

## **Brooke Hammerle**

### **Artist Statement: “Songs of Light”**

My vision in photography came through painting. But it was the camera that opened the door to of Light, that mysterious and mercurial element capturing space of the visual world through its lens. My work belongs to photography in that the image is a moment in time created by light captured through a lens. But through my background as a painter, the camera became a tool of reimagining photography’s traditional elements.

In my earlier work, landscape series, “Autumn Mirror”, “Mosaic”, “Gaea”, etc the elements of points of focus and depth of field became sublimated into the more plastic elements of color space, and a balance between nature and abstraction. Through reflections in water I explored hidden worlds of multiple dimensions and spatial ambiguity between surface and reflections.

In my more recent work, “Songs of Light”, and “Wave Series” this vision of “light” has evolved. Light is less about color space than an element for its own sake. It becomes a form of energy moving through water. Aesthetically, similarly to the landscape series, I am in search of a unity, the subtlety of shapes and patterns floating in a rhythm of their own space and time, the poetry of nature’s design.

I have always been inspired by the beauty and sublime nature of light in water in the landscape. I am fascinated by its mercurial quality, its transience, and the relationship between the subtleties of mirror reflections on the surface to the refractions from the depths. This most recent study is of light as the expression of water’s energy.