



My name is James Mickelson and I am an explorer. I explore the world around me with old school photographic equipment and what I capture I print with old turn of the century printing processes. When I see a potentially interesting image I turn off the colors and envision the scene or object in black and white. I sense the graphic nature of the image and determine how it will be printed. At the turn of the 19th to the 20th century when photography was young and essentially unexplored photographically, there arose a style of photographic printing aesthetic called "pictorialism". There existed an argument or philosophical difference between painters and photographers where painters viewed photography as merely mechanically recording reality with little artistic appeal or merit. Pictorialists strove to create "painterly" images and succeed in creating a true artform. Most of the images you see displayed here are Bromoils. This printing technique was born in 1907 and continued until the 1940's. The process involves creating a silver gelatin print, reducing the silver by bleaching, and tanning the gelatin. After the chemical process is completed the print is then coated with oil based lithographers ink and after diligent and mysterious effort and lots of murmurings of dissatisfaction under the artist's breath, these beautiful one of a kind hand-made prints appear. If everything goes according to plan but that's not always the case. I am one of a very small handful of photographic artists who work in this century old printing process. I hope you enjoy my work and if you find it suits your artistic pallet, they are for sale. Remember that these are one of a kind hand-made prints and not capable of being made digitally.