

The Aspen Grove Colors of Time



Keoki Flagg



Gallery Keoki proudly presents The Aspen Grove - Colors of Time.

This PDF presents The Aspen Grove - Colors of Time, Keoki Flagg's brilliant new collection of 14 images, each produced in a limited edition of 60 face mount archival photographic emulsion prints.

Keoki's multi-frame Pentimental images should be experienced in grand scale, so we accompanied each new composition with insets to showcase the extraordinary detail.

This timeless collection includes horizontal and vertical formats in various aspect ratios, and some of the images are available in custom crops.

We also are pleased to announce the release of The Aspen Grove - Colors of Time, an exclusive face mount art book showcasing 35 11" x 28" photographic spreads accompanied by Keoki's own story of this remarkable grove.

The book also is produced in a limited edition of 60 and is on display at Gallery Keoki Tahoe. The release price is \$3,995.

For more information, please contact us at (530) 583-1404 info@gallerykeoki.com.



The Aspen Grove Colors of Time

These are extraordinary times. Everything feels different, because everything is.

I spent last year in relative isolation, caring for my parents and keeping us safe.

For the first time there weren't any plans to go anywhere.

I stayed close to home with my dog, Pirate,

and I felt my sense of time evolve...





I was granted access to a magical valley I didn't know existed,
even though it's openly hidden in my own back yard.

In it is an enormous aspen grove.

Aspen groves are the largest living organisms on Earth,
not forests of individual trees,
but, trees connected by mutual roots,

a single being always undergoing a kaleidoscopic metamorphosis of color and light, death and rebirth...

Season to season, year after year, change is constant.







I visited this forest at different times of day, day after day, time after time, watching it transform. Every trip was defined by otherworldly shades of translucent light and the whispers of billions of leaves, music only a grove of quaking aspen orchestrates.





From the road, an opposing rock outcrop, the clearing at the top of the grove
or atop a tall ladder in the heart of this sacred place,
time seemed to stop...

I got lost in wonder,
disappearing into a search for original perspectives...













I spent decades refining and perfecting methods to meticulously compose the perfect frame in camera.
But, vast scope and monumental scale simply can't be appreciated or captured in a static moment.

So, now I adopt a different approach.





I embrace technology and shoot multiple overlapping frames to encompass a broader field of view and to translate time immersed in evolving Nature.

I shoot, rotating horizontally and vertically to amass slice after slice of the forest's details.

From every angle, at varying focal lengths, apertures and depths of field,
I build foundations for multi-frame composites of overlapping shots.



Each new image will be a blend of moments,
far beyond what we see in the blink of an eye,
but well within what we feel in our hearts.

Unable to see the result in real time,
it's a leap of faith.

But, trust the moment and the technology,
do it right, get lucky, and, in the end,
the technology disappears,
but the moment resonates...



The seasons transformed and I painstakingly pored over sixty thousand different shots. From this forest of frames, I pieced together over five hundred pentimental stitches, shot upon shot, each one my attempt to preserve emotion, light and time.

From this mass of compositions, I assembled fourteen images to share and, as always, I developed these photographs old-school, using chemical emulsions on photographic archival paper...

Some things change; some things shouldn't.









I shoot digitally for immediacy, freedom, control, absolute clarity and the ability to output at monumental scale, but, also because any attempt to arrange and composite all these exposures manually would be impossible.

And these composed, pentimental images aren't traditional photographic documentation of who, what or where; they're the heart of my art and they can't be mimicked.

These are my personal representations of a place over time...
how we actually experience life.



To translate truly how something feels,
we have to understand and try to recreate how we interact with our world.

We experience emotions in ongoing time,
not just the split second that defines and limits photography;
and much of why places feel the way they do is because we take time to turn around and take in everything.



We see the world in stereoscope,
providing depth and perspective you can't get with one eye or lens.
Moreover, our emotional responses are accentuated by elements that grab and hold our attention,
if only for a millisecond.





Our eyes are drawn to sharp detail, yet,
our hearts feel, process and remember whole scenes
in both sharp and soft focus
in the vast fields beyond tunnel vision.



No camera records feelings, let alone translates them,
which is why photographs rarely do justice to emotional experiences.
So, by necessity, my approach is impressionistic and painterly.
I try to unite many focused and diffuse images shot over time
to preserve, coalesce, and share experience...

It's all about how it feels.



It's one thing to artificially "perfect" an image with technology and technique;
it's quite another to attempt to emulate reality honestly and singularly
by synthesizing and artfully painting with time.

It's the startlingly unrealistic versus the strikingly real.



I photograph so many frames over vast panoramas and extended periods of time,
 and adjust for different points of focus and diffusion
 to replicate how people see,
 to incorporate time, humanize the image, translate emotion,
 and share my original perspective of how it really felt to be there in those moments...

Not a moment in time...Moments in Time...Time in a Moment.



Photo by Troy Turner.

The Aspen Grove Chronography



Spectrum Day 18 Sunset



Connection Day 17 Evening



Transition Day 9 Afternoon



Diffusion Day 10 Afternoon



Gallery Day 9 Afternoon



Elevation Day 12 Morning



Pastoral Day 15 Evening



Kaleidoscope Day 16 Afternoon



Radiance Day 18 Evening



Succession Day 3 Noon



Elevation Day 12 Morning

Aspiration Day 12 Afternoon



Symphony Day 19 Twilight



Equinox Day 9 Sunset



Chromatic Day 21 Twilight

The Aspen Grove Chronology

<u>Image</u>	<u>Spread, Crops</u>	<u>Time of Day, Day, Date</u>	<u>Minutes</u>	<u>Frames</u>	<u>Degrees</u>
Spectrum	3, 4, 5, 6	Sunset, Day 18, 10/24/20	30	42	210
Kaleidoscope	7, 8	Afternoon, Day 16, 10/19/20	1	3	85
Gallery	9, 10	Afternoon, Day 9, 10/09/20	1	8	115
Radiance	11, 12	Evening, Day 18, 10/24/20	3	8	90
Aspiration	13, 14, 15, 16	Afternoon, Day 12, 10/12/20	2	20	120
Elevation	17, 18	Morning, Day 12, 10/12/20	4	40	115
Succession	19, 20	Noon, Day 3, 9/25/20	3	56	360
Pastoral	21, 22	Evening, Day 15, 10/18/20	1	13	130
Connection	25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30	Evening, Day 17, 10/21/20	2	54	220
Transition	31, 32, 33	Afternoon, Day 9, 10/09/20	3	26	140
Chromatic	34, 35	Twilight, Day 21, 11/01/20	24	24	165
Symphony	36, 37, 38, 39	Twilight, Day 19, 10/25/20	5	29	145
Diffusion	40, 41	Afternoon, Day 10, 10/10/20	2	11	120
Equinox	42, 43, 44	Sunset, Day 9, 10/09/20	2	20	160

This has been the most challenging time of my life,
a time of trial and tribulation, but also of love and gratitude,
thanks to precious time shared with my parents.

Because of his failing health, Dad left the house just once in 2020.

On his birthday, we all drove up into the mountains to celebrate an ethereal day deep in the Aspen Grove.
Surrounded by natural beauty, it was a time of shared wonder and awe amidst majesty.



On January 12th, 2021,
the day before Mom and Dad's 58th wedding anniversary,
and after an incredible 85 years of life filled with love,
Harry Flagg passed on.

He personified joie de vivre...Every day.
He grounded me and inspired my wanderlust.
He always has been and always will be my inspiration.

Birth, death, rebirth...Some things never change.

Thanks to: my business partner, Lynn; Pete, for his tireless effort helping me build the images;
Craig, for simplicity, clarity, precision and craft; and Rebecca, for "Colors of Time".



...an unaimed arrow never misses...

Keoki Flagg



Biography

Keoki Flagg is an award winning, internationally published fine art photographer based in Lake Tahoe. A premier nature, outdoor sports and adventure photographer, he has worked on all seven continents creating images for many Fortune 500 corporations, including Disney and VISA, and the California and New Zealand Tourist Boards, the Discovery Channel, ESPN and Warren Miller Films, and Audubon, National Geographic Adventure, Archeology, Sunset, Men's Journal, Outside, and Ski & Skiing Magazines.

Born and raised in Hawai'i, Keoki spent much of his childhood living in Europe, instilling in him a multicultural orientation and a love of travel and adventure. He completed his formal education in fine art at Connecticut College, exploring the interlacing relationships of form and function in sculpture, mixed-media and photography.

In 2003 he opened Gallery Keoki in the Village at Squaw Valley and online at gallerykeoki.com. The gallery now exclusively features his original, evocative, adventurous fine art in monumental scale, multiple planes and state-of-the-art media.

Keoki also communicates his inspiring, motivating message in keynote speeches, public presentations and sold out multimedia lectures such as the 2013 Explorers Club Annual Meeting in New York City, TEDxReno, hosted by the Nevada Museum of Art, and TEDxYouth at Facebook Headquarters in Menlo Park.

Keoki has received numerous awards, among them the 2001 Banff International Photography Competition, the KT Award, and the Captain John Noel Award, and he was named the North Lake Tahoe 2012 Citizen of the Year, and serves on the Board of the Squaw Valley Institute.



Keoki works with and would like to acknowledge the work of these incredible organizations:

ARC (Adventure Risk Challenge), Arts in the Schools, Squaw Boys and Girls Clubs, Can Do Multiple Sclerosis (Jimmy Huega), Excellence in Education, High Fives Foundation, Ice Axe Foundation, Kiwanis International, Maybach Foundation, Make A Hero Foundation, NORCAL Golden Retriever Rescue, Shane McConkey Foundation, Sierra State Parks Foundation, Squaw and National Ski Patrol, Squaw Valley Avalanche Rescue Dog & Education Fund, Tahoe Adaptive Ski School, Tahoe Forest Cancer Center, Tahoe Fund, Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation, The Humane Society of Truckee-Tahoe, The League to Save Lake Tahoe, The Sierra Club.



Kulri Flegg