



Tuesday, August 01, 2006

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**J.D. Marston:
Nature Photography in Black and White
July 28 through October 8, 2006**

The photographic art of JD Marston captures an essence of the American landscape that is rapidly vanishing. The viewer is taken into a remarkable outdoor place and time that is available to all, but visited by few. JD 's desire to communicate the spiritually therapeutic presence of "the eternal " in nature is the primary motivation for his art. The photographs are messages quietly calling for people to get in touch with the wonder and healing presence that is constantly available to them.

After graduation from Emerson College, JD was immediately drawn to the Canadian Rocky Mountain wilderness. He spent eight months alone in the mountains, searching for his higher calling and pondering life 's great secret. This quest later led him to India where his "inner sense of the eternal " was awakened by a spiritual master, who also initiated him in the process of spiritual healing. After seven years of meditation, tending a garden, exploring herbs, traveling the Himalayas barefoot, and serving the ill with spiritual healing techniques, JD returned to the States with a vision to share.

Back in America, he became aware of his unique ability to capture mystical moments with his large format camera that appear regularly in nature. His black and white master printing techniques, his eye for color and attention to detail result in images portraying the pure and playful perception of a child.

Recipient of the Sierra Club 's Ansel Adams Award for Conservation Photography, and numerous others, including induction into "Who 's Who? in American Art ", Marston receives acclaim from the art world, photography collectors, and environmentalists alike. "JD Marston 's photography is an intimate vastness. One sees the mountain and ends up caring about every pine needle in the forest," says Elden Hughes, Sierra Club Honors and Awards Committee. The Columbus Dispatch exclaims : "...another person imitating Marston's method would be unlikely to approach the physical and spiritual grandeur of his vision". Marston 's images have been the focus of national and regional articles in the Cleveland Plain Dealer, Denver Post, View Camera Magazine, Camera and Darkroom Magazine, Rocky Mountain Magazine, Studio Photography and Spirit Magazine.

To keep his art in touch with what is pure and simple, JD Marston currently resides at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo mountains of Colorado. His limited edition black & white or color fine prints may be purchased through his gallery in Crestone, CO.

West Valley Art Museum is open 10 AM to 4 PM Tuesday through Sunday. The Museum is located at West Bell Road and 114th Avenue. With five exhibition galleries, a Museum Store, *Classic Café*, and regularly scheduled education programs, the Museum welcomes all visitors. There is a small admission charge for non-members. \$7 adults, \$2 students, ages 5 and under are free.



“South Clear Creek Falls, Soft and Close, CO”
Photograph
J.D. Marston



“Yucca and Clouds, White Sands, NM”
Photograph
J.D. Marston

Artist's Statement:

“As a photographer, I feel one of my responsibilities is to use my craft to preserve and help awaken in others that which is most exalted about life. Through my camera's lens, I record scenes that are rapidly disappearing from the American landscape. . . . I often photograph images from the perspective of a child to visually reawaken the simplicity and wonder of that mind space. On my knees in the earth, I rediscover a sense of timeless wonder which is the key element of my photographic purpose and my spiritual well being.”

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