

Craig Shumate

Digital Artist

Craig Shumate, a local Kirkwood artist, has created photographs for over 50 years. While still in high school, his father encouraged him to not only take photographs but to develop and print his work. Craig still remembers that it was magical to see images appear in the developer tray. All of his early work was in black and white.

While serving in the US Army, Captain Shumate was sent to Viet Nam. There he was able to purchase his first serious camera, a Nikon F. With its vibrant colors and sharp detail Kodachrome became his film of choice.

In 1986 Craig and his wife traveled in France on vacation. Visiting Monet's studio at Giverny, Craig was fascinated by the impressionist's style. At the time Craig made an unsuccessful attempt to replicate this style with his camera. However he kept the idea in the back of his mind.

Then in 2004, Craig made the switch to digital capture and began the steep learning curve of Photoshop. As chance would have it; two years later the St. Louis Art Museum exhibited a collection of circa 1900 photographs. The exhibit was titled "Impressionist Camera". Shumate had new inspiration for the two-decade old idea. Much of his current work is a direct result of that Impressionist exhibit; the idea planted in Shumate's mind while at Monet's studio and many hours of work with Adobe Photoshop

He has exhibited his work at the Kirkwood Train Station and at the annual Ascension Church *Spring Boutique*. Currently he has nine pieces on display at "*John David Jewelers*" in Frontenac.

Please visit his website to see the wide variety of art work from around the world.

www.craigshumate.com