

# *Nature Photography*

By: James Egbert

*“The artist cannot rely on just one point of view of life, the artist must find new tools, new experiences to draw from and be constantly growing in their craft.”*

Nature Photography can become more than just a sublimation of the hunting instinct, or a search for the perfect composition. Images reflect a deep and meaningful concept of nature and appeal directly to one's soul. For those who practice the craft, as passionate to their own view on a subject, each one often has their own interpretations as to what constitutes “true” nature photography. Such visionary objectives in nature photography place our medium on the same level as fine arts such as painting, music and literature.



Each artist must all be familiar with the basic aesthetic elements, as well as the technicalities of their equipment. We express our images of the natural world through our photography. Nature photography thus becomes art.



Are photographs a reflection of reality, or are they a carefully chosen slice of time in order to confirm our expectations of the natural world? Some aspects of the definition contested include whether an animal is “captive” or is found “in the wild,” whether a species is native to a region or was introduced by man, or whether a floral subject is cultivated or naturally occurring. Are we photographing nature in lieu of experiencing it? Or, do we experience nature more intensely through photography?

## *Featured Artist*

For me, nature photography is the joy of viewing the inspiration of a majestic scene coming into focus, the emotional connection made when the eyes of the subject make contact with mine through a telephoto lens, or a beautiful flower through the viewfinder. For those brief periods of time behind the camera, when life's trials and tribulations give way to something more fundamentally significant, it matters not where I am or how the subject got there. For me, it is the opportunity to express my feelings about the natural world, through photography. It is these feelings that compel me to go out and capture their representation in pictures - partly, I admit, in order to share them with others.



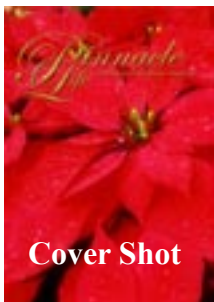
I believe the definition of “nature photography” is strictly an individual one, at least partially dependent on aspects of our existence that are difficult to comprehend and impossible to define. In the final analysis, perhaps what truly defines “nature photography” is based entirely on what we as individuals bring to it spiritually and intellectually, thus rendering the need for a universal definition pointless. We live in an artificial world. Perhaps nature photography is a link to a more authentic existence, bringing us close to life in the natural settings that were once ours. Certainly, from my own experience nature photography can teach us plenty about life.

### ***James Egbert***

James Egbert shares his life knowledge and passion of Nature Photography through his art, writings and workshops. Whether you're going solo or a group of exhibitors, James will take you to “The Right Place at the Right Time”. A national following of students have toured with James to various locations throughout the Western United States and Canada. This opportunity to take extraordinary images is rewarded by capturing nature's wonder and beauty in a timeless image.

James Egbert is the author of “*Nature Photography, Naturally.*” He has received national recognition from *The National Photography Association* and other environmentally conscious groups for his writings and photographic art. His high spirit is inspirational and his creative web design has made a strong impact in the development of *Pinnacle Life!*

A *Colorado Springs Native*, James interest in photography started in his youth and developed on his tour of duty as a Naval Photo Journalist. A world traveler, he now resides locally with his wife family. James now shares his passion for nature and photography through his teachings.



*Through The Eye Of The Beholder Photography Workshops & Safaris*, as lead instructor & guide. Join a workshop for the upcoming year at: <http://www.beholderphotography.com/>

See more of James' work on his personal gallery site: <http://www.james-egbert.com/>.

