

THE LIPKA JOURNAL

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

JOE LIPKA

DECEMBER 2021



WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL DECEMBER 2021

December is the darkest month of the year. Photographers love the challenge of using light to tell their story in the best possible way.

Sometimes we will wait in a single spot on a beach for hours until the light is “just right.” We focus (pun intended) on the photograph we are stalking and don’t think about the stories around us.

Sometimes we miss the sunset for the opportunity to photograph at night. If we take the time to photograph at night, we will find a new way to tell a story. The important objects are always lit well and draw your attention to the key elements.

Sometimes in the far, far past, the light was either sunlight or firelight. The stories told could not be recorded by camera but were recorded on the side of a rock.

Night time snowfall



Golden Memories



Golden Memories

Grandeur. Monumental relics of a time past. No one alive can remember the size, and grandeur of the Austro-Hungarian empire. It encompassed present day Austria, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Bosnia, Croatia and parts of present-day Poland, Romania, Italy, Ukraine, Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro. The Capital Building was built to a scale worthy of the many republics encompassed by Austro-Hungary.

Bathed in golden artificial light, we are transported back to time when castles and monuments were functional and not tourist sights.











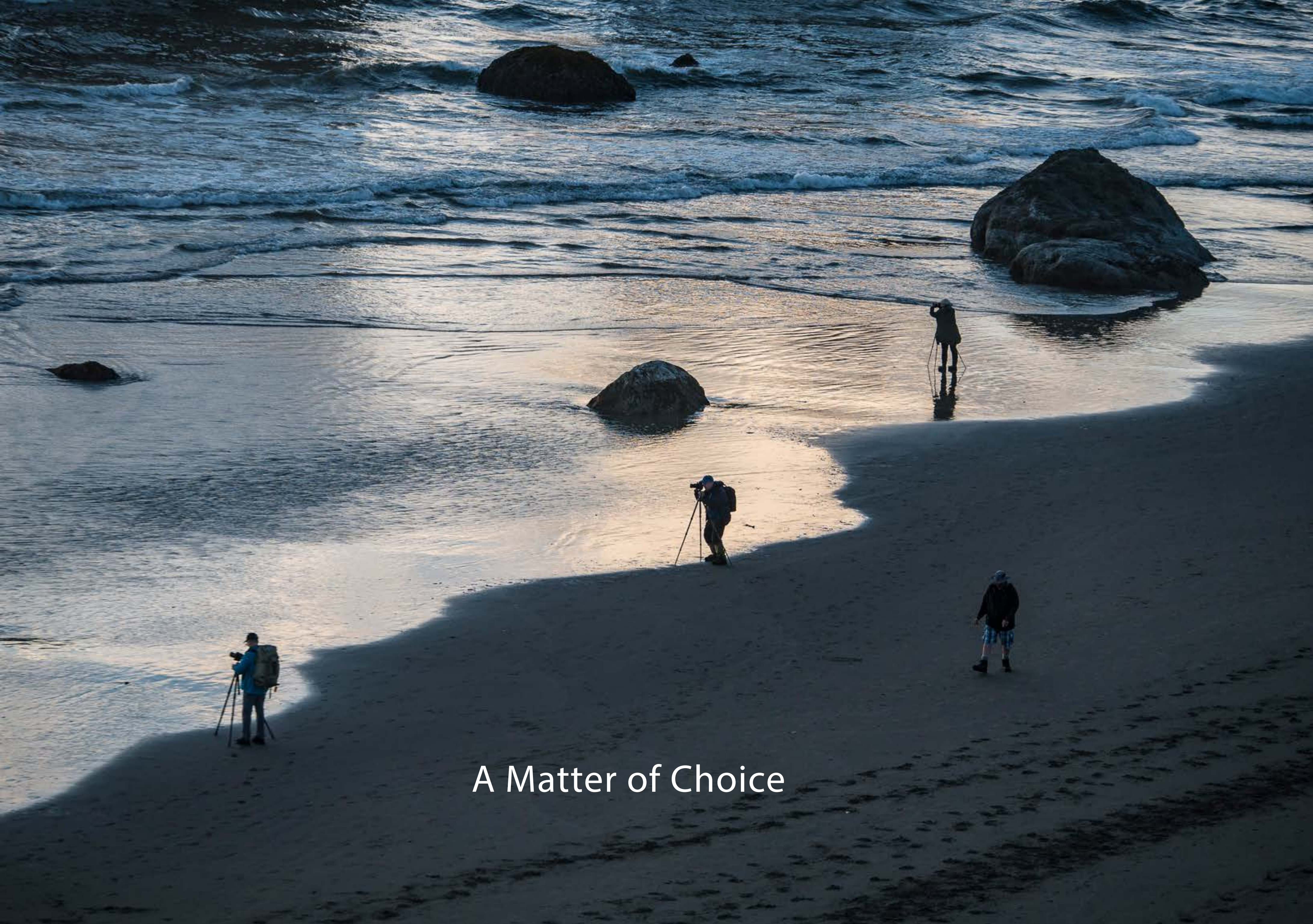


Six Word Project

Creative Journey

No destination

Only waypoints



A Matter of Choice

A Matter of Choice

As photographers we choose our subject, set out for our “perfect” vantage point to wait for the “perfect” time to make the “perfect” photograph. The question becomes what to do with the time until the perfect moment arrives. We can wait and become part of another photograph, or we can continue to photograph keeping an eye on the subject we wish to immortalize.

Sometimes the photographers become more interesting subjects than what we originally sought.













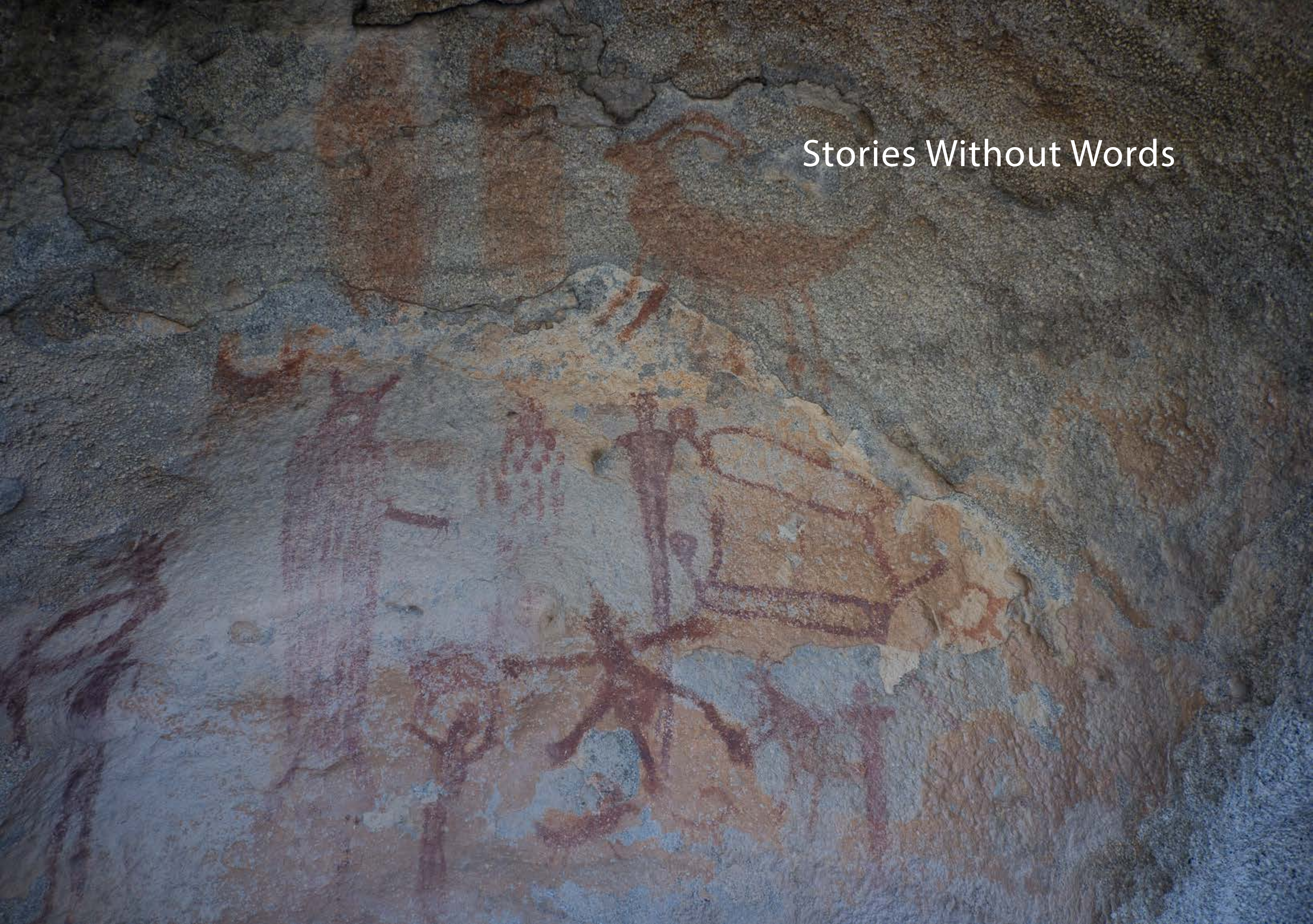


Six Word Project

A bright uncertainty
Or comfortable darkness?



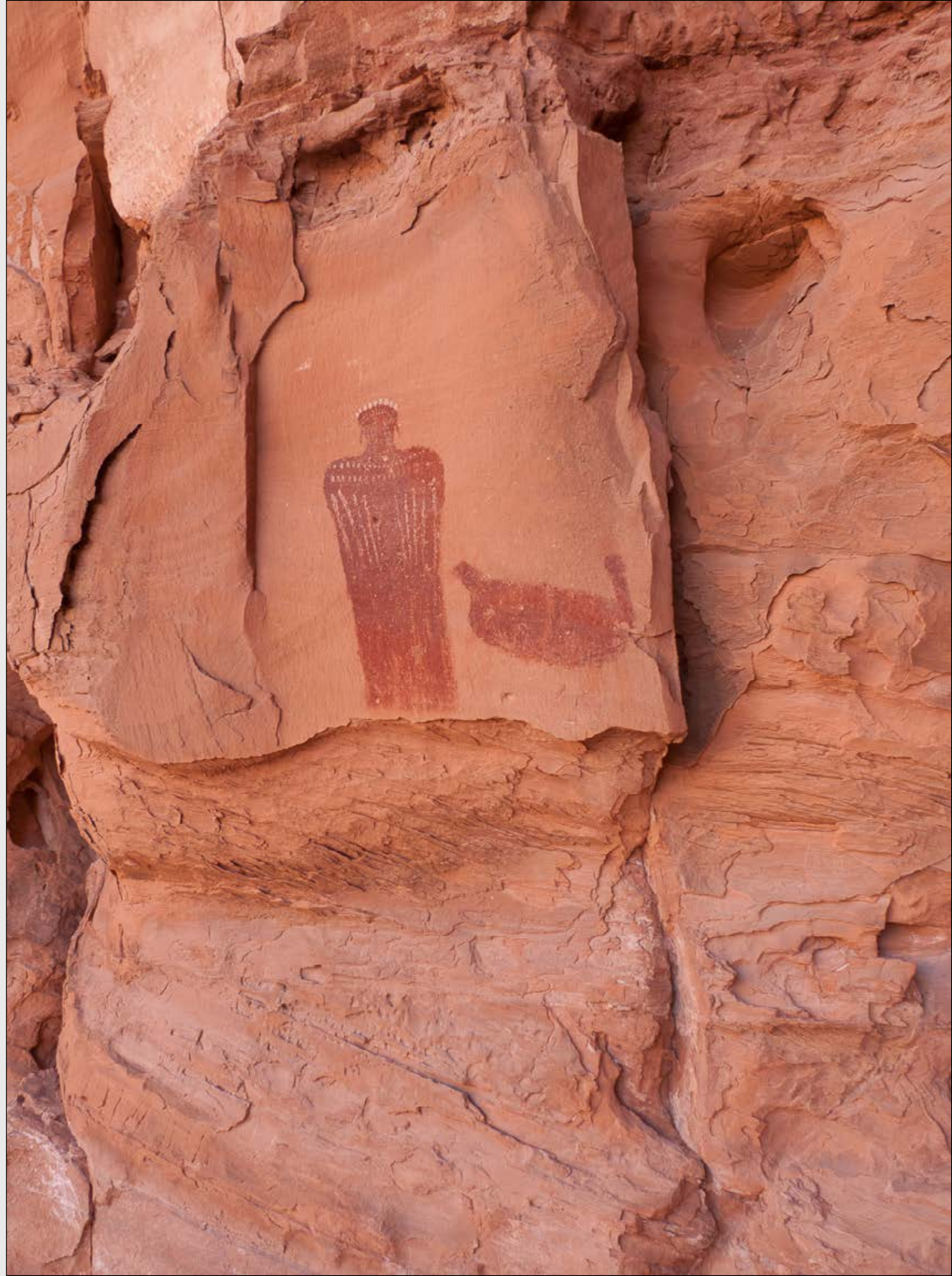
Stories Without Words



Stories Without Words

The ideas and events were important enough to record on the rocks. I have no idea what the images represent, what stories are being told and ultimately, the meaning is lost because we were not there to experience the original event. But record the events, they did, with the best material they had on hand.

I wonder if the authors knew the stories they told would last over hundreds of years on the rock walls of the American Southwest.



















Postcards from the Creative Journey

July 27, 2014

The Importance of “Because”

“I really like your photograph.” is possibly the worst critique that you can give a fellow photographer about one of their images. You can improve your critique if when you tell the person why do or don’t like their photograph. The first sentence should be, “I like your photograph because...” then, follow the “because” with some defensible reasons why you really like the photograph.

If you really want to help the photographer you can opine on the compositional and technical merits of the image because that’s important. But what’s more important is to talk about your emotional response to the image and how it makes you feel and what memories the image stirred up in your mind. We make our photographs to connect with our viewers. Helping other photographers learn how to do that is the desired outcome of any critique.





Near Sunset, Coquille Point, (No Photographers)

A Few Closing Words

Golden Memories

It was our last night in Budapest and the itinerary said night time cruise on the Danube. The guides said it would be beautiful. It was. The buildings are large and not really impressive during the daytime. At night, when the lighting can be controlled, the buildings become magical and far more impressive when the rest of the city is in darkness.

A Matter of Choice

It was a chance occurrence. On a whim, we decided to head to Coquille Point to watch the sunset. We're photographers, we do that type of thing. We were not the first to have that idea. Two (count 'em) separate photographic workshops showed up to photograph the same sunset. I thought it would be much more fun to photograph the photographers waiting to photograph the sunset. It was.

Stories Without Words

We had the opportunity to go out in the boonies with Guy Tal and he showed us some petroglyphs he found as he photographed Southern Utah. We found other petroglyphs on another trip through the Owens Valley in California. It was a moving experience to see these images created thousands of years ago still on the faces of these rocks.



Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last thirty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred juried exhibitions, more than twenty solo exhibitions and have been printed in both *LensWork*, *Black & White Photography* (UK) and F-Stop Magazines.

His website www.joelipkaphoto.com has continuously evolved since it was launched in 2004. His blog *Postcards from the Creative Journey*, published weekly since 2010, feature a photograph and a little bit of writing.

His newest blog, *The Daily Photograph*, is simply that. A new and interesting image posted every morning at 8:00 AM.

COLOPHON

The Lipka Journal, December 2021

Joe Lipka

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Web site: www.joelipkaphoto.com

Blog: <http://blog.joelipkaphoto.com/>

Blog: https://joelipkaphoto.typepad.com/the_daily_photograph/

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