

“Southern Fidelity” (a series of pictures taken from the South)

“Southern Fidelity,” a color project, is a relative, a close cousin I suppose, of an earlier - though still ongoing - Black & White effort I call “Southern Archetypal.” My intent with “Southern Fidelity” is to construct a color body of work that is a documentary effort composed from the South and South East where I live and work. The pictures are meant to serve as a visual interpretation and perhaps in some instances as a sensual reflection of the art in the architecture, the sense of habitation, and the inherent beauty in what I photograph. I am attempting to reconcile each subject’s personality, so to say.

Although my pictures are found, in the sense that I go out and look for them, they are also given, perhaps as a contribution that favors my efforts; I give, and am given to, and when I just take I am taken from. That is the nature of the work.

Photographing for me, in part, is about collecting then presenting. It is about visualizing my efforts, then looking at myself in those efforts. After all, photographing is not just about collecting, but it is also about projecting. “Southern Fidelity” is, in a sense, a mirror of me and what I like to collect; but there is a nice thing about mirrors, they can be viewed into by everybody. My vision for this project and yours in relation to viewing it may or may not compliment each other. What do you think?

I do not photograph around the light, per se. I once learned that if I see a picture, that is the time I should take it. In “Southern Fidelity” I have attempted to translate my Black & White sense of light and aesthetic into color. As a kind of a check and balance, I have tried converting a number of these photographs from Color to Black & White. As a viewer what do you think? Can you imagine some of these as Black & White images, or do you think they are best communicated in their color translation?

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