



RICHARD S. McWHERTER



BIOGRAPHY

Since 1973, Richard McWherter's activities have included the learning, creating, exhibiting and teaching of photography as a vital medium in visual art. He received his first opportunity by winning a scholarship to attend the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Arts while still in high school. McWherter's photographs have since appeared in many regional and national exhibitions and have also been reproduced in nationally recognized magazines for fine art photography. In 1990 he received the top award for black and white photography from Photographer's Forum magazine and his work appeared in the book *The Best of Photography* as a first place winner. More recently, his work received the State Museum of Pennsylvania Purchase Art Award for 2014 and in 2015 he was part of an international showcase of photography at the Louvre Museum in Paris, France.

As an educator, McWherter is dedicated to the continued artistic growth of all learners. He earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1993 from Seton Hill University with a major in Studio Arts and a minor in Art Education. In 1996 he became the current Visual Arts Instructor at the high school in his hometown in Western Pennsylvania and served as the Art Department Chair for many years. He has also taught photography and digital imaging at the University and other local art centers. He has received many awards for his photographic art, as well as for his innovations in teaching, and in 2007 he was named the Art Educator of the Year by the Greensburg Area Cultural Council. It is his belief that creative thinking and inventive problem solving skills are extremely important to the success of both individuals and society as a whole.

McWherter was one of the first contemporary artists in the country to exhibit their work online through a self-designed personal web page. The page was featured in a story in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette in March of 1996 and appeared in syndication in newspapers across the nation. Since then, his work has appeared in many feature articles in newspapers and magazines regarding art, photography and art education.

His commercial clients have included both regional and national corporations and institutions, as well as freelance assignments for family portraiture and groups. Currently he works exclusively on self-assignments for galleries and book projects. His book projects are represented by his entrepreneurial venture, Walkwood Publishing. His artwork is also available in local art centers and gift shops. For more information, please visit his webpage at richardmcwherter.com, where you can view online portfolios of his work.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Seton Hill College, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. With a major in Photography and a minor in Art Education. Magna Cum Laude. December 1993

Palm Beach Photographic Workshops

Deerfield Beach, Florida. Individualized study under Mary Ellen Mark. February 1990

Eastman Kodak Company

Rochester, New York. Certificate of Achievement, Commercial Lab Seminar. March 1981

Westmoreland County Community College

Youngwood, Pennsylvania. Continuing Education Certificate, Entrepreneurialship. April 1981

Derry Area Senior High School

Derry Area School District, Derry, Pennsylvania. 1975

Governor's School for the Arts

Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Scholarship recipient for photographic studies. 1973

SELECTED AWARDS

- 2014 **Purchase Award**
for *Reach*, Permanent Collection, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. June 2014.
- 2013 **Purchase Award**
for *Carolina Morning*, Student Juried Collection, Greater Latrobe Art Conservation Trust, Greater Latrobe Junior High School, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. November 2013.

- 2012 **Best of Show**
for *Carolina Morning*, 1st Prize, Southwestern Pennsylvania Council for the Arts Juried Annual, Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley, Ligonier, Pennsylvania. Winter 2012
- 2007 **Art Educator of the Year**
Selected by the Greensburg Area Cultural Council and sponsored by Westmoreland Cultural Trust, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Spring 2007
- 2005 **Keystones Technology Integrator**
District Level Nominee, Derry Area School District, Derry, Pennsylvania. Spring 2005.
- 2003 **Excellence in Education Award**
Latrobe Area Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Teacher nominations are by former students. Spring 1999 and 2003.
- 1992 **Merit Award**
for *Westmoreland County, PA*. Westmoreland Arts Nationals, Youngwood Pennsylvania. Juried Photography Exhibition.
- 1991 **Sonafelt Award**
for *Tenure of Clay*. Westmoreland Art Nationals, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Juried Photography Exhibition.
- 1990 **Salon Award**
for *Holocaust Memorial*. Annual Triangle Photographer's Association Print Competition, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 1990 **First Place**
in black and white photography for *Holocaust Memorial*. Photographer's Forum magazine, Santa Barbara, California. 10th Annual Spring Photography Contest.
- 1990 **National Photograph of the Year**
for *Bingo Night*. Westmoreland Art Nationals, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Juried Photography Exhibition.
- 1988 **Merit Award**
for *Rachel and Ivan*. Westmoreland Art Nationals, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Juried Photography Exhibition.
- 1973 **Scholarship**
Governor's School for the Arts, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. Scholarship recipient for photographic studies.



EXPERIENCE

Fine Art Photographer

From 1973 to the present. Richard McWherter has received national recognition and awards for his photography. His work has been exhibited in many regional shows and gallery exhibitions.

Chair, Visual Arts Department

for Derry Area School District, Derry, Pennsylvania. Fall 2006 to 2014.

Visual Arts Instructor

for Derry Area School District, Derry, Pennsylvania. High school courses taught include Basic Design, Intro to Crafts, Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Digital Fantasy Painting, and 3D Animation. From Fall 1996 to present.

Inaugural Board Member

Education Foundation, Derry Area School District. Non-profit organization to enhance efforts within the community to support education. Derry, Pennsylvania. Fall 2004 to present.

Cooperating Teacher

and mentor for student art teachers from Seton Hill University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Saint Vincent College. Spring & Fall 2000, Spring 2003, Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2009 and Fall 2013.

Freelance Photographer

From 1989 to 1996. Group and location photography, including motion picture stills. Clients include both private and corporate accounts. Assignments covered work for both regional and national corporations as well as commissions for family portraiture and groups.

Adjunct Instructor

for Seton Hill College, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Basic Photography & Colour Photography. Part time, Fall 1996 to Fall 1998.

Instructor

for Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Art Camp 1995, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. July 1995.

Entrepreneur

Founder and proprietor of Hour Glass Photo, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Hour Glass Photo was a retail on-site photo finishing laboratory. September 1984 to June 1989.

Instructor

Westmoreland County Community College, Public Libraries Project, 35mm Photography. Part time, Fall 1981, Spring/Fall 1982 and Spring 1983.

Department Head

for The Darkroom, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Managerial and quality control responsibilities of all reproduction copy systems in preparation of a photograph for print media separations or for exhibition. January 1979 to September 1984.

Lab Technician

for The Darkroom, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. June 1977 to January 1979.

Staff Photographer

for the Latrobe Bulletin, Latrobe Printing and Publishing Company, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. July 1975 to November 1976.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

Southwestern Pennsylvania Council for the Arts Juried Annual

Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley, Ligonier, Pennsylvania. Winter 2009, 2010, 2012 (Best of Show) & 2015.

Fred Rogers Fine Arts Regional Juried Exhibition

Latrobe Art Center, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. September 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014 & 2015.

Annual Exposure Awards

International Photography Exhibition, Reception Presentation, See.Me Exhibitions, Louvre Museum, Paris, France. July 13, 2015.

Westmoreland Art Nationals

Juried Art Exhibitions, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. July 1988, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2014 & 2015.

Black & White:

a Juried Art Exhibition, Associated Artists of Pittsburgh, FrameHouse and Jask Gallery, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. March - April 2015.

Feature Exhibition.

The Highlands, Tactual Dreamscape Photographs. Chef Dato's Table, Latrobe, Pennsylvania. March - April 2015.

Colour burst

Juried International Photography Exhibition, PH21 Gallery, Budapest, Hungary. February 2015.

Juried Member Show

Associated Artists of Pittsburgh, Conte Design Lifestyle Gallery, Ligonier, Pennsylvania. November 2014.

Art Takes Times Square

Times Square Billboard Takeover
Project, SeeMe Art Group,
New York City, New York. July 2014.

**fünf: Celebrating Five Years of
Art on the Walls**

Art on the Walls Alumni Exhibition
Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Summer 2014.

Art of the State: Pennsylvania

Juried Art Exhibition, The State Museum
of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.
Summer 2014 (Purchase Award).

Three Rivers Arts Festival

Juried Visual Arts Exhibition
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
June 1978, 1980, 1991 and 2014.

**International Photography
Exhibition**

North Valley Art League, Carter House
Gallery, Redding, California, May 2014.

Hoyt Regional Juried Exhibition

Hoyt Center for the Arts, New Castle,
Pennsylvania. May 2014.

Wild Things Juried Art Exhibition

Sweetwater Center for the Arts,
Sewickley, Pennsylvania. Spring 2014.

Annual Art Gala Invitational

Student Juried Exhibition, Greater Latrobe
Art Conservation Trust, Center for Student
Creativity, Latrobe, Pennsylvania.
November 2010 and 2013 (Purchase
Award).

Exposure Exhibition

International Juried Exhibition
See Exhibition Space
Long Island City, NY, July 2013.

Art on the Walls

Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council and
Allegheny Conference Juried Exhibition
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Summer 2013.

Significant & Sublime

Juried Art Educators Exhibition
Panza Gallery, Millvale, Pennsylvania,
May 2013.

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Art
Educators Show.**

Harlan Gallery, Seton Hill University,
Greensburg, Pennsylvania. March 2013.

Featured Artist

An American Marketplace,
Westmoreland Museum of American Art,
Greensburg, Pennsylvania, February 2013.

**Archived: A Salon Exhibit of
Past Works**

Juried Art Exhibition, Associated Artists of
Pittsburgh, Fein Art Gallery, Pittsburgh,
Pennsylvania, August 3 to 31, 2012.

Timeless

Juried Art Exhibition, Associated Artists of
Pittsburgh, Silver Eye Center for
Photography, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania,
July 28 to August 18, 2012.

**The Westmoreland Museum
Juried Biennial**

Juried Art Exhibition, Westmoreland
Museum of American Art, Greensburg,
Pennsylvania. April 28 - July 22, 2012.

**The Highlands: Tactual Dreamscape
Photographs**

Solo Exhibition, Rowe Gallery, Greensburg
Art Center, Greensburg, Pennsylvania.
March 12 - April 22, 2011.

Greensburg Art Club

Greensburg, Pennsylvania
Juried Shows 1982, 1987, 1989, 1991,
1992, 1993 and 1994.

**Silver Eye Center for
Photography**

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Juried Member Show
1991 and 1994.

Harlan Gallery

Seton Hill College, Greensburg,
Pennsylvania. Ensemble Exhibition.
November 1993.

Artisan's Loft

Ligonier, Pennsylvania
Featured Artist Exhibition
December 1990.

**Carnegie Museum of
Natural History**

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Natural World Photographic
Competition 1987.

**RICHARD S. McWHERTER**

617 West 5th Avenue
Derry, Pennsylvania 15627

724/694-2004

eagereye@email.com
richardmcwherter.com