

The Landscape: Master and Apprentice
January 29 through early June, 2011
Institute for the Study of Western Civilization

Charles Cramer

Rex Naden

Charles Cramer has been a landscape photographer for over three decades. Rex Naden has served as Charles' teaching apprentice since Rex retired from the semiconductor business. Together they have taught photography and photographed in remote locations.

Charles Cramer

After spending seven years of college studying classical piano, I visited Yosemite National Park for the first time, and soon realized I wanted out of those tiny practice rooms! Realizing the similarities between interpreting music and interpreting a negative, I quickly became enamored with making prints. I sell prints through various galleries, and also teach digital printing workshops for the Ansel Adams Gallery, John Sexton Workshops, and



others. I was selected to be an artist-in-residence in Yosemite in 1987 and again in 2009. I have been profiled in *PhotoTechniques*, *PhotoVision*, *Outdoor Photography (UK)* and *View Camera Magazines*. I'm also included in the book *Landscape: The World's Top Photographers*, published in 2005. In 2009, I was one of five photographers in *First Light: Five Photographers Explore Yosemite's Wilderness*.
www.charlescramer.com.

Artist's Statement

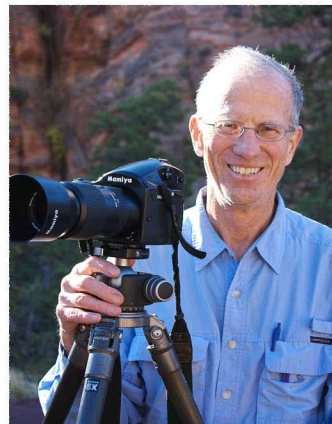
During the last 30 years, I have wandered with my camera throughout the landscapes of the United States. I am drawn to photograph primarily by the "light" and only secondarily by the subject. I search for that special kind of light that can transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. This brings me out at seemingly odd times—sunrise, sunset, during storms and snowstorms. The weather can be onerous. But when everything comes together for a photograph, all that is quickly forgotten.

The end goal of my photography has always been to make beautiful prints. I have spent a large part of the last 30 years refining my skills not just photographing the natural scene, but learning how to make the best possible prints from these images. This led me to take up dye transfer—an impossibly complex and time-consuming method to make color prints. Only recently, with the maturation of digital imaging, have I embraced another process that can rival a dye transfer print.

Rex Naden

I spent thirty-five years in the chip industry. I hold fourteen US patents and B.A, M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering.

As I develop my identity as a serious photographer, it is my honor to work with- and to learn from- Charles Cramer. My first one- man show *Natural Designs* ran



in 2010 at Viewpoint Gallery in Sacramento. My image *Lake with Flax and Red Gum Trees* was one of 40 images out of 40,000 entries at the Smithsonian Institute; it hung in a six- month exhibit in their headquarters building. My image *Twins* was National Geographic's Image of the day in 2010. My work is in the

permanent collections of the Santa Clara Towers high-rise office buildings, Filoli Gardens, Courtside Club, Sand Hill Road, medical clinics, and private homes. I am represented by the art consultants Carol A. Dabb and Suzy R. Locke. I am a Trustee and Chairman of the Exhibit Committee for the Center for Photographic Arts in Carmel, CA, a historic venue established by Ansel Adams and Edward Weston in 1967. www.rexnaden.com

Artist's Statement

Nature is a Designer. She speaks in nuances and gestures but she does not hold back or demur; her intent is compelling; no, it is overwhelming.

What does she mean to convey with her magnificent architecture? Why is her work speaking to me? Why am I being instructed? Shall I presume to understand her purpose with logic?

No. I resolve to put logic and questioning aside. These are artifacts of man that can only diminish nature's message. Instead, I place myself in view of her work. I capture photographs purely on my emotions. My prints attempt to interpret her language.

I offer these images to you as my response to nature's design imperative.