

Tim Haber photography exhibit

Livonia City Hall November 2020 I've always enjoyed taking pictures, going back to my days as a young boy using my Dad's old folding camera and Instamatics. I bought my first camera during my honeymoon in 1982, I think because I felt drawn to trying to better myself at capturing images of the things that interest me. While that interest continued over the years, I didn't take up photography as a self-fulfilling hobby until 2011.

I enjoy exploring compositions in nature and life. Light, shadows, colors, and reflections that catch my eye, playful juxtapositions and contrasts that can be something fun or something sobering to capture and tell a story. I try to express what I see through my mind's eye.

My images in this exhibit are of a variety of subject matter. I'm attracted to contrasts of light and dark — light tends to be my underlying theme. In many ways, the natural light has spiritual symbolism for me as the Light... the Light of God, the Spirit of All.

The Light can help us see a person's smile or look of disquiet; show us the colors and textures of plants, trees, and rocks; and the patterns of clouds that come and go and their reflections on a calm lake.

I recently began exploring small portfolios of images that convey a common subject matter and underlying subject — like lily pads floating between the light from above and the depths beneath, the colors of irises and daylilies in quiet light, the solitude of seating benches tucked into the shaded woods, and a moment in the lives of some kids in Haiti.

I hope you enjoy my images.



Windy morning on Lake Superior September 29, 2017



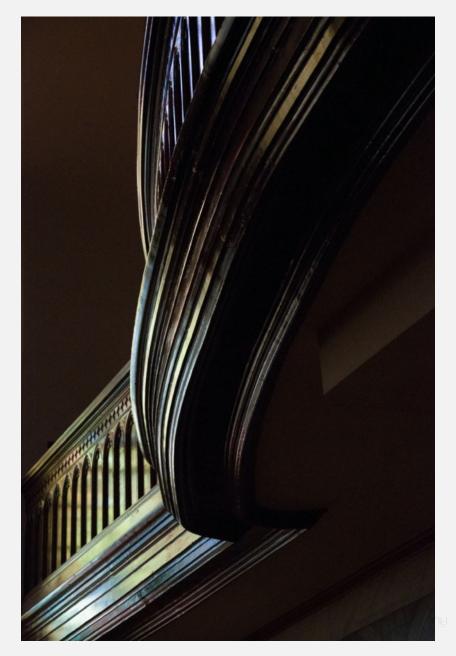
Soft fall sunrise September 30, 2017



Hessel Marina at dusk October 25, 2016



Sunrise beyond the grass October 9, 2018



The balcony December 2, 2016



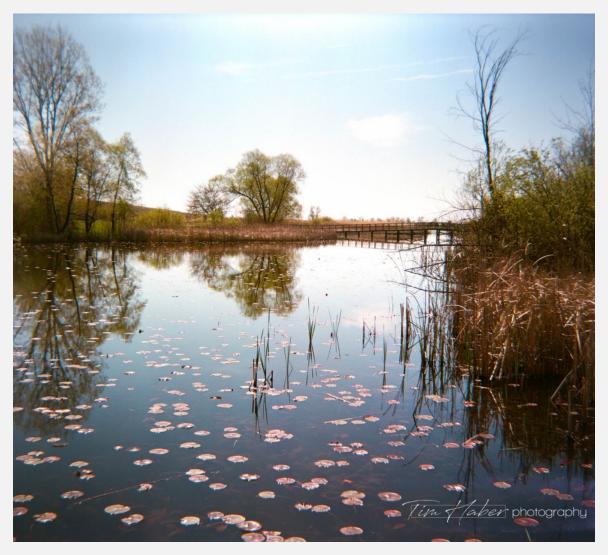
There's beauty after life August 1, 2018



A warming glow October 24, 2018



Foggy Tuesday morning May 3, 2016



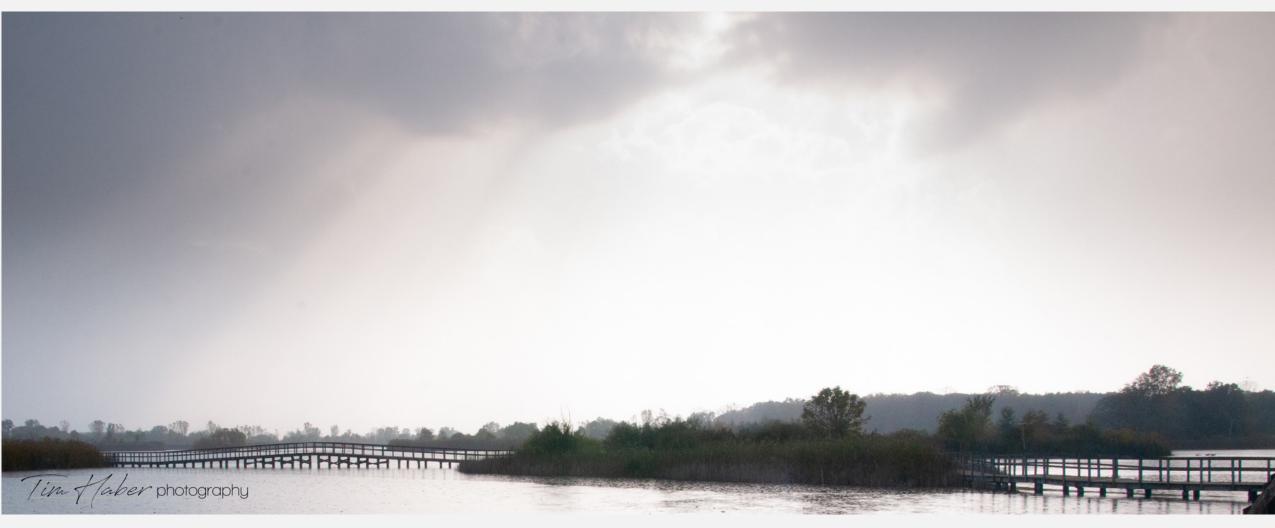
Young lily pads toward the Light May 13, 2020



Morning frost November 14, 2015



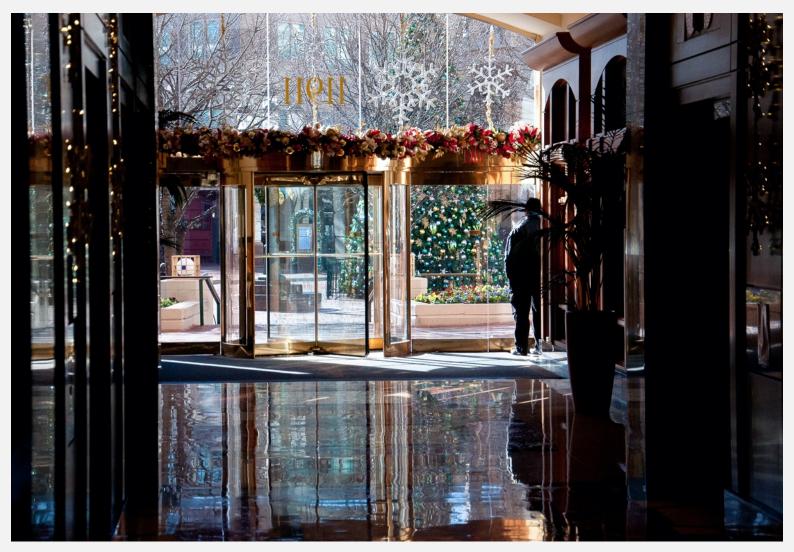
Reddish tips October 8, 2015



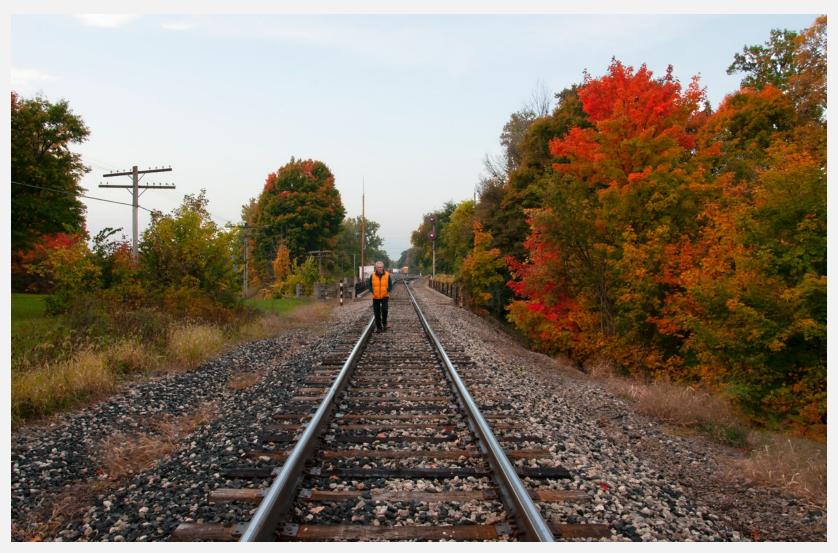
The rain is ending October 9, 2018



Sparrows in the Light January 20, 2019



Alone with my thoughts (1)
December 27, 2013



Alone with my thoughts (2)
October 16, 2016



Time for thinking October 23, 2018



Soft glow June 23, 2018



Lighting the depths
October 22, 2018



Morning at Rapid River Falls
October 21, 2018

The florals

Every spring I look forward to one of Nature's spectacles that plays out in my back yard. For me, it's a humbling and wonderful treat to watch the day-by-day growth, starting with the ground-breaking then the stalks reaching higher. They become tipped with buds that mature and soon become beautiful flowers. In May come the irises in all their glory of purples, in June the oranges of the day lilies.

The flowers only last but a few days. Their colors are so vivid when they are newly born, their textures like nothing else. Look closely at flowers and see how delicate they are, intricate in design, and alluring for us to look even closer.



What I see May 25, 2019



Reveal May 25, 2019



Colors of an iris May 24, 2019



Iris after sunrise May 27, 2020



Orange, green, and wet June 27, 2015



Reaching with life June 27, 2015



New day lilies June 27, 2015



Raindrops on my curls
June 27, 2015

The kids of Haiti

One of my favorite Bible passages I heard in church as a boy is about how God takes care of even the sparrows, providing shelter and food. It's my own interpretation of the passage that casts sparrows in the role of "birds", but ever since, I look at sparrows with more empathy and more respect for how they survive and dwell among all other creatures in the world. They eat and play and flee from danger and hang out with their families and friends on the trees and power lines.

It's an empathy not unlike what I have for the children in Haiti I've had the pleasure to meet. Their eyes tell stories and their smiles are genuine as they face daily challenges that put my bad days in true perspective. And they eat and play and do their best and hang out with their families and friends under the trees and power lines.

The kids are tested every day, to thrive and survive conditions no one should have to endure, let alone the youngest who place their love and trust in.



Girl with a smile August 23, 2017



Batman August 21, 2017



Girl with her green bowl August 23, 2017



Nickmayer July 18, 2014

The lily pads

Walking along the boardwalk of a marsh, I saw millions of lily pads. I was stopped by the blinding noon sun washing over them as I looked to the south. Something spoke to me. At the time, I wasn't sure just what. Today, I'm still not completely sure, but it's feeling closer.

These images are an attempt to tell a visual interpretation of the lily pads, water, and Light. They present the world which we are immersed... the Light above, life on the surface, and a peek at the world beneath.

The lily pads are islands of rest amidst the dramas of life in the depths below and of the Light above. The water on which they rest is a window of our everyday existence between the heavens and the depths of our lives, and our consciousness when we choose to appreciate it.

When clouds appear, they sometimes obscure my view (symbolic?) yet their reflections and the glow of Light brilliantly backlighting their edges is beautiful.

Life under the surface is revealed and can truly be appreciated when the Light is strong, the deeper passages enlightened to display their own wonders. And sometimes, trying to look into the depths, no matter how hard we try, it can be difficult to see through the murkiness.



Being among
October 8, 2018



Floating under sky above pond weeds
October 8, 2018



Islands under the sun June 2, 2019



Cloud shine and sprinkles
October 8, 2018

The benches

I think I've sat on a bench in the woods only once or twice in my life, not wanting to stop in the middle of my walk or photo venture. Rarely do I see anyone else resting on them, either. But I find them interesting. Someone thought to put a bench here, at this point along the trail; or over there, well off the trail.

There's a story each lone bench can tell about their everyday, season after season anchored existence.

Something about their view around them, of the people that walk past and the few that plant themselves for a rest, of the little animals that hop up, the birds that alight, and the weather they can't escape.

Are they lonely, or do they like their solitude? Do they care? Do they have such feelings that I personify onto them? I'm sure they don't, but I still think there are tales of some sort they can tell. I tried to capture a little of what I think their tales could be through these portraits, mostly their solitude but maybe there's something else.



A bench among the fallen leaves
October 21, 2018



A bench at the bay's edge October 23, 2018



A bench well off the path July 4, 2019



A bench in the late fall afternoon February 19, 2017

To purchase photos or if you have questions, please contact me at: twhaber@yahoo.com

You can see more of my photos at: 500px.com/twhaber

Tim flaber photography