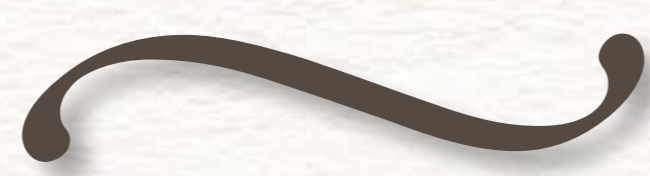


SEAGULP



Brooks Jensen

A Brooks Jensen Arts Publication



To the never-ending amusement

of my family, as a five-year-old I coined a new taxonomic name for a species of bird — the *seagulp*. I was never corrected and still used the term — behaviorally accurate, I insist — well into my school years.

Little did I know I had so early on discovered one of the most maligned subjects of my chosen passion. Along with dewy spider webs and kittens playing with yarn, the “seagulp on a piling” has become an artistic taboo, at least in photographic circles. Trite, banal, only a simplistic buffoon would attempt a serious photograph of a seagull. Even more reason, in my way of thinking, to photograph them.

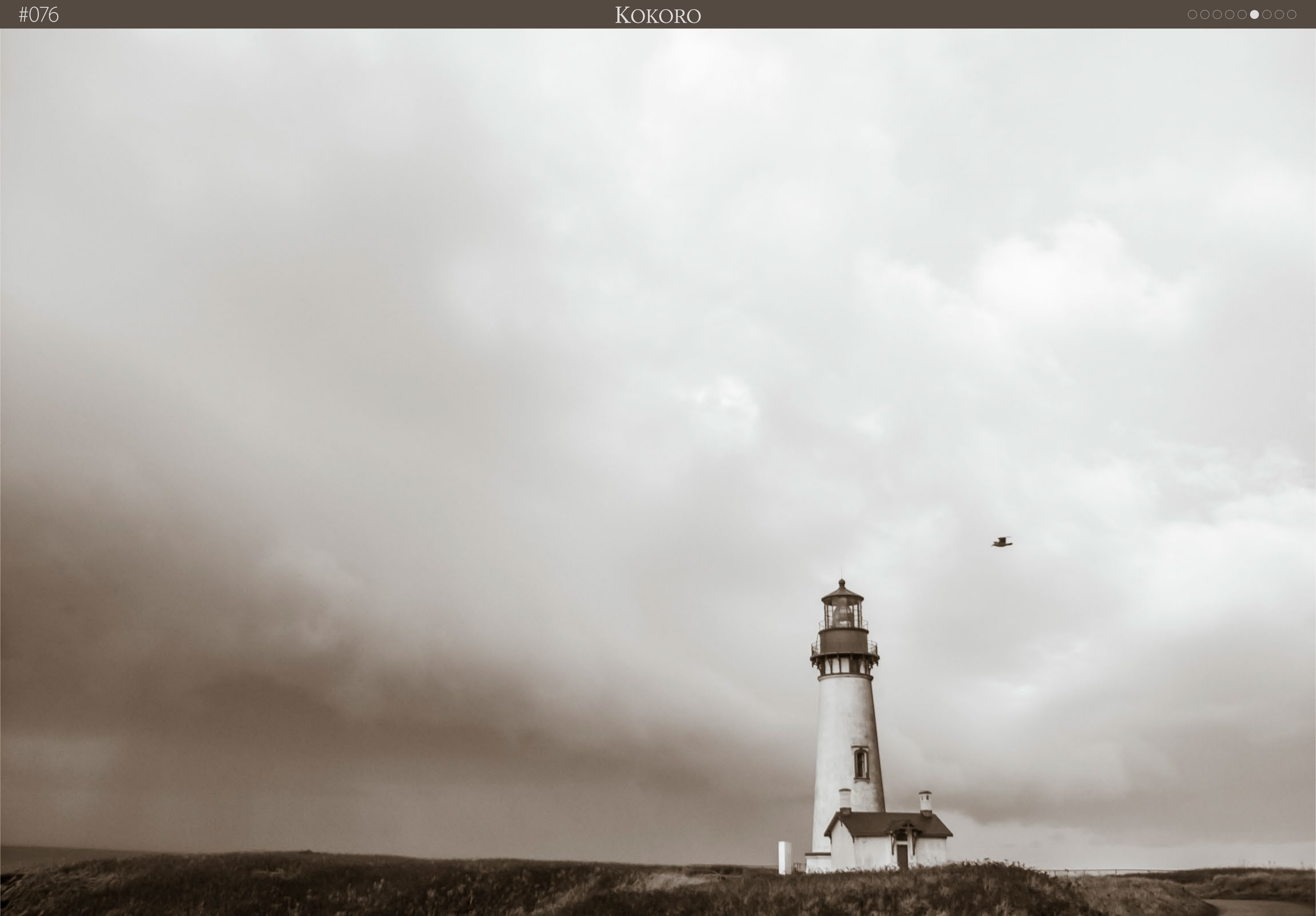
My parents always told me I had a touch of the
contrarian.



Seems they were right.









Perhaps I shall, someday soon, show my photographs of
dewy spider webs.

I have no pictures of kittens playing with yarn,
but where there is life, there is hope.



Confessional

I must now bare my soul. In truth, in only one of these photographs did I purposely make a photograph of a seagull. In all the others, I was poised to make a landscape when an unanticipated seagull flew into the composition and “ruined” the exposure. Ruined, that is, until now. I have recently become more modern; I have developed a mature appreciation for the accidental. Yes, that’s it — *a mature appreciation for the accidental*. Especially with seagulps.

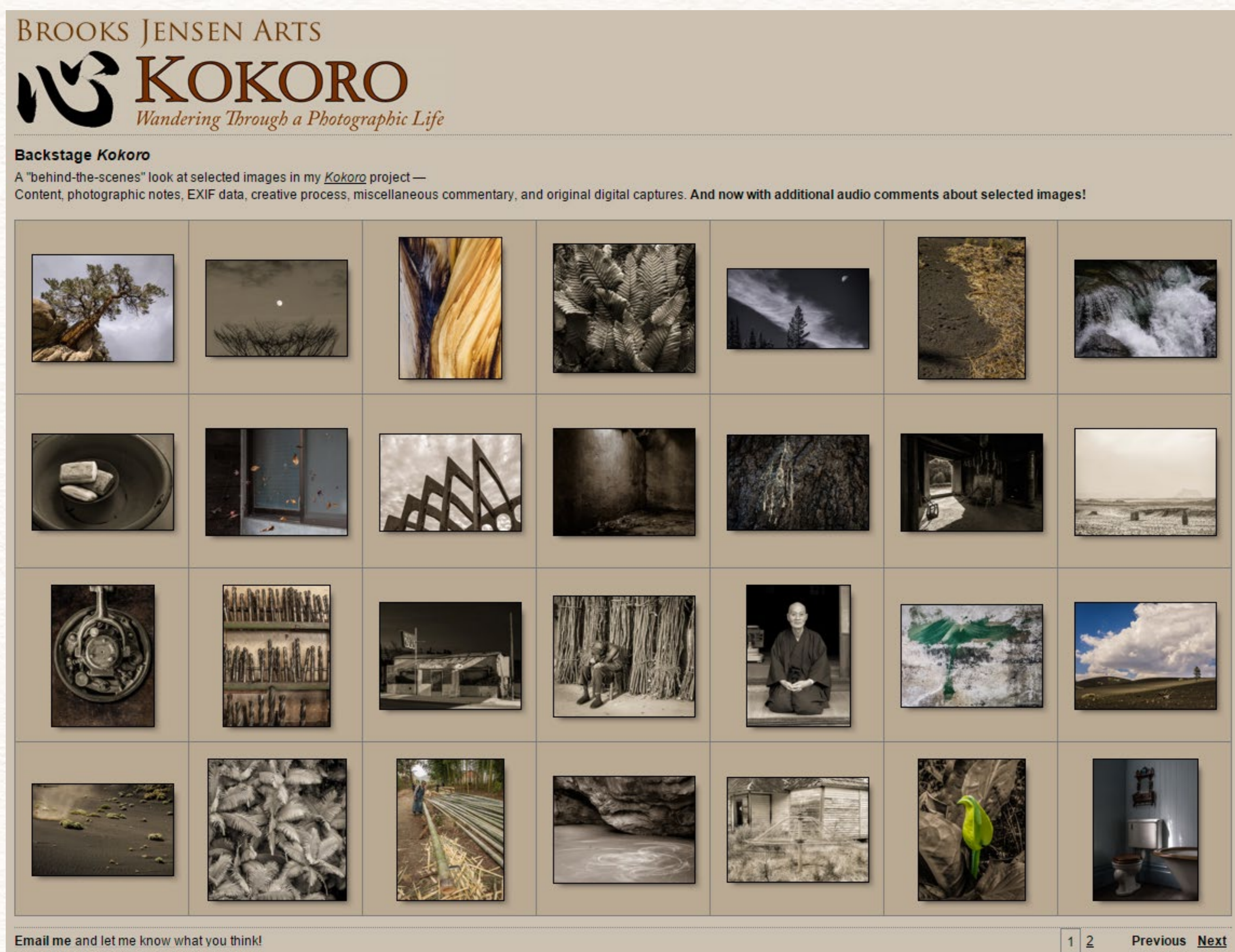
No, I’m not telling you which one.

That’s what you get for laughing at *seagulp*.

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Brooks Jensen is a fine-art photographer, publisher, workshop teacher, and writer. In his personal work he specializes in small prints, hand-made artist's books, and digital media publications.



He and his wife (Maureen Gallagher) are the owners, co-founders, editors, and publishers of the award winning *LensWork*, one of today's most respected and important periodicals in fine art photography. With subscribers in 73 countries, Brooks' impact on fine art photography is truly world-wide. His long-running podcasts on art and photography are heard over the Internet by thousands every day. All 900+ podcasts are available at [LensWork Online](#), the LensWork membership website. LensWork Publishing is also at the leading edge in multimedia and digital media publishing with *LensWork Extended* — a PDF based, media-rich expanded version of the magazine.

Brooks is the author of seven best-selling books about photography and creativity: *Letting Go of the Camera* (2004); *The Creative Life in Photography* (2013); *Single Exposures* (4 books in a series, random observations on art, photography and creativity); and *Looking at Images* (2014); as well as a photography monograph, *Made of Steel* (2012). His next book will be *Those Who Inspire Me (And Why)*. A free monthly compilation of of this image journal, [Kokoro](#), is available for download.

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