

ELIZABETH GALECKE

Bio:

Elizabeth Galecke started her study of photography in high school and continued with a BA in Photocommunications from St. Edwards University in Austin, TX. Her interests led her to explore documentary portraiture and landscape. Further studies with photographers Katy Tartikoff, Keith Carter, Maggie Steber, Joyce Tennyson and Kathleen Carr further encouraged these studies and today Elizabeth is closely linked with these subject matters.

Elizabeth owns Elizabeth Galecke Photography, a studio in Raleigh, specializing in timeless black and white portraiture. In her off time from her studio photography, she focuses on her quiet landscape work using Polaroid transfers as her final process. She currently has work in the Gallery at the Renaissance Hotel in Raleigh's North Hills, as was commissioned for pieces that are in each hotel room and in public spaces. Recent past exhibitions of her work include, Nested Gallery in Carrboro, Studio 610 in Raleigh, and Archer Graphics in Carrboro.

www.elizabethgalecke.com

Artist Statement:

My usual subject matter in photography is children...playing, laughing, singing... living life. I spend most days jumping up and down, making obscene noises to make unwilling boys laugh, and whatever else it takes to capture my clients in a candid way. I shoot using a medium format camera on a tripod loaded with black and white film, the old- school way. The images are printed in a darkroom by hand and sometimes toned and hand-colored.

At the end of some days, many days...I crave quiet and solitude. I take time off to wander and explore places out in the world or in my backyard and photograph them -usually small vignettes of places that reflect a tranquil place to me. I love old historical photographs from the 1900s- they were imperfect, soft, muted. I started working with Polaroid Transfers while in college and have always loved the gritty but beautiful effect they have- the process seemed to fit the images I was shooting- and the process, slow and deliberate is such a contrast to everything else I do in my life, it is just what I need for my art.

The process:

The photographic process used for these images is a Polaroid image transfer. I choose my transparency and expose it onto Polaroid film using a slide printer. Once the image is on the Polaroid film, it is pulled apart before completely developing and the negative side of the film is rolled onto moist watercolor paper, transferring the dyes and image to the paper. It is a challenging and exciting process- each one is completely unique.