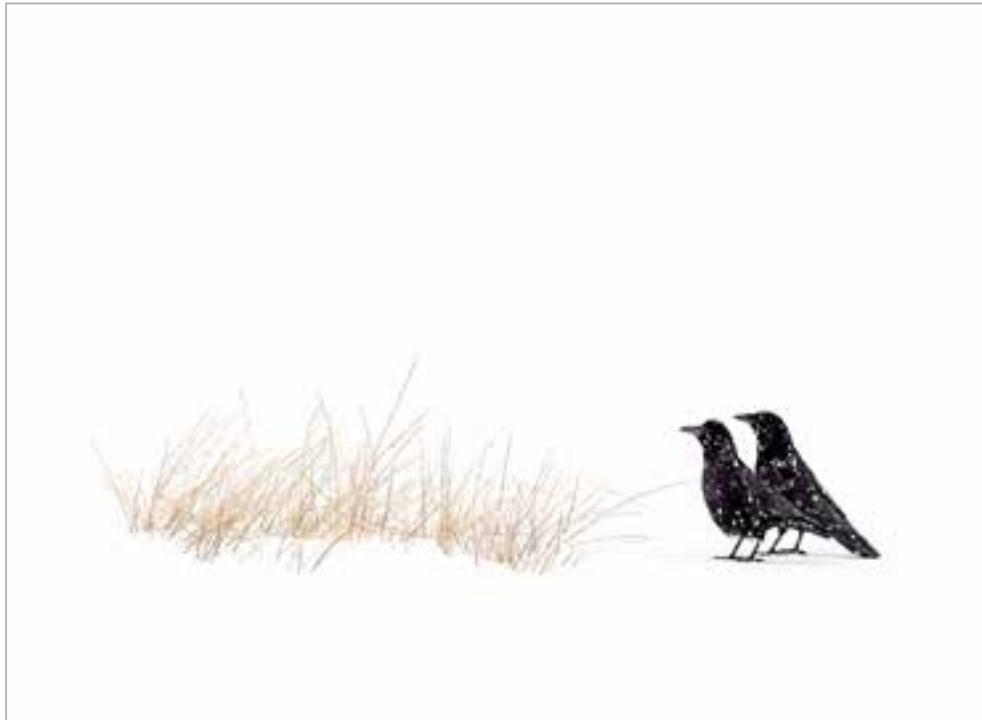


Featured Photograph: *Wait and See*



Wait and See

“Wait and See” seems to be the story of our times. Waiting... and waiting! Looking back fondly on what seemed so normal and enduring only a year ago. Trying to see ahead through the fog of uncertainty. Waiting for our COVID vaccines, then seeing whether they will be effective. Waiting to see our friends and visit our extended families again. Waiting to eat dinner out and see a show afterwards. And, for some of us, waiting for the economy to emerge from the wreckage and seeing if our businesses can survive that long.

And these two crows? They are patiently waiting in a snowstorm for me to come out with their daily ration of peanuts, and keeping busy in the meantime watching their extended family having a ruckus about something across the field. Fortunately my camera was handy. The picture seemed a perfect metaphor for the times. We must learn just to wait and see...

“The biggest mistake is waiting until you’ve got it all figured out before you begin.”

~ David duChemin, photographer ~

Questions & Answers: *What's in a Name?*

Kas Stone Photographic Art. Why “photographic art” rather than “photography”? Good question! It’s one that comes up frequently in my conversations with photographers and print buyers alike. The people who ask are often wondering if the answer involves paint. Because, they say, so many of my photographs look like paintings.

The Long Answer could take us down a labyrinth of rabbit holes and stir up fierce debates about art, reality and the nature of photography. I do not wish to go there! At least not in my inaugural newsletter. The Short Answer, however, is a worthwhile starting point and provides some context for the viewing of my images in this and future newsletters.



Travelling Companions

My image-making always begins in the landscape, usually close to home, frequently in my back yard (okay, I admit, I have a beautiful back yard!). It then develops in the digital darkroom, where I use Photoshop to transform the camera’s raw materials into images that express something meaningful to me. Sometimes the resulting picture doesn’t stray far from reality. At other times, the visual elements are so significantly modified

(eliminated, emphasized, shifted, combined) that they bear only a vague resemblance to the original scene. Most commonly my images fall somewhere between these two extremes.

The bottom line: my photographs are rarely intended as factual representations of the world, but rather as personal interpretations of it, expressed through the lens of my thoughts and feelings. “Reality is a starting point not a purpose.” These words by Belgian painter/writer Erik Pevernagie eloquently summarise my approach to photography.

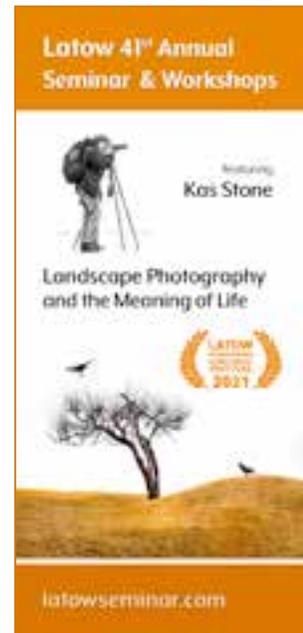
So, I use the term “photographic art” to signal that my images may not always be quite what they seem. I do not wish viewers to feel deceived. Besides, I enjoy the interesting conversations that arise from the question “What is photographic art?”, because they invariably lead to greater understanding and appreciation of the photographic process.

I still worry that “photographic art” sounds pretentious, and I’m sure to some it does. Yet, no matter how many times I flip through my thesaurus, I cannot find a term that better encapsulates what I do. In the words of (photographic artist/philosopher) Minor White, “I am... looking for the image that has spirit! I don’t give a damn how it got made.”

Latow Photography Seminar & Workshops:

I will be leading this 41st annual event, postponed by COVID-19 in 2020, and held this year online so you can join from anywhere. Four mornings (or afternoons if you're in Europe) over two weekends, April 10-11 and April 17-18, 2021. All dedicated to exploring Landscape Photography and the Meaning of Life!

Information and registration [HERE](#).



On Landscape Magazine:

I am honoured to have a feature article in this respected U.K photography magazine (Issue #226, March 2021). The publisher is generously making it available online. And while you're there, please subscribe!

Read the article [HERE](#).

Recommended Reading:

More Than A Rock by Guy Tal (2nd edition, Rocky Nook, 2021). This book of essays about the creative life in photography has been a source of inspiration to me since the 1st edition was published in 2015.

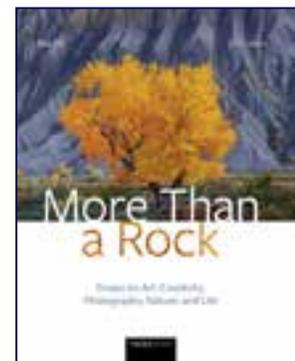


Image Galleries & Prints:

All images in this newsletter are available as numbered-edition archival prints. See galleries of my images or order prints [HERE](#)