Winter 2015 "Spotlight" on Doug McLarty

Doug McLarty's "Nature By Design" images make use of intricate combinations of subject matter and lighting to reveal intriguing patterns and lavish perspectives for the viewer. His artistic vision has been described as combining a sculptor's sense of form, a painter's sense of composition, and a cinematographer's sense of light to capture archetypical portraits of nature.

Over the past 40 years McLarty has photographed landscape and botanical images throughout Europe, the Caribbean, Florida, and the western United States. Much of his extensive portfolio was created using traditional black-and-white film capture and darkroom processing techniques. In 2006, McLarty began his "Nature By Design" color photo series using a high-resolution flatbed scanner as his camera rather than a traditional camera. The process itself, called "Scanography," creates instant excitement and a host of surprises. McLarty credits British sculptor, environmentalist, and photographer Andy Goldsworthy; artist Charles Harper; architect Frank Gehry; and photographer Robert Creamer for inspiring his current work.

McLarty is a retired Air Force Colonel and Public Relations Executive. The Rhode Island native resides in Xenia, Ohio.
Spotlight: Featured Artists at the Ohio Governor’s Residence” is a program created by Ohio’s First Lady Karen W. Kasich which celebrates Ohio artists by showcasing a sampling of their artworks in the Residence foyer. The program enhances the ongoing partnership between the Ohio Governor’s Residence and Heritage Garden and the Ohio Arts Council (OAC). Since 1985 the OAC has assisted in placing artwork by Ohio artists and Ohio cultural institutions in the Governor’s Residence and throughout the Governor’s offices, in the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts. The “Spotlight” program offers quarterly exhibitions at the Governor’s Residence highlighted by opening receptions. Artists are selected by Mrs. Kasich with assistance from the OAC. All Ohio artists are eligible to submit their work for consideration. Ohio artists interested in applying should contact OAC Individual Artist Program Director, Ken Emerick (ken.emerick@oac.state.oh.us) for details. To be eligible for the program the artist cannot be a student enrolled in a degree-granting program and must be a resident of the State of Ohio.

About the Ohio Governor’s Residence and Heritage Garden: The house has been the official residence of ten Ohio chief executives and is a showcase of our state’s artistry, culture, industry, and landscape. The Ohio Governor’s Residence and Heritage Garden is a unique and historic home that represents Ohio to a diverse range of visitors. The Ohio Governor’s Residence offers a living exhibition of Ohio history, industry, and craftsmanship, while the Heritage Garden strives to educate visitors on the importance of conserving and preserving the natural beauty of our state. To schedule a free tour of the residence call 614/644-7644 or residence@governor.ohio.gov.

About the Ohio Arts Council:
The Ohio Arts Council is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically. For more information: www.oac.state.oh.us

Doug McLarty

Scheherazade, 2009, 41.5” x 41.5” digital print

January – March 2015
Doug McLarty’s “Nature By Design” images make use of intricate combinations of subject matter and lighting to reveal intriguing patterns and lavish perspectives for the viewer. His artistic vision has been described as combining a sculptor’s sense of form, a painter's sense of composition, and a cinematographer's sense of light to capture archetypical portraits of nature.

Over the past 40 years McLarty has photographed landscape and botanical images throughout Europe, the Caribbean, Florida, and the western United States. Much of his extensive portfolio was created using traditional black-and-white film capture and darkroom processing techniques. In 2006, McLarty began his “Nature By Design” color photo series using a high-resolution flatbed scanner as his camera rather than a traditional camera. The process itself, called "Scanography," creates instant excitement and a host of surprises. McLarty credits British sculptor, environmentalist, and photographer Andy Goldsworthy; artist Charles Harper; architect Frank Gehry; and photographer Robert Creamer for inspiring his current work.

McLarty is a retired Air Force Colonel and Public Relations Executive. The Rhode Island native resides in Xenia, Ohio.

You can find Doug’s work on his website: www.signaturefocus.com