

April 2018: *Amy Montico*



Background: I am excited to introduce Amy Montico who is another one of my wonderful finds on Tumblr (<https://amymontico.tumblr.com>). Her work is simply pleasing to the eye and I particularly like the abstract nature of some of her photographs. I'm sure you will enjoy her photographs as much as I do. Please welcome her! - Kirsten

TPNC: What attracted you to the type of art you create?

Montico: I guess partly because I can't paint or draw and I needed a creative outlet. Seriously though, I guess I have always been interested in photography, I remember nicking my mom's Kodak camera, the one that took 110 film (yea, I'm old) and started with that, I got a

Konica 35 mm film camera as a graduation present but never really learned how to use it, moved on to a Canon EOS rebel (thanks to Andrea Agassi) and went from there. To be honest, it's only been 3 years since I took the time and effort to really learn about photography, and it's something that you continually learn and evolve. My real passion is abstract photography. There is something about creating a photograph that makes people think and to really look at it, notice the details and movement.

TPNC: What do you like about your art?

Montico: I like the whole creative process, going out, finding something interesting or different to photograph and then editing it, and then hoping others can see why a certain "thing" caught my eye. My photography reflects on how I see the world around me or how I interpret it, so my hope is that the viewer can see my uniqueness.

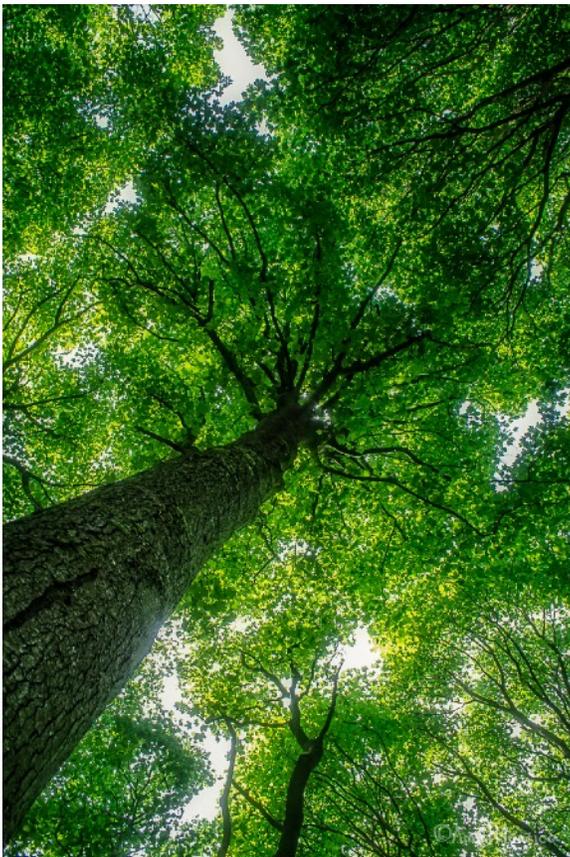
TPNC: What do you find challenging about your art?

Montico: In short, ME and finding my motivation. There is also the final product. I have always felt that every photo you take and share is a piece of you, and piece of your vision, your life in a way, so making sure that each piece reflects who you are.





TPNC: What kind of education (if any) did you find helpful in creating your art?



Montico: LIFE in general, but no formal education. I will say, YouTube is a really good source, along with talking to other photographers. Get into a community of photographers, whether it's online or at a local club and learn from them.

TPNC: Who influences your work?

Montico: Who/what doesn't is a better question! I'm influenced by pretty much everything I see. Some of the photographers I follow amaze me by the detail or mood they capture, and some by the way their work evokes feels and others by their technical abilities. But then there is nature itself, ever changing and moving. We live in an amazing world, you just need to look around and find it, and once you have trained yourself, you'll see it everywhere you go.

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TPNC: What kind of advice would you give someone looking to get into this type of art?



Montico: Pick up a camera or a phone and start shooting. Learn the basics, composition and light. The great thing about digital photography is you can see instantly what you are doing, and if you're not getting the results you're after, you can change your settings or positioning, composition etc. You don't need a profession camera to get amazing results, learn with what you have on hand or what you can afford, try getting a used camera and or lens, and don't be afraid to try different things, different genres, try combining different genres. Somethings will work and some won't, but you'll never know until you TRY! And last but not least, learn to edit! Get a good editing app, one that will give you control over every aspect of your photo.

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