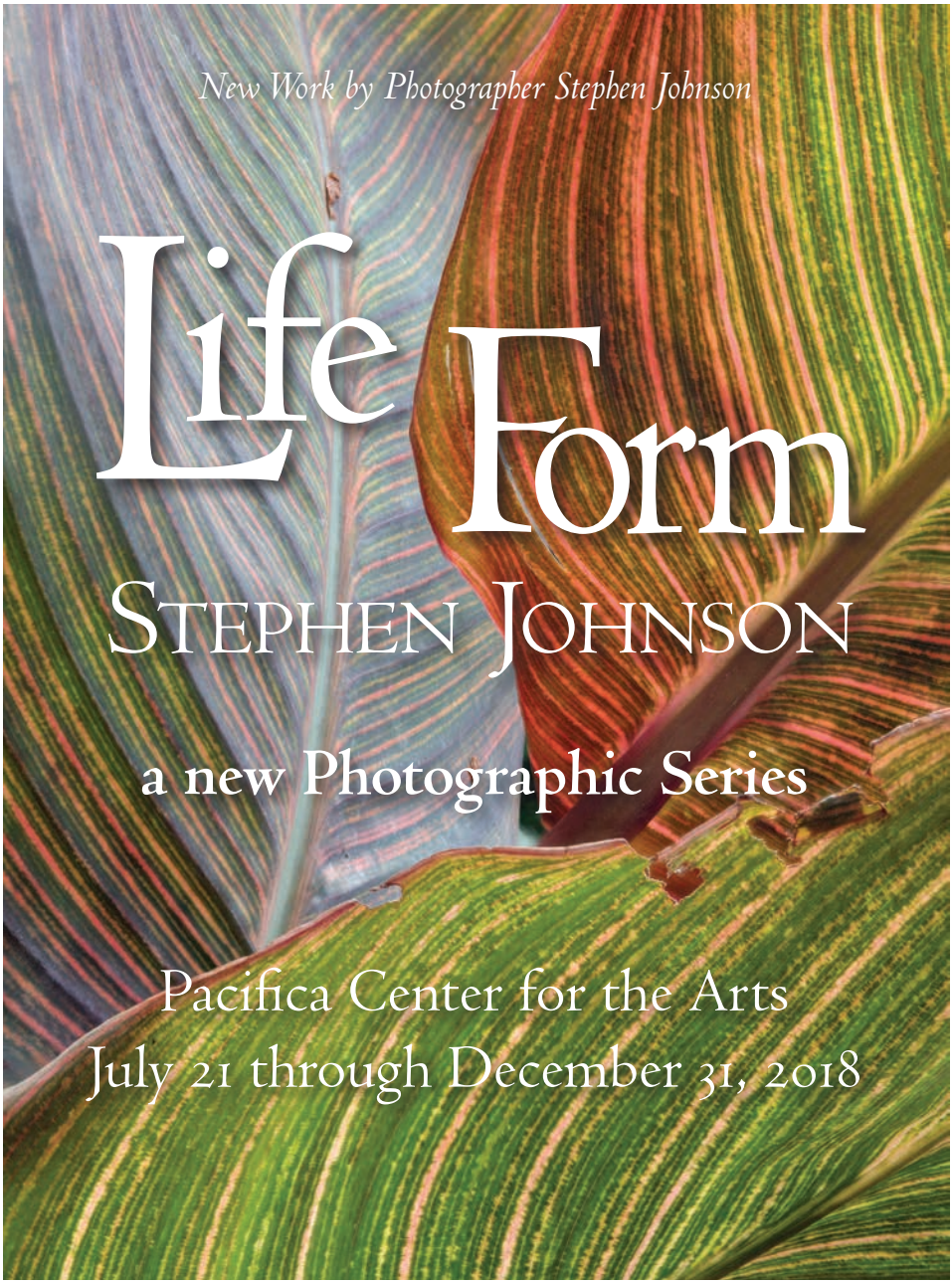


exhibit sponsored by

Canon

Life Form

Pacifica Center for the Arts
July 21 through December 31, 2018

The *Life Form* Series comes from my lifelong fascination with organic form and design. Not only have I found solace in the natural world for all of my adult life, but my respect for all living things has profoundly effected how I've lived my life. My photographic work has long reflected this interest and respect.

Over the years I have often been struck by the pure sensuality of flora, and have often made photographs that have moved me emotionally. I suppose it is no great extension of this interest to now find myself exploring the design, form and sensuality of plant form with this emerging body of work.

My fascination with sensual organic form knows no limits. The natural beauty that drew me to photography is most profoundly manifested by the very sensuality of natural form itself. Its beauty is deeply emotional, bound up in the basic instinct and desires of our humanness. Finding such form in the real world has been my career. This work concentrates that intrigue on the wonderful and strange form found in plant life. Closely examined, these seemingly familiar, fellow creatures of this planet, become profoundly compellingly, strange, almost alien and irresistible to explore with care, deep focus, sensitively and without embellishment.

This work is dedicated to my dear friend Michael Black whose passing inspired me to revisit Shelldance Orchid Gardens which became the starting point for this work.

Prints made with:
Canon imagePROGRAF pigment inkjet printers and Canon Lucia pigment ink
Hahnemühle Museum Etching paper

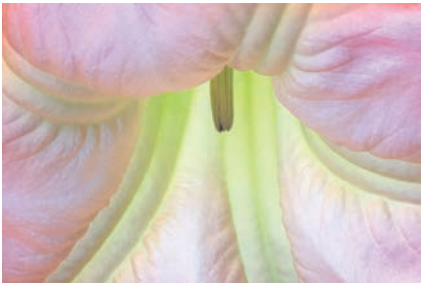
The *Life From* Series is being made with a focus-stcking technique to expand the depth of field with mulitple focusing points assembled in Helicon Focus software.

Life Form Instalation
Stephen Johnson Photography
Pacifica Center for the Arts
Summer 2018

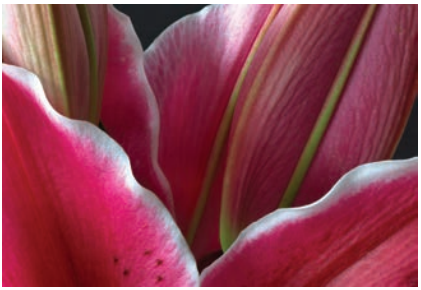
Dudleya orcuttii.
Shelldance, Pacifica, CA. 2013.

Orange *cymbidium* Orchid.
Shelldance, Pacifica. 2013.

Stag Horn Fern. *Platycerium Grande.*
Shelldance, Pacifica. 2014.



Angels Trumpet. *Datura candida.*
Filoli Gardens. Woodside, CA. 2013.



Star Gazer Lilly. *Lilium.*
Pacifica. 2014.

Bromeliad, *Aechmea triangulari.*
Shelldance. Pacifica. 2015.

Bromeliad. *Vriesea* species.
Shelldance, Pacifica. 2014.

Bromeliad with Persian Shield.
Shelldance, Pacifica. 2013.

Lady Slipper with Stag Horn. *Paphiopedilum.*
Shelldance, Pacifica. 2013.

White Hairs, *Sinningia leucotricha.*
Hanging Gardens, Pacifica. 2013.

Flora Carnivores and Rain. Pitcher plant,
Sarracenia and Sundews *Drosera.*
Shelldance. Pacifica. 2014.

Interwoven Leaves. *Calathea.*
Fort Worth Botanical Garden, Texas. 2015.

Agave. Desert Botanical Garden.
Phoenix, Arizona. 2015.

Mauna Loa Succulent. *Echeveria.*
Shelldance, Pacifica. 2013.

Succulent in Transition. *Echeveria.*
Shelldance, Pacifica. 2013.

Cactacea. Haageocereus. National Botanical
Gardens. Washington D.C. 2013.

Moth Orchid and Spider. *Phalaenopsis.*
Shelldance, Pacifica. 2013.

Pitcher Plant *Nepenthes.*
Hanging Gardens. Pacifica. 2014

Anthurium schlechtendalii Kunth Leaves.
Shelldance. Pacifica. 2014.

Araceae, Alocasia.
Shelldance. Pacifica, CA. 2015.

Hibiscus Stamen and Petals.
Shelldance. Pacifica. 2014.

Drying Stag Horn Fern. *Platycerium Grande.*
Shelldance. Pacifica, CA. 2014.

Life Form Portfolio I

The portfolio idea came up in late 2014 after one of my printing students said he would very much be interested in having a boxed set of prints from the work. Thus the *Life Form Portfolio One* was born. It took quite some time to find the right cloth and design the logo. The boxes are custom made by Portfolio Box in Rhode Island.

Hahnemuhle has been very supportive supplying the Museum Etching paper which I designed with them. Canon has been the core corporate sponsor driving this project forward.

A 10 print limited-edition portfolio of 35 copies is available from the exhibition in a signed boxed and numbered set of 11x14 inch prints in a 16x20 portfolio case.

- Tier 1. Sets 1-10: $6000
- Tier 2. Sets 11-20: $8000
- Tier 3. Sets 21-30: $10,000
- Tier 4. Sets 31-35: $12,000

Single Print Purchases

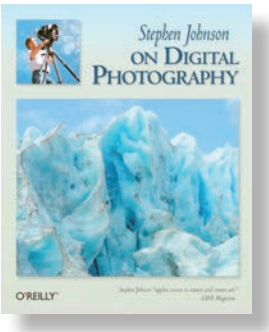
Individual photographs from the *Life Form Series* not in the portfolio are available in a limited edition of 50 numbered and signed 11x14 inch prints.

- 1-15: $800
- 16-30: $1200
- 31-44: $1600
- 45-50: $2500

The *Life Form* Series is now available for museum and gallery exhibition.

Stephen Johnson

As a photographer, teacher and designer, Stephen Johnson has been teaching and working in photography since 1977. His books include *At Mono Lake*, the critically acclaimed *The Great Central Valley: California's Heartland*, its tutorial companion, *Making a Digital Book* and the 2006 *Stephen Johnson on Digital Photography* (which has received accolades far and wide). Stephen has taught both traditional and digital photography at the college level, and has lectured at scores of seminars and major conferences in the United States and Europe.



In 1999, *Folio* Magazine declared the publication of Johnson's digital photographs in *Life* Magazine to be one of the **Top 15 Critical Events** in magazine publishing in the 20th. century. Stephen Johnson was named as a 2003 inductee into the **Photoshop Hall of Fame**, recognized for his achievements in Art. Canon named Steve as one of their **Explorers of Light** in 2006. In 2007 X-Rite named Stephen as a founding member of their exclusive **Coloratti** group of photographers and educators honored for their skills in color management. Projects have included a 5 year gathering of global work, *Exquisite Earth,* an all digital national parks photographic project *With a New Eye,* and huge digital panoramics.

Stephen's work in digital photography has included software and product development for clients such as *Apple, Adobe, Eastman Kodak, Epson, Foveon, HP, Leaf, Radius, Ricoh* and *SuperMac*. His work with Adobe includes the creation of the duotone curves shipped with their Photoshop software. Photographic clients have included the *Ansel Adams Publishing Trust,* the *National Park Service* and the *Friends of Photography*. Johnson's photographs have been widely published and collected internationally. His work has been featured in *Communication Arts, Life* and dozens of other magazines and in televison specials including features on ABC News/Discovery Channel, PBS, internet TV and many local stations.

Stephen Johnson Photography

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