

The Keen Observer

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Finding Something to Blog About

I started my blog back in 2007. I wasn't sure what to write about or even if I had anything to write about that pertained to photography and business. I knew I wanted to keep the blog focused, and not overcome with an identity crisis, throwing in varied topics from cooking to children to the weather in Western Washington. Unfortunately, that was all I knew, so I neglected it. I posted articles I wrote for the newsletter when I thought about it, but that was about it. This year I decided to make a more concentrated effort to use my blog. I am posting new photographs as they are created and writing articles such as "Portfolios: Finding the Many Faces" that provide snippets of interesting photography facts. Want to read more?

Check out <http://www.sarahmcternenphotographer.blogspot.com>.



"Yellow Berkley"

The Shelton Art Festival is August 1st

So I know this doesn't strike many as a very interesting announcement, but I am excited to be participating in a juried show a little farther away from home. My biggest problem is that it lies on the same date as the Proctor Art Fest. I will be entering at least one piece in the Proctor Art juried show but not participating in the festival since I will be in Shelton. So, any of you South Sounders who normally cannot make it to a show up in Tacoma, swing by Shelton on August 1st and see some great local art including mine. Hopefully it will be a good time for all.

Snippets

- Find cool handmade stuff in some of my favorite Etsy shops on the back page.
- Try pan fried Apple Fritters at home!
- Tulips, Tulips, and more Tulips unearthed.
- Need help with your small business identity? Send me an E-mail!
- Happy Father's Day!

“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeing new lands but in having new eyes.”

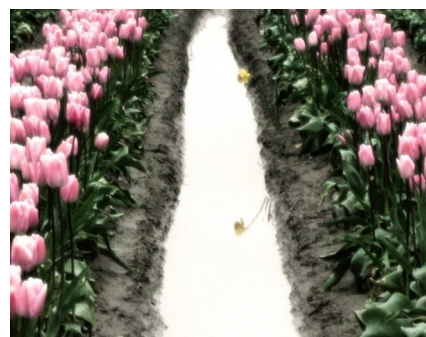
~Marcel Proust

Finding Flowers that Make Me Smile



“A Haunted Garden”

I am not a very big photographer of flowers. I catch one or two that I think are particularly interesting, but for the most part, flowers themselves are not my subjects of choice. Recently, I was sorting through old photographs (again) and I came across some I had taken at the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival in Mt. Vernon, Washington. The photographs were nothing special, which is why they had not been touched until now. The problem is I have this concept in my head, that I took these photographs for a reason and I shouldn't just let them sit there, digitally degrading. So as I opened myself up to the creativity of the shot, disregarding the image quality issues from my old camera, I came away with a dynamically different view of the flowers that were once only tulips.



“Narcissus Surrounded ”



Surprise Dad and make these simple donuts as part of your Father's Day celebration!

Pan Fried Apple Fritters

- 3 Tablespoons Brown Sugar
- 2 Eggs
- 1/4 Cup Milk
- 1 Cup Whole Wheat Flour
- 1 Teaspoon Cinnamon
- 1/2 Teaspoon Salt
- 2 Teaspoons Baking Powder
- 2 Teaspoons Lemon Juice
- 3 Cups Granny Smith Apples, Chopped

Cream together sugar and eggs.

Mix together flour, cinnamon, salt and baking powder. Add to Egg mixture.

Add milk and mix gently.

Fold in apples and lemon juice.

Drop by 1/4 cups into hot oil or make into little cakes and fry in a pan like pancakes.

Sprinkle powdered sugar and cinnamon over them when finished frying.

Yield: 6-8 Fritters

JUNE 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Lady Fest
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Flag Day	15 UP for Art Meeting	16	17	18	19	20
21 Father's Day	22	23	24 100th Monkey	25	26	27
28	29	30				

The Art of June

- ♦ Lady Fest at Sanford and Son.
For more information check <http://www.ladyfesttacoma.com/>
- ♦ If you live in University Place and would like to have a say in the art of the community, come and sit in on the UP for Art Meeting at 7PM at the UP City Hall.
- ♦ Don't forget about Dads and Grads this June. Photography makes great gifts, and photography on ties and skateboards make even better gifts.

Portrait Price Break

Take advantage of the summer sun!

Schedule an outdoor portrait sitting between now and June 30th to receive a free 8x10 of your favorite Ardent Art Photograph.

Use Coupon Code:
APJuneART2009



Portrait Appointment Request

Name _____

Date _____

Location _____

Qty. (by 1/2 hour) _____

Phone _____

Notes _____

Please Mail Request Form to
Sarah McTernan
c/o Ardent Photography
6620 48th Street Ct W
University Place, WA 98467

Call 253-566-6175

Or 253-376-6141

E-mail requests to
sarah@ardentphotography.com

- ☐ Check
- ☐ Bill Me

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

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Ardent
PHOTOGRAPHY



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Making the everyday unique.

Ardent Photography Facts

Ardent Photography is based out of University Place, WA and serves greater Western Washington including Tacoma, Federal Way, Puyallup and Seattle.

I am an on-site photographer, which means I come to you and let the backdrop of your photographs be the important elements in your life. I have found that people let their true personalities shine through when they are in a comfortable setting. This is the idea behind Ardent Photography. I specialize in natural lighting and finding that right moment where "you" shines through. Portrait sessions start at \$60 for a half hour session. Please visit the [portraiture](#) page for more information and print prices. You can contact me via E-mail at Sarah@ardentphotography.com or by phone at (253) 566-6175 to make an appointment for portraits.

Beyond portraiture, I enjoy creating [unique photographic art pieces](#) and am available for [commissioned art assignments](#). When people think of commissioned photography they think of magazines or portraits, but there is another aspect, personal project photography. This is the area of photography that takes the objects in your life, the guitar you've had since high school, the heirloom brooch from Grandma Lorraine, and turns them into personal artistic photographs that can be gladly showcased in any room. I love being presented with a challenge and hope you will give me the opportunity to make the art on your walls unique and personal.

A Request...

You're looking for a gift for Father's Day, Graduation, a birthday, anniversary, or baby shower. You want to get something with a homemade touch, with personality and character. You want to check out Etsy.com. On Etsy you can find anything from [bullet pegged cribbage boards](#) to soft [organic baby booties](#). All of these items are made by hand, by artisans who want to share their talents with the world. Check out a few of my favorite shops.



[Rays Woodworking](#)—for frames of all sizes and a smattering of other wooden items.

[New England Gifts](#)—Extra soft booties and blankets for those little ones.

[Molecular Muse](#)—If you want a piece of jewelry with some character and intellect this is your shop.

[Alina Hayes Ceramics](#)—There is nothing better than opening a cabinet to unique ceramic pieces.

[Have It Sweet](#)—For the sweet tooth with distinction: caramels, marshmallows, chocolates and more.

[Woodcrafts and Candles](#)—all that the name suggests: unique candles and handmade wood pens.

[Maia Art](#)—beautiful artwork on paper, greeting cards and gourds.

[Debo's Designs](#)—looking for a new bay? You may find the perfect one from this local vendor.

[Maradawn Studios](#)—If your artistic interests lie more on the abstract side, check out these paintings.

[On the Inside](#)—See how lingerie can be more personal than ever.

Thank you,

Sarah McTernan