



## The Landscape: Master and Apprentice

~

**Charles Cramer**  
**Rex Naden**

**Opening Reception ~ Saturday, JAN 29, 5 - 7 PM**



Aspen in Fog, Boulder Mountain, Utah  
© Charles Cramer

The Institute is privileged to mount a new show displaying the work of master photographer [Charles Cramer](#) and his teaching apprentice, [Rex Naden](#).

Charles Cramer, who has been profiled in many publications over the last 30 years, just completed a solo show of his images at the Center for Photographic Art in Carmel, and we are thrilled to have some of the same pictures in our show.

Rex Naden has served as Charles's teaching apprentice since Rex retired from the semiconductor business. Together they have taught photography and photographed in many remote locations, including Yosemite National Park, Northern Arizona, Southern and Central Utah, Death Valley, and northern Michigan.

This exhibit demonstrates two styles of seeing the landscape: one from the perspective of Charles Cramer, well-known as a master photographer and printmaker and a student of Ansel Adams and other icons of photography; the second from Rex Naden, relatively new to professional photography but having the benefit of learning from Charles Cramer.

**Charles and Rex are great friends of The Institute, having given freely of their technical expertise and advice to our digital slide project.**

*Please read more about the artists in their statements below.*

**Join us for the gala opening wine and cheese reception  
~ and meet the artists!**

**SATURDAY, JAN 29**

**5 to 7 PM**

**at The Institute  
10060 Bubb Road, Cupertino**

**Show dates:**

**January 29 - June 2, 2011**

**Show hours:**

**Monday - Thursday, 10 AM - 6 PM  
or by appointment**

**(408) 864-4060**

## **Charles Cramer**

### **Artist's Statement**



After spending seven years of college studying classical piano, I visited Yosemite National Park for the first time, and soon realized I wanted out of those tiny practice rooms!

Realizing the similarities between interpreting music and interpreting a negative, I quickly became enamored with making prints. I sell prints through various galleries, and also teach digital printing workshops for the Ansel Adams Gallery, John Sexton Workshops, and others. I was selected to be an artist-in-residence in Yosemite in 1987 and again in 2009.

I have been profiled in *PhotoTechniques*, *PhotoVision*, *Outdoor Photography* (UK) and *View Camera* magazines. I'm also included in the book *Landscape: The World's Top Photographers*, published in 2005. In 2009, I was one of five photographers in *First Light: Five Photographers Explore Yosemite's Wilderness*.

My work was also included in *Why Photographs Work: 52 Great*

*Images ~ Who Made Them, What Makes Them Special and Why*, just out in December 2010.

During the last 30 years, I have wandered with my camera throughout the landscapes

of the United States. I am drawn to photograph primarily by the "light" and only secondarily by the subject. I search for that special kind of light that can transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. This brings me out at seemingly odd times—sunrise, sunset, during storms and snowstorms. The weather can be onerous. But when everything comes together for a photograph, all that is quickly forgotten.

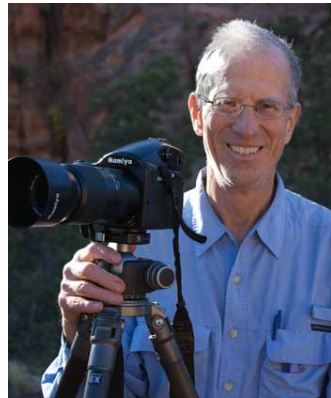
The end goal of my photography has always been to make beautiful prints. I have spent a large part of the last 30 years refining my skills not just photographing the natural scene, but learning how to make the best possible prints from these images. This led me to take up dye transfer—an impossibly complex and time-consuming method to make color prints. Only recently, with the maturation of digital imaging, have I embraced another process that can rival a dye transfer print.

**Please visit my website: [www.charlescramer.com](http://www.charlescramer.com).**

## **Rex Naden** **Artist's Statement**

I spent thirty-five years in the chip industry. I hold fourteen US patents and B.A, M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Rice University.

As I develop my identity as a serious photographer, it is my honor to work with—and to learn from—Charles Cramer. My first one-man show, Natural Designs, ran in October 2010 at Viewpoint Gallery in Sacramento. My image "Lake with Flax and Red Gum Trees" was one of 40 images out of 40,000 entries at the Smithsonian Institute; it hung in a six-month exhibit in their headquarters building. My image "Twins" was National Geographic's Image of the Day in 2010. My work is in the permanent collections of the Santa Clara Towers high-rise office buildings, Filoli Gardens, Courtside Club, Sand Hill Road, medical clinics, and private homes. I am represented by the art consultants Carol A. Dabb and Suzy R. Locke. I am a Trustee and Chairman of the Exhibit Committee for the Center for Photographic Arts in Carmel, CA, a historic venue established by Ansel Adams and Brett Weston in 1967.



Nature is a Designer. She speaks in nuances and gestures but she does not hold back or demur; her intent is compelling; no, it is overwhelming. What does she mean to convey with her magnificent architecture? Why is her work speaking to me? Why am I being instructed?

Shall I presume to understand her purpose with logic? No. I resolve to put logic and questioning aside. These are artifacts of man that can only diminish nature's message. Instead, I place myself in view of her work. I capture photographs purely on my emotions. My prints attempt to interpret her language.

I offer these images to you as my response to nature's design imperative.

**Please visit my website at [www.rexnaden.com](http://www.rexnaden.com)**

**Liquide © Rex Naden**



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