

Liz Fredrickson

Weaver and Photographer, Petoskey, MI



I remember asking for a camera for Christmas as a young child and then poring over the Sears catalog to find one to show my parents. I paid for the film with my hard earned babysitting money so I was very thoughtful about each image I committed to the precious film. These early pictures were mostly landscapes and pictures of my younger siblings taken on

vacations in Northern Michigan.

I didn't receive a "real" camera until I was in my 30's and can still remember the thrill of having a picture "turn out" when taken with my Nikon SLR film camera on the manual setting. I remained very cautious with the film but still took many, many pictures. I was overjoyed when I received a new Nikon DSLR and had the ability to take endless images with no expensive film involved.

Much of my photography is inspired by a quote by National Geographic photographer Jim Richardson. "If you want to be a better photographer, stand in front of more interesting stuff." However, as I've become limited in the walking and exploring as I once did, I find beauty in the small, easily overlooked things in life. Rain patterns on windows, leaves freezing in a pond, patterns of shadows in the sand can be simple but beautiful.

Like photography, I started early working with needle and thread. As a young child I learned to sew, knit, and embroider. Over the years, I added more fiber related skills collecting experience and most importantly fabric and various yarns and threads. These are the materials I'm currently using in my work creating tapestries. I draw inspiration from my photos of landscapes, sunrises and sunsets, most taken in Northern Michigan.

Despite a busy career as a nurse all of my adult life as well as raising a daughter, I tried to always make time for as many photography and art classes that could fit my schedule. In addition to fiber arts and photography, I valued classes in art appreciation, art history, oil painting, drawing and sketching. I find that everything I learned about composition, perspective, color theory, light and shadow could be applied to successful photography and tapestry weaving.

Henri Cartier-Bresson's said that your first 10,000 photographs will be your worst. I think I may have surpassed that milestone a long time ago.

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Ice Lake Early Morning



Untitled



Untitled