

Artist's Statement

Steve Russell

Take My Breath Away

I like to shoot photography more than just about anything else in life. And if there's one thing that drives me to do it, it's the pursuit of the shot that takes my breath away. Whether it's an image of jaw-dropping, stacked lenticular clouds over Mt. Rainier, or a Dance Fly sucking nectar from a flower in evening light, the feeling is the same. That momentary, involuntary, inhaled breath that says, "That's it!"

To that end, it's a matter of fusing what presents itself to me with what I think (technique), what I feel (intuition), and when I decide to snap the shutter button on the camera. From there, the images become mine, my offspring, to nurture and develop to be the best that they can possibly be.

I am the intermediary, the translator that hunts for the decisive moments in the world around me and freezes them in time for anyone to see and examine. When the subject, the camera, the light, and I align and the image produced illuminates the subject in such a way as to steal one of my breaths, well, I hope it gets one of yours, too.