ease. It is a place where our worries and cares disappear, and we can think about the most important things in life.

For me, tranquility and calm are a necessary part of the creative process. This small pond is one of those places where peace and quiet are found in abundance. The short time spent walking around the pond was very satisfying. I wished I could have spent more than a few hours there.

















Six Word Project

Jess would only fix old cars.

La Bahia

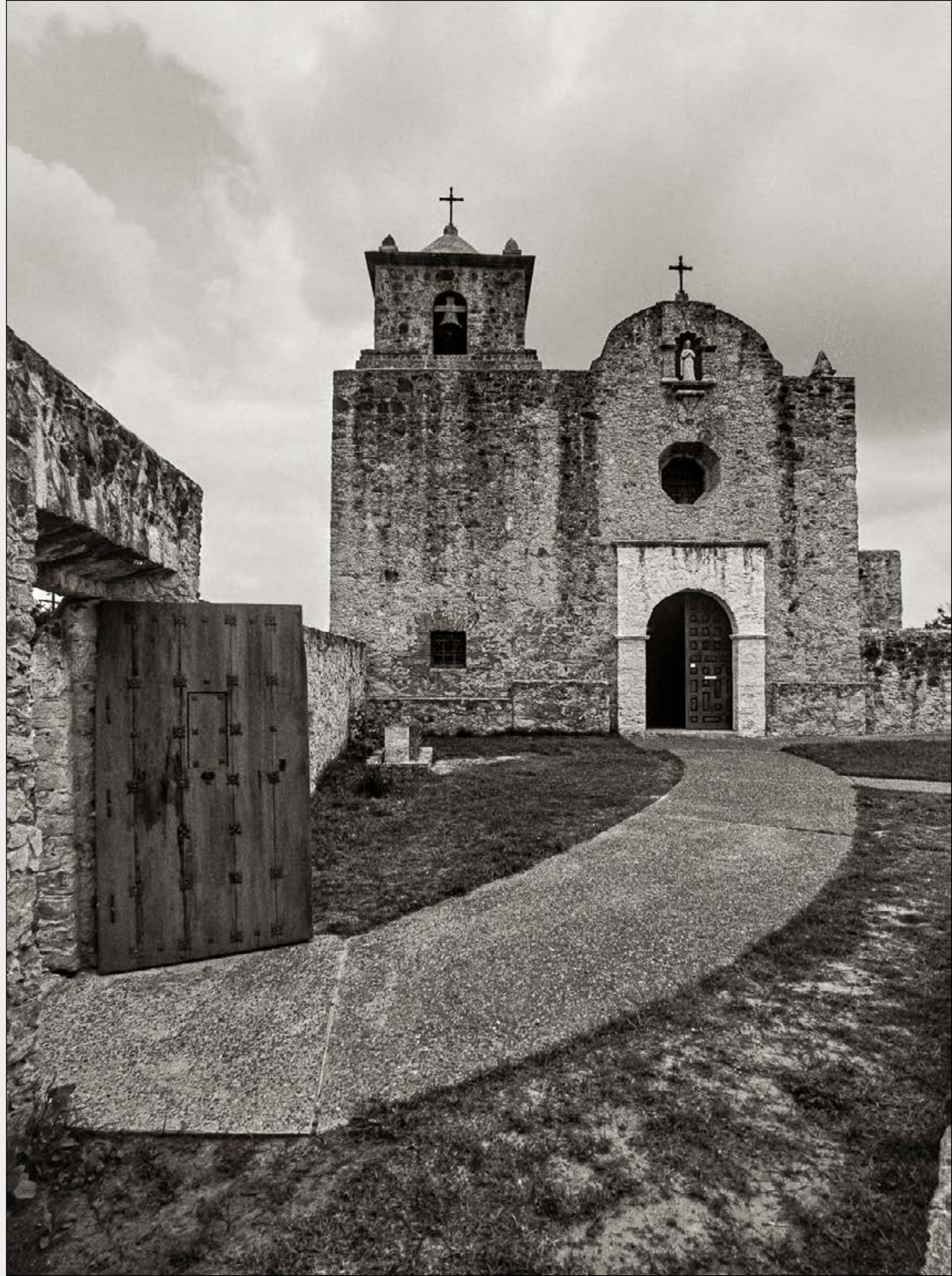


La Bahia

Mission Nuestra Señora del Espíritu Santo de Zúñiga, also known as Mission La Bahia, is a Catholic mission established by the Spanish in 1722 near Goliad, Texas.

After the Battle of the Alamo, the Mexican Army's next stop was the Mission La Bahia. The fate of the inhabitants of La Bahia was a foregone conclusion.

Standing on the ramparts of the Mission, I wondered what it would have been like to stand there and know that I would probably be dead in the next few days. Would I see things differently on those last few days? Would the walls look the same? Are the closed doors prophetic?

















NO LONGER EMBARRASSED BY CHEESY LANDSCAPES





Me and My Shadow

Me and My Shadow

“Everyone” says landscape photographers are supposed to get up really early to be in position to experience the blue hour (just before dawn) and skip the cocktail hour and dinner to take advantage of the golden hour (just before sunset). These photographic hours are worshipped because of the extreme directional light and dramatic shadows.

What does one do when those dramatic shadows include the photographer?

Snap away, I say, and make yourself part of the image.





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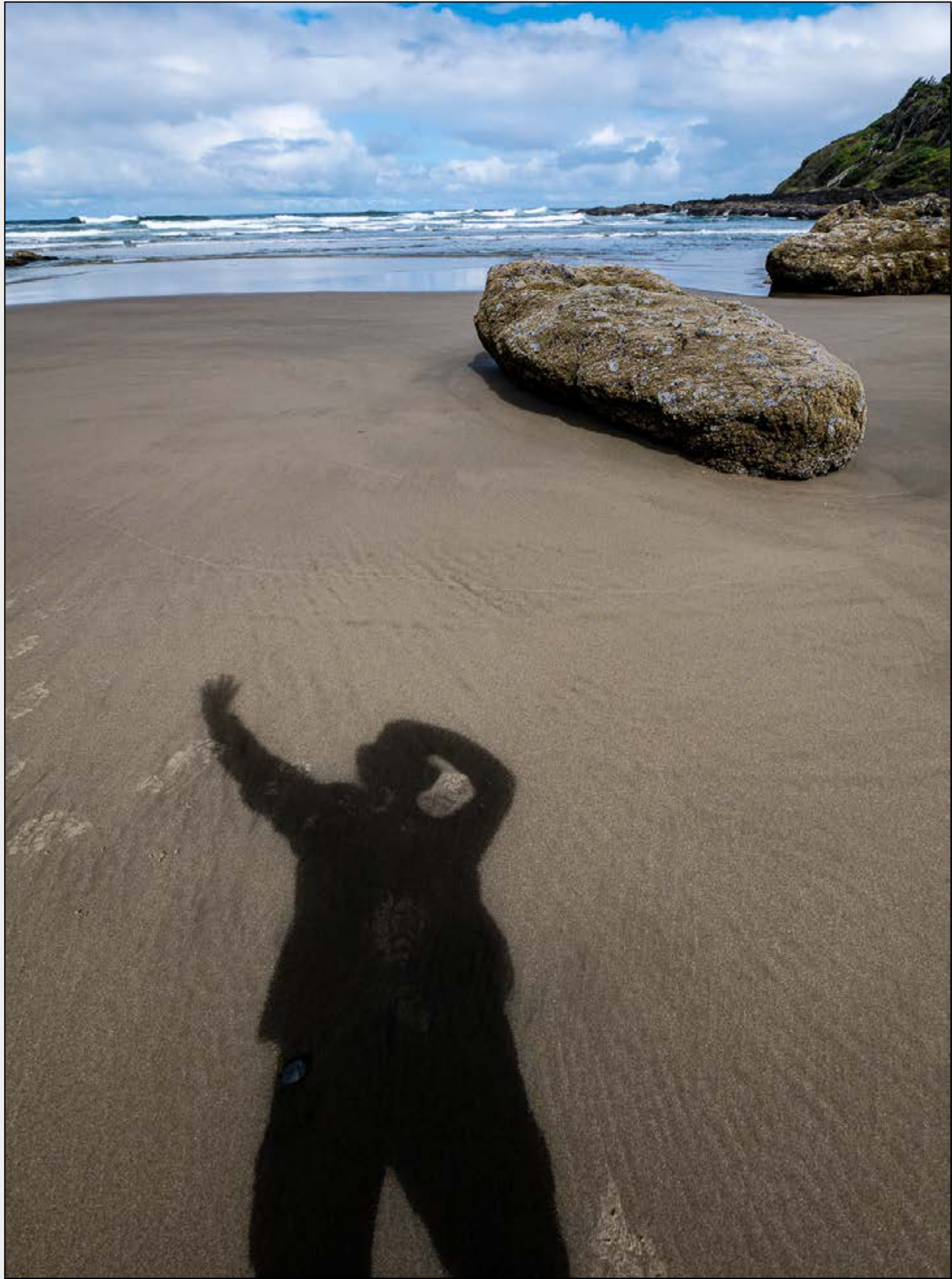
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Postcards from the Creative Journey

October 25, 2020

What to Do with the Rest?

Most of the images photographers make are forgettable. That's not a bad thing. Forgettable images are doing just what they are supposed to be doing; not making an impression and being forgotten. Not every photograph is a winner. Some rise to the level of art, some are just visual clues for some great memories and some are questionable. That would be questionable in the manner of "Where was I when I took that photograph?" not the questionable that was a breach of good taste.

The trouble with selecting these days is purely a question of volume. In the past, if I would go out with my view camera for a week of photography, I would be happy with forty exposed sheets of film. Selecting and editing with that quantity of images was fairly easy to do. With my digital camera it would be easy to get about two thousand images after a week. Then the problem becomes one of selecting and editing. A much more complicated and time consuming process just because of the number of images is so much larger.

And then once you have figured out how many images are "good enough" what is going to happen to the rest?



A FEW CLOSING WORDS



A Tranquil Pond

This lovely pond full of lilies surrounded by a beautiful garden is quite a famous place. Claude Monet lived across the street and often came over to paint the pond. His efforts at describing the place in visual terms are much better than my humble efforts. Even when lots of tourists visit the place there is a sense of calm and tranquility one experiences in this place. With enough time to enjoy the tranquility and the various seasons one would not need another subject for art.



La Bahia

I visited the Mission at Goliad almost fifty years ago. It is one of those out of the way places that is historically important. It was well preserved because it had not been discovered by tourists. I remember the quiet, the emptiness and the fate of those that chose to defend their land.

This small project is another installment in the More Memories than Dreams Project.



Me and My Shadow

Sometimes it is necessary to not be really serious when making photographs. Artists (including me) have the tendency to vastly overrate their importance to the world. At such times it necessary to poke fun at ourselves to remind ourselves that we create because it is fun.



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, August, 2022

Joe Lipka

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Web site: www.joelipkaphoto.com

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

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

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