

Andrea Modica
Juror's Statement
June 20, 2010

Not very long ago, photography was generally learned in a darkened room with materials that produced black and white prints. Only if color was interesting as color in photography, would a student attempt the tedious and toxic process of learning to make a color print in the darkroom. In the current age of digital imaging, a photograph is color by default. An effort has to be made to convert a digital file to black and white, or a greater effort is necessary to find or build a darkroom to make a black and white photograph with the use of chemicals.

The options available to photographers demand that, more than ever, a conscious decision is made pertaining to the use of black and white or color. This choice must be intrinsically tied to the meaning of the image, along with the use of other formal elements such as composition, lighting, depth of field, point of view, and use of scale, to name only a few. Using this as my guide, I tackled the daunting task of picking 50 photographs from the nearly 2,600 entries for inclusion in the exhibition at the Center for Fine Art Photography in Fort Collins, Colorado. Obviously, with so many entries, many excellent photographs had to be omitted. I thank every photographer who submitted work for consideration and I wish I could have chosen many more photographs for inclusion in this exhibition.