

Daragh Muldowney

Featured Photographer
.....

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Portrait
.....

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Les Bisses du Valais

Endframe

‘Wild Dusk Watchers’ by Dan Harnett

Annemarie Hoogwoud chooses one of her favourite images

NATURE’S HIDDEN SENTINELS

It’s a profound pleasure to contribute to On Landscape’s End-Frame series, sharing an image that has captivated my imagination and artistic sensibilities. When considering which photographer’s work to highlight, the choice emerged naturally and without hesitation: artist [Dan Harnett](#).

I admire Dan’s creative work and his artistic approach for years.

The artwork I’ve selected—Wild Dusk Watchers—represents a stunning convergence of his photography and chromatography that transcends conventional nature images. For me Dan’s unique approach, blending chemical process with artistic vision, reveals the invisible narratives embedded within natural materials.

When I ask Dan where he gets his inspiration, he told me: *“I am inspired by a deep connection with the sea, my work blends photography and chromatography, spanning abstract compositions and still life studies. My photography captures human relationships with the sea and land, while my chromatography practice reveals the invisible—patterns, pigments, and chemical traces inspired by seashells, seaweed, driftwood, tidal treasures, leaves, twigs and minerals. These vibrant patterns reflect the layered narratives of maritime voyages, bridging science and art.”*





'Wild Dusk Watchers'
by Dan Harnett

Wild Dusk Watchers utilizes raw materials from a chestnut tree—leaves and nuts gathered from the forest floor at a country house museum in North Yorkshire. What strikes me immediately is how these ordinary natural elements have been transformed into something extraordinary and evocative, and finally into a piece of art.

At first glance, I see an abstract landscape, but prolonged observation reveals much more. The vertical shapes seem to come alive, silhouetted against what appears to be a sunset sky rendered in warm amber and golden tones. This vertical orientation invites me to follow these shapes with my gaze upwards. The soft color palette—predominantly oranges, yellows, and browns with striking white accents—makes a huge appeal to my imagination.

I find myself drawn to two striking subjects in the image: the white elements, particularly those clustered near the bottom of the composition and the small dark circle in the upper left corner. These elements add depth and intrigue to the overall arrangement.

What am I looking at? What do I see? What feelings does the artwork evoke in me? Am I looking at Wild Dusk Watchers as the title suggests? Or am I a wild dusk watcher? What does the artwork want to tell me? Many questions that come to my mind.

And that is exactly what a good work of art evokes. It invites you to discover, to reflect on, your own emotions, memories and stories - in this case - in these mysterious Wild Dusk Watchers.

My emotional response to this work evolves with each viewing. Initially, I experienced a sense of wonder and amazement, including at the technical achievement to be honest. But what continues to fascinate me about this piece of art is its inexhaustibility. Every time I look at it, it yields new discoveries and emotions, meandering between joy and melancholy. The main reason for my fluctuating emotions is that my state of mind

varies from day to day and so is my response.

But what doesn't change is my curious gaze and a sense of being held by the perfect balance in this artwork. The playfulness and compositional precision and the seemingly random patterns—products of the chromatography process—somehow achieve a harmonious equilibrium that feels both spontaneous and deliberate.

This tension between chance and intention just gives me that extra invitation to keep looking at it, and that reflects Dan's deep understanding of both technical process and artistic vision.

Like Dan's other works, Wild Dusk Watchers reminds us that nature's most profound beauty often exists beyond immediate perception. Through his innovative process, Dan has made visible the invisible, revealing the hidden patterns, pigments, and chemical traces that constitute our natural world.

In a time when environmental awareness has never been more crucial, this image encourages a more attentive relationship with nature. It invites us to look beyond surfaces, to investigate more deeply, and to recognize the complex chemistry that connects all living things. Dan reveals the extraordinary within the ordinary—chestnut leaves and nuts transformed into mysterious sentinels of dusk.

With Wild Dusk Watchers Dan Harnett opens new perspectives on our increasingly neglected natural world and encourages us to pause, wonder, and remain curious about the hidden dimensions of even the most familiar natural materials.

More of Dan Harnett's work on <https://www.danharnett.com/>

Do you have a favourite image that you would like to write an end frame on? We are always keen to get submissions, so please [get in touch](#) to discuss your idea.



Annemarie Hoogwoud

As a photographer, she has found her artistic voice in the area between the recognisable and the abstract - where nature, light, time and space come together in perfect harmony. Where traditional photography captures what is, Annemarie looks for what could be - moments where the everyday transforms into the mystical, where patterns, textures and colours free themselves from their physical context.

Pure beauty - in nature, poetry, literature, philosophy and art - is the breeding ground for her work. These sources of inspiration help her look beyond the superficial and discover deeper layers of meaning.

In essence, her work is an invitation to look as slowly as possible and, in that slowed-down gaze, to discover the richness that has always been there, waiting to be seen.

sannemariehoogwoud.nl

on landscape

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