

Mel Curtis

Biographical

Born and raised in Ohio, I studied graphic design at the University of Cincinnati. I moved to Alexandria, Virginia in the Washington, DC area for work and later developed a keen interest in photography. In 1979 I left my job to pursue photography full time. Returning to Ohio in 1981 to pursue graduate work, I further developed my skills and vision and upon completing my degree moved to Seattle in 1984. My time has always been balanced between the worlds of art, commerce and academia, with each feeding my growth as a working artist.

About My Work

Photography has always been for me an act of discovery. The camera is a tool to record, explain, and otherwise capture the world around us. I rarely embark on predetermined projects, but rather allow ideas to evolve and present themselves to me in my travels. My interests have largely been about the man made landscape. I have always found it curious as the way man alters the environment for his own needs. My first explorations were about the urban landscape of our nation's capital. Since then it has been about the monasteries of Europe, the streets of Rome, the farm fields of the Palouse, and more recently, my neighborhood on walks with my dog.

Education

1976 BS in Design. Graphic Design major. College of Design, Art and Architecture. University of Cincinnati. Cincinnati, Ohio.

1983 MFA in Photography. School of Art. Ohio University. Athens, Ohio.

Teaching Positions

2007 to 2011 Visiting Artist, University of Washington. Design in Rome. Rome, Italy.

1995 Instructor, University of Washington. Seattle, WA.

1990 to 1996 Instructor, Photo Center Northwest. Seattle, WA.

1993 to 1994 Visiting Lecturer, School of Art, University of Washington, Seattle, WA.

1984 to 1990 Visiting Lecturer, Communication Department. Seattle University. Seattle, WA.

Professional/Clients/Stock Representation

1984 to present - Mel Curtis Photographs, a studio specializing in evocative imagery. Clients include Microsoft, Google, Washington Research Foundation, University of Washington, College Success Foundation, Seattle Symphony, The White House Historical Association, Starbucks, ERA Living, and Cascade Water Alliance. Stock representation by Getty Images.

Exhibits/Awards

2018 *Crossing Paths*, University of Washington Club, **2016 *Selected Works***, Google, Kirkland, WA, **2015 *Roma/Southern Light***, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA, **2013 *Seattle in Winter***, Sisko Gallery, Seattle, WA, **2011 *Body Works***, Sisko Gallery, Seattle, WA, **2010 *Profound and Profane***, Sisko Gallery, Seattle, WA, **2007, *Sacred and Secular***, Sisko Gallery, Seattle, WA, **2000 *Photographies Ecletiques***, Lisa Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA, **1998 *Recent Work From the Czech Republic***, Lisa Harris Gallery, Seattle WA, **1995 *The Light of Andulacia, Images of Spain***, Lisa Harris Gallery, Seattle WA, **1994, *Artist in Residence***, Fundacion Valparaiso, Mojacar, Spain.

Collections

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle WA, Special Collections, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, AARP, The Marriot Corporation, Microsoft Corporation, Google, Hyatt Hotels, IBM Corporation, AT&T Corporation and the White House.

Gallery Affiliations

The Artist's Circle, Potomac, MD, Arterra, Bellevue, WA and The Seattle Art Museum Sales and Rental Gallery, Seattle, WA.