

Richard White - Biography

Richard has been involved in photography for more than 20 years and operates from his studio and darkroom in the hilly countryside around Mansfield, Victoria, Australia. What began as a hobby has turned into a life long passion. Basically a self taught photographer his work has been influenced by many of the great photographers before him. His favourite being Brett Weston.

Over the years Richard has won numerous awards for his photography. In 2010 he was named A Fellow of the Australian Institute of Professional Photography, the highest honour available from the AIPP. In 2003 he won the Landscape section of the Victorian Professional Photography Awards and was awarded an Arts Council grant by the Victorian State Government to study photography in the USA.

In 1995 Richard began The Art of Photography Photographic Workshops program teaching workshops at his studio and darkroom in Mansfield, around the State, Interstate as well as overseas in New Zealand and Nepal.

He is considered to be one of the finest darkroom Fine Art Black & White printers in the country and is also a regular speaker at photographic conventions where his talks are informative and entertaining.

Richard writes regular photography articles, combining philosophy and photographic technique, for Australian and international photography magazines. In 2002 he began an email newsletter with meanderings on photographic practice. Each year Richard produces a high quality black and white calendar based on Australia's High Country (see "Calendar" link) and is proposing a book on the same subject in the near future. He has exhibited locally and statewide for many years, produced a range of black and white postcards and has even had a stint working on major documentaries for television.

A Personal Statement on Photography

by Richard White

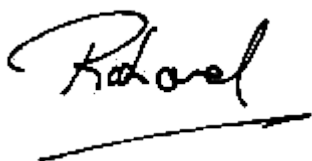
"Unfortunately photography is too common. For many it is difficult to take it seriously and to even consider that it could be used for artistic expression. The wide use of point and shoot cameras and the distorted advertising that implies that with the right camera you can make images that will be up there with the masters only confirms in the minds of many that it is an easy exercise.

"When viewing an image or an exhibition of images the viewer must make the decision between *seen* or *snap*. If they choose *seen*, then they would have an appreciation of what the photographer is trying to convey or how he responds to certain lighting conditions or subject matter. The first hurdle though is accepting photography as an art form and the realisation that the photographer is expressing their feelings through the medium of photography.

"The wide use of post production with photography these days seems to have given way to the pre-visualization of imagery. Many photographs are taken with no intent, but more in hope that it can be fixed up later. The magic wand will create the magic masterpiece.

"Photography would be nothing without the input of the photographer. The film and the sensor would be useless unless we breath life into them. Without our commitment to the medium or our visual response to the subject then our images would be bland and no better than most snaps.

"With my own photography I am drawn to the beauty and the unusual in nature. When possible I try to convey my vision about what I see. In some ways it becomes a visual communication. I am endeavouring to express my feelings about the landscape and with some luck it may elicit an emotional response from the viewer".

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Exhibitions

Images of the High Country, 1991	Mingo's Gallery, Mansfield, Victoria
E D O Environment Exhibition, 1992 (Group Exhibit)	Gallery 101 Collins St., Melbourne
E D O Environment Exhibition, 1993 (Group Exhibit)	Bond Gallery, Melbourne
Colour in the High Country, 1993	Courier Gallery, Mansfield, Victoria
High Country Images, 1994 (Group Exhibit)	Easter Art Show, Mansfield, Victoria
Felix Australia, Victorian Images 1997 (Group Exhibit)	She's Arty Gallery, Benalla , Victoria
The Parks Exhibition, 1999	Shepparton Art Gallery, Victoria
Been There, Wish You Were Here, 2000	Yering Station Gallery, Victoria
The Parks Exhibition, 2000	Hamilton Art Gallery, Victoria
A Sense of Place, 2000 (Group Exhibit)	Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria
The Parks Exhibition, 2001	Horsham Art Gallery, Victoria
The Parks Exhibition, 2001	Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria
Images of the High Country, 2003	La Trobe University, Mt Buller
Images of the High Country, 2004	Mt Buller Chalet
Light in the High Country, 2005	Yering Station Gallery
Light in the High Country, 2006	Redgum Gallery
Places I've Been, 2008	Muse Gallery, Milawa

Publications

- Numerous photography articles in Better Photography Magazine since 1996
- Regular articles in Silvershotz Magazine
- National and State Parks of Victoria Black and White Calendar
1998 - 1999
- Profile in The International Edition of The Black and White Enthusiast 2002
- Email newsletter from June 2002 to present
- The High Country of Australia Black and White Calendar
2000 - present