

Eric Hatch / Dartmouth Reunion Bio and Photo Descriptions

Eric entered Dartmouth in 1964 with the idea that he would be a molecular biologist. An utter inability to deal with intricacies of Soderberg's chemistry 52 swiftly disabused him of this notion.

Taking the line of least resistance, Eric majored in English, eventually earning a PhD from the University of Virginia in 1974. Eric's dissertation was "Henry James and the Aesthetic Movement" – presto! An introduction to art! Eric's first publication was in 1972, and he has been writing for a living for many of the intervening years.

Moving to Cincinnati with his first (and only) wife Nan in 1974, his teaching job at U.C. ended in 1977, and it took 6 weeks of networking before someone took a chance on him and he entered the world of corporate communications, both as management and as a freelance writer. He has been a writer ever since with over 100 publication credits, ranging from speeches to brand reveals to feature articles, even a successful play and one book on photography.

In 1984 Eric joined GE as a communications manager, then shifted to change management consulting when he left GE in 1991. That career ended on 9/11/2001. When you're attacked, nobody wants to change – they want to hide. End of consulting career.

In 2002 Eric hung out his shingle as a photographer. While his work improved over time, his fortunes did not. Today he is a modestly known, well-respected artist using photography as his medium.

The other passions in his life are singing, skiing, reading and travel. He has sung with Cincinnati's May Festival chorus, the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra Chorale and (in 2017 and again in 2018) the Tallis Scholars in Avila, Spain.

Artist's Statement

Though most of my work is representational, I'm not interested in shooting a photographic subject for its own sake. Instead, I seek to communicate a feeling, a concept, a relationship, a story ... I see beyond and through the immediate subject. That's the value that I add as an artist. This makes me a romantic in a stony age – not a pink fluff romantic, but one who tries always to find the depth and feeling implicit in the subject. For the last decade or so I have worked extensively in two subject areas, earth processes (weather, geology, hydrology, etc.) and architecture.

Lately I have taken on the challenge of a series of 50 environmental portraits of addicted people with accompanying life stories. This is a major new development for me, as it requires both technical skill and artistic skill, all applied in a fleeting and difficult set of circumstances and typically terrible lighting. This body of work, called *Faces of Addiction*, is part of a larger project to initiate social change and make compassion possible.

Thanks to poor visual acuity (11 rounds of eye surgery) I see shapes and patterns more than I see detail. This trait influences my work, giving it a sense of composition, design, and organization that helps the image communicate. At the age of 72, I feel richly blessed to be engaged in a major artistic project that can positively affect the lives of many, many people.

Eric Hatch Personal Favorite Pictures

Information:

Eric Hatch 01 "Sanborn House." Shot 2008. My home away from home for 4 years. An oasis of civility in lumberjack heaven.

Eric Hatch 02, "Connected." Shot about 1987. Daughters Hilary (standing) and Jenny.

Eric Hatch 03, "Ginger, the best dog in the world." Shot 2007. The caption is obvious and brooks no argument.

Eric Hatch 04, "Haleakala Crater" shot 2009. Hung in Minneapolis Photo Center national landscape competition, 2010.

Eric Hatch 05, "Alaskan Fisherman in Bar" Shot 2010. 1st place prize winner, and his story was terrific

Eric Hatch 06, "Sunwapta Falls" shot 2010. It's about power! Near Jasper Alberta on the Icefields Parkway

Eric Hatch 07, "Matanuska Glacier" shot 2010. Fast melting.

Eric Hatch 08, "Passionate Cellist" Shot 2007. Perhaps my very best studio shot.

Eric Hatch 09, "Cincinnati from the River" Shot 2017. 125 years of architecture in one photo.

Eric Hatch 10, "Kennicott Mine, McCarthy, AK". Ore processor at Kennicott Mine, once the largest copper mine in the world. Now the utter ass-end of nowhere. Neat place!

Eric Hatch 11, "Evening in Oriental, NC" Shot 2016. Blue Ribbon landscape.

Eric Hatch 12, "Nan Hatch" Shot 2016. Caught in the act of grinning after a brisk ATV ride up the Canadian Rockies in Golden, BC. Married since 1971.

Eric Hatch 13, "Avila Cathedral" Shot 2017. Sang there in the Tallis Scholars Summer Course, hardest (and best) work I have ever done.

Eric Hatch 14, "Billee Simpson Drug Addict" Shot March 2018. Eighth subject in 50-shot collection "Faces of Addiction." MUCH more to her story.

Eric Hatch 15, "3 Meteors over Te Anau" Shot Oct. 2017. Sheer dumb luck to hit the Orionid meteor shower in New Zealand's dark skies. One 20-second exposure, not a time lapse.