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*K.C. Hulsmann*  
Photography

## Howdy y'all!

While most people think of February as the time of Valentine's Day, for me I think of it in terms of the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo that is wrapping up, the commercial ad frenzy of the Super Bowl, the time for the crack of the bat as major league baseball's Spring Training season begins, the time to work on new fine art photography compositions, and the time to start applying to a bunch of art competitions at the National and Regional levels. One of my favorite places to go for a photography destination is the [Dallas Arboretum](#), taking advantage of the \$5 February admission before the prices spring forward to more than three times that price. I tend to wait towards the end of the month to work on acquiring some new floral photos, since the arboretum's Dallas Blooms event is one of the largest floral festivals in the southwest, with over a 100 varieties of spring bulbs exploding with color and 500,000 blooms that will dazzle you. If you decide to head out to the Arboretum, [purchase parking online](#) as it's nearly half off the price as in person!

## Places to find my work

### Prints & Ready-to-Hang

Monday - Friday

9am - 5pm

[Central Arts of Bedford](#)

2816 Central, Suite #126

Bedford, Texas

### "The Conroe Art League's 3rd Annual National Invitational Show"

March 7 - 31, 2018

[The Gallery at the Madeley Building](#)

127 Simonton Street

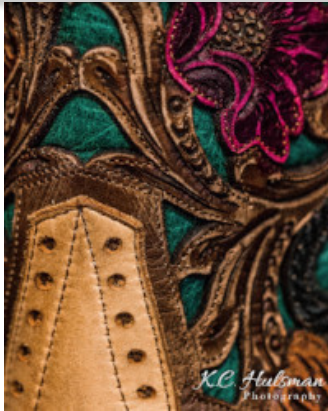
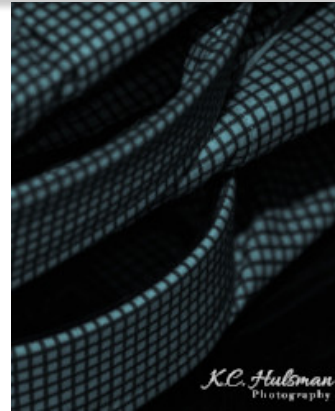
Conroe, Texas

## Adventures in Photography!



Rod Patrick Bootmakers, in Fort Worth, Texas

Thanks to [Fort Worth Camera](#) I had opportunities this past month to flex my photography muscles. My first outing was to [Rod Patrick Bootmakers](#) in Fort Worth during the Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo. Not only can they make you custom boots to fit you perfectly, but they are also the only bootmaker to offer in their ready-to-wear selection sizes 4-17 that also feature ten different widths (from EEE - AAAA). I had the freedom to run amok in their store, where I shot everything from the boots, to the leathers used to make the boots, to store shelves with other items for sale like some shirts. Fort Worth Camera had also provided access to a model for the evening.

**Boot Detail****Model Shoot****Folded Shirts**

Next on my photography itinerary I tried my hand for the first time at carnival ride photography. Carnival ride photography is tricky, because you're shooting at night, but you're also receiving light from the carnival rides themselves. This requires long exposure photography, meaning that for every "shot" of my camera, the shot is soaking in the visuals for seconds at a time before the shot completes. Combine this with the fact that carnival rides are in changing motion... and it can be a bit tricky, but tons of fun. So I headed over to the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo with Fort Worth Camera who had helped us obtain special permission from Talley Amusements to bring in tripods and other camera gear to spend a cold night meandering through the crowds at the carnival and midway.



In the images above we see the Ferris Wheel. For the rightmost image I zoomed in using my telephoto lens and during the long exposure continued changing my focus, this enabled me to paint with light, so I garnered squiggles instead of blocks of color. I also happened to catch the ride animation just right that the heart was appearing. Below was a ride called the Beast with an obvious scheme made to resemble Marvel's The Incredible Hulk. The ride was long with a claw like shape at the bottom where passengers would sit. The ride both swing back and forth, and twisted, you can see here that I captured the twisting motion of the ride as it swung through, and yet the long exposure effect makes it so you don't see the riders there at all.





The Beast

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## ARTS NEWS

**TEXAS ARTS:** [43 National Endowment for the Arts grants](#) will be distributed to organizations throughout Texas, including Dallas' own [Nasher Sculpture Center](#).

**FORT WORTH, TEXAS:** You can appreciate the arts even when on a budget, and things don't get much more budget friendly than free. Through the rest of February the [Kimbell Art Museum](#) is completely free as they showcase the width and breadth of works in their permanent collection, including the earliest known painting by Michelangelo. Right next door is the [Amon Carter Museum of American Art](#) which is always free and open to the public. I'm really looking forward to visiting the Amon Carter to see the [Ellen Carey: Dings, Pulls and Shadows](#) exhibit featuring her unique experimental photography.

**DALLAS, TEXAS:** General Admission is always free at the [Dallas Museum of Art](#), but you only have a few days left to see the special touring exhibit [Yayoi Kusama's All the Eternal Love I Have for Pumpkins](#), who is one of the most influential avant garde artists. Please note because her installation is an immersive experience, tickets are "timed" and it's best to order your tickets in advance. The DMA also announced recent [acquisitions](#) by modern masters Piet Modrian, Jacques Blanchard, and Pierre Bonnard.

**NEW YORK ARTS:** The [Guggenheim Museum](#) has been in the news, when a recent request by President Donald Trump to borrow a Van Gogh was denied. Curator Nancy Spector replied that it was "prohibited

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## CALLING ALL FELLOW ARTISTS

Are you an artist in the Dallas / Fort Worth area looking to find a nurturing group? I would encourage you to check out the [Grapevine Art Project](#).



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