

## John Femino : About Me Bio

At fifteen my best friend introduced me to taking pictures, at sixteen I built my first darkroom and at seventeen I hung around the Rhode Island School of Design, making friends with the photography teachers. One of the teachers, the world-renowned Harry Callahan, took an interest in me and later helped me arrange a major in photography at RISD as an exchange student while attending Brown University. At Brown, I pursued a medical degree and at RISD, I pursued my passion for photography. My entire career has been juggling between two interests: a board-certified addiction medicine physician and an abstract landscape photographer and farmer.

I started developing and printing black and white negatives in 60's, and became enthralled with split toning on chlorbromide emulsions. I experimented with sepia and selenium split toning and loved getting colors out of black and white. After developing a severe skin allergy to developer in the 70's, I began processing my own color film and prints. When I moved to Foster on an historic farm, I built a post and beam darkroom in the old outhouse and devised a water recycling system to prevent contamination of our well. Once ink jet printing technology matured to the point that it would outlast color archival capability, I converted my darkroom into a digital studio. I use specialized zone system printing software and print on archival papers with an Epson wide-format pigmented ink printer.

I have always been interested in abstract photography and landscapes, and photographed locally in RI on the farm, countryside and beaches. I am attracted to the abstractions in nature and visual patterns and planes of perspective. Over the years my subject matter has not changed much - my earlier work was more straight forward and realistic, but over time I have been interested in nature's infinite variations, focusing on specific views, magnifying the subjects to larger than life and guiding the viewer to discover what the photographer has brought to light.

I have recently become fascinated with panoramas and its potential to change the field of view and foreground to background perspective. I started with traditional landscape panos on a tripod but quickly began shooting hand held and experimenting with close ups and group shots. This has allowed me to explore what it would look like as if I were within the scene itself - closer to the perspective of the object. I recently have been experimenting with "moving panos", using apple iphone software while walking and tracking objects along their plane of perspective and existence.

I have participated in group shows and am a member of the RI Center for Photographic Arts. I have joined Artist Open Studio and have an opening each year in my restored barn, where I have a gallery and hang framed photos from the hand hewn chestnut beams in the third floor hay loft. I have had two acceptances in Juried Competitions and regularly show at the member gallery and print share.

Throughout my addiction treatment practice, I have guided my patients to change their lives by enhancing dopamine reward systems and reviewing life's journey through a recovery perspective. Kind of like my attraction to photography - take photos, view images, get excited, make more and have fun - go with the reward, enjoy beauty and trust its journey.

Contact Info: [Feminophoto@gmail.com](mailto:Feminophoto@gmail.com)

Website: [Feminophoto.com](http://Feminophoto.com)