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*K.C. Hulsman*  
Photography

## Winter is Coming.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with friends and family. Mine was busy, as I went diving through the storage unit to retrieve the holiday decorations and get the house decked for the holidays. My cats are most enamored by the tree, and somehow ornaments are being found across the house. I think they're enjoying themselves, but I planned for that. All the lower ornaments are those that can survive some feline abuse and attention. Here we are in December and yet the weather here in the Dallas/Fort Worth area is still reaching highs in the 70s. Somehow it doesn't feel like winter yet, but the cold days lie ahead and I am looking forward to them.

## PLACES EXHIBITING MY WORK THIS DECEMBER

### "TEN X TEN Small Works Exhibition"

Through December 31<sup>st</sup>

[Midwest Center for Photography](#)

1215 Franklin

Wichita, Kansas

### "GAP Winter Wonderland"

Through December 31<sup>st</sup>

[Palace Arts Center](#)

301 S. Main Street

Grapevine, Texas

### "IAA's Traveling Animal Art Exhibit"

Extended through December 31, 2017

[Irving Arts Center](#)

3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.

Irving, Texas

### Prints & Ready-to-Hang

*Plus Stocking Stuffers under \$20*

[Central Arts of Bedford](#)

2816 Central Drive, Suite #140

Bedford, Texas

selected for the Midwest Center for Photography's 10th Annual "TEN X TEN Small Works Exhibition", which focuses on offering fine art photography works that are ten inches by ten inches in dimension. I'll have some exciting news to share in January as well.

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## My Favorite Shot from New York



Coyote, taken in Bear Mountain State Park, New York

## Adventures in Photography!

Recently I returned to a favorite haunt of mine, the Hudson River Valley in New York. Not only does a very dear friend live there, but the countryside is beautiful and there's so much natural wonder all around you. Considering the local environs, it's really no surprise that it's been an inspiration source for so many artists, and famous even for the Hudson River School credited for being the first coherent American art style, which dominated part of the 19th Century.

As part of my trip I took my camera gear and explored the Hudson River Valley: ranging from Boscobel Gardens in Garrison, to Bear Mountain State Park, Sleepy Hollow and Lake Minnewaska. Unfortunately, due to a mishap, I only had my telephoto lens on me which was frustrating when I was greeted with such amazing autumnal landscapes. I guess we

**Barred Owl**

Bear Mountain State Park

**Rose**

Boscobel Gardens

**Geometric**

Bear Mountain Bridge

Featured below are the classic vistas of the Hudson River Valley as seen from Boscobel Gardens. You see the densely forested mountains, the Hudson River with its interconnected marshes and river valley, and across the water in the rightmost image we see the cluster of buildings that comprise West Point.



This lush landscape lends itself to a great deal of visual depth, which when rendered by artists can make someone feel like there's an entire world in the painting they can be lost in. These quick and dirty cel phone snaps illustrate beautifully the vast richness of inspiration found in the region.

## The Hudson River School - An American Art Style

Just as the literary works of *Ralph Waldo Emerson*, *Henry David Thoreau* and *James Fenimore Cooper's Last of the Mohicans* romanticized nature and/or the American Wilderness, the Hudson River School's approach to painting did the same. The art style was

### THOMAS COLE



1836 - The Oxbow

were quintessentially American. The artwork correlated to what was occurring at that point in American History: the exploration and settlement connected to the westward expansion of our nation, as well as the actions that would eventually lead to the establishment of our national parks.

The style took its name from the sheer congregation of artists that were moving into the Hudson River Valley, and who were also painting the vistas they found in the general area. *Thomas Cole* is in many ways the artist that put the style on the map, but other artists like *Frederic Edwin Church* and *Albert Bierstadt* would enjoy the most commercial and critical success, while expanding the style to embody scenery found far beyond the wilds of New York.

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## FREDERIC EDWIN CHURCH



1857 - Niagara Falls

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## ALBERT BIERSTADT



1868 - Among the Sierra Nevada Mountains, California

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## ARTS NEWS

**CHRIS BRANDLEY** a former Grapevine-Colleyville Independent School District art teacher, and fellow member of the [Grapevine Art Project](#), has something a little special to celebrate this holiday season. One of her oil paintings was licensed for use on Christmas snack tins. The tins have some mass distribution as they're for sale at Big Lots stores around the country! You can read the entire tale over at her [blog](#), and she's doing some giveaways too!

**FORT WORTH, TEXAS:** If you haven't popped on over to see the Kimbell Art Museum's exhibit, [Casanova: The Seduction of Europe](#) you'll have until December 31<sup>st</sup> to view the paintings, sculpture, works on paper, furnishings, porcelains, silver and period costume.

**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS:** San Antonio artist Cruz Ortiz creates the [world's first art mural](#) on a functioning solar panel. The mural depicts a Monarch Butterfly in reference to the commitment by the city to become the first monarch butterfly champion city as designated by the National Wildlife Federation.

**HOUSTON, TEXAS:** Hurricane Harvey may have roughed up Houston, but Houstonians are resilient, and this is especially true of their arts community. Artists from all over are invited to submit artwork for [Re:Houston](#) which will utilize PopWalk, a new smartphone app that reads your phone's GPS location and will trigger site specific artworks to appear on your phone. *Re:Houston* gives artists from all over the



**GALVESTON, TEXAS:** Galveston is now home to an [Art Lending Library](#), much like how one borrows books from a normal library, this one allows people to borrow art and then return it. While still nascent in nature, the A-L-L currently has a collection of mostly Houston and Texas-based artists' works, including work by Elaine Bradford, Ann Wood, Pat Palermo, C.J. Davis, Tommy Gregory, Angelica Raquel, and more.

**NORTH CAROLINA:** North Carolina lawyer Frank Abrams' [\\$10 Flea Market find](#) of an old photographic tintype may just be worth millions. After acquiring the piece, Abrams used it as decor for his AirBnB rental property. But after a few years the lawyer took a closer look and realized it may just be extraordinary. After experts have reviewed it they believe it depicts the infamous Billy the Kid relaxing with the man who would eventually kill him.

## BE MERRY AND BRIGHT!

Whatever holiday you celebrate, I hope that it is filled with the joy of friends and family.

Thank you so much for all your support this year.

I'll see you in 2018!



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