



PHOTOSYNTHESIS
BY CAROL ELLIS

PHOTOSYNTHESIS

from the Greek [photo-], “light,” and [synthesis], “putting together”, “composition”

Photosynthesis. With its fifty shades of green lushness, and colors and smells that awaken the senses, the effects of photosynthesis are everywhere you look at Ocean Reef. Its presence nourishes our body, providing rest and rejuvenation for our soul.

My photography is a form of photosynthesis: I find my subject, savor the scene, take in the light and the photograph is my interpretation. So equally my ART IS LIFE, produced by my synthesis, my camera and my point of view.

A photograph straight from the camera, a scene of incredible beauty, would amaze most persons. I want to take that delight even further, adding digital effects making that photograph extraordinary. I don't simply want to photo-copy the landscape, I want to explore its attraction.

Often I'm asked while photographing what I'm looking at? They observe as I describe the clouds, or the amazing light witnessed before me. Photographic vision is the aptitude for discovering beauty in what can be overlooked as every day and ordinary.

Familiarity with the area, knowing the sun and the moon, the wind and tides, allows me to be in the right place at the right time, often visiting multiple times to get it just right.

Photography has been my passion for my entire life. My mentors have been master printers and accomplished artists. I've studied at home and across the globe, at the prestigious Maine Media Workshops, Santa Fe Photography Center, and L'atelier de Saint-Rémy in France. While in residency at Vermont Studio Center I worked beside artists of all persuasions. I continue to be inspired by the time we live it, a modern day renaissance of new photo materials and processes.

Keep growing,

Carol Willis

November 2016

DIVE IN AND LINGER IN THIS QUIET YET GENTLE SPACE, ITS VITALITY HEIGHTENED BY DIGITALLY PAINTED ACCENTS OF BLUE-GREEN AND CORAL.



02

I continue to be inspired by the time we live in, a modern day renaissance of new photo materials and processes.



03

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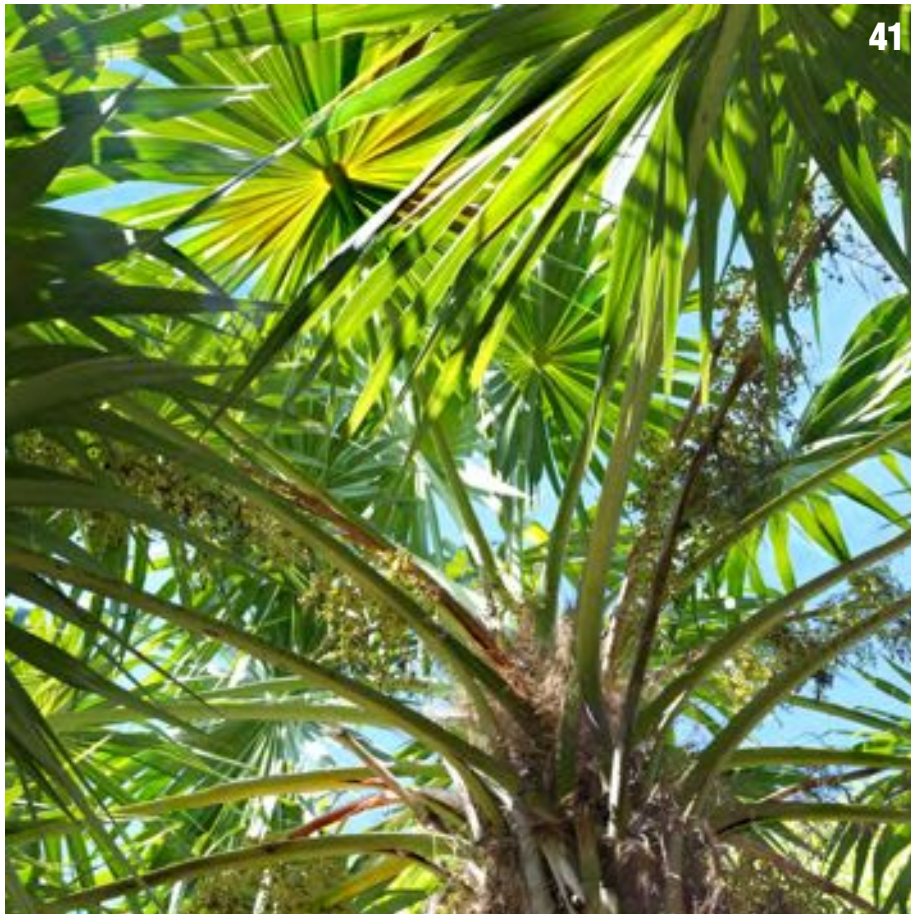


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By observing the most photogenic aspects of a subject outdoors, and scrutinizing the resulting images in my studio, I'm able to choose two or more segments to synthesize, thus revealing the subject's true essence.





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36

While walking through the garden with a fellow photographer, I drew attention to the beauty of this tree. She looked shocked, and said she'd never been with anyone more observant than she. It's important to travel with other photographers, as we find the joy of the passage, often rivals the experience at the destination.



20

Calm waters and clear skies evoke spontaneous joy
and a sense of peace in my soul.

It is my intention through my ART,
to share feelings as if they were contagious.
We'd all be a bit better off.



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46

Light reveals form in this close-up study of Alocasia leaves.



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48

I don't simply want to photo-copy the landscape, I want to explore its attraction.



21

I set out from Clyde Butcher's cabin on a foggy April morning, to meet the sun rising over the fresh green sprouts, amidst fire tinged stumps and grasses at Kirby Storter in the Big Cypress National Preserve. A challenge, since I was going it alone, though having seen the potential the day prior while with my guide Jeff Ripple. All factors aligned, and this photo is the result.



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the sun and the moon, the wind and tides,
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This photo was taken with black and white film from a johnboat while exploring Fisheating Creek, also known as the headwaters of the Everglades.



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Here I've hand applied a gold emulsion onto artist's paper. The resulting digital image has an aged glow, as if from another time and process; it's essence akin to a daguerreotype, the first photographic process.

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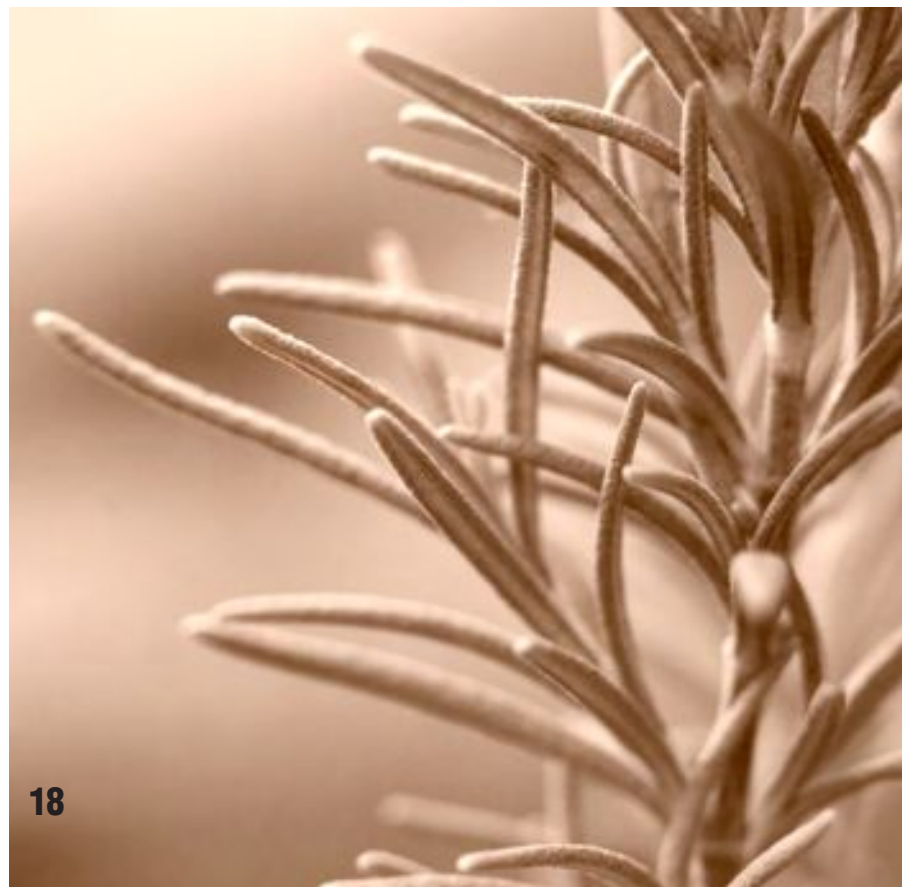
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This color series was inspired by Marcia Larson, owner of Island Interiors, who envisioned the single pod as a future Warhol. I played with it using the filters and paints in my digital toolbox, until there became a moment of clarity and of seeing things in a fresh way.



06



04

Here a watercolor filter is applied to a straight digital image. Its clean crisp vibrance, printed on Somerset Velvet Fine art paper, with its deckled edge, imparts painterly authenticity.



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CAROL ELLIS | LITTLE SALT

MEDIUM

Photography

SUBJECT

The Natural Environment

EDUCATION

BA: University of Florida College of Journalism

Photographic Workshops Worldwide

AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Media Photographers

Florida Keys Council of the Arts - Advisory Board | 2001-2006

Ocean Reef Art League Member and Instructor

Leadership Monroe County Class IX

Monroe County Master Gardener

Vermont Studio Center - Artist in Residence | 2014

Little Salt Photography - Owner

EXHIBITIONS

N. Key Largo Hammocks Botanical Site | 1999

The Seasons of Fisheating Creek | 2000

Transitions - Ocean Reef Art League | 2001

Art in Public Places: Commissioner Nelson's Office | 2001

Art in Public Places: Key West Airport | 2002

Crocodile Lake Centennial Celebration | 2003

Art in Public Places: Commissioner Murphy's Office | 2006

Be The Bee - Ocean Reef Art League | 2007

After the Cold - Key Deer National Wildlife Refuge | 2010

Human - Nature - Ocean Reef Art League | 2014

Beginnings - Island Interiors | March 2016

Photosynthesis - Island Interiors | November 2016

DOCUMENTARY

The Fragile Keys - PBS; Photographer and Post Production | 2001

PUBLICATIONS

Florida 24/7 - Published 2004, DK Publishing Co.

Photographs of the Florida Keys

RECOGNITION

GLEE 2009 Individual Green Living Award Recipient

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