



Strat Simon

Loved photography since age 15.
Army photographer in Korea & Japan.
Advertising copywriter, account executive and creative director in that order.

Key photographic milestones: My father's Kodak folding bellows camera ..Army Signal Corp Photo School ... Course in photography with Alexey Brodovitch, art director for 30 years for Harper's Bazaar ... studied with Helen Manzer who held classes in NYC, New Hampshire and California, rotating among them every year. She was the major influence and taught me to make pictures; not take them.
Second largest influence was to see a photograph by Edward Weston entitled: Excusado.

Belonged to four camera clubs and past president of two of them.

End note: After seven decades I now have strong feelings about photography. I believe people waste money buying "professional" cameras. I've seen great photographic art come out of pinhole cameras. Chances are you will never be as good as your camera so disregard the equipment ads. The camera you buy should match your needs. Our world is digital today and "good glass" is pointless when most cameras cover the sensor with an anti-alias filter. Hence every photograph needs some post process sharpening. A JPEG does this for most people. Those who shoot RAW do it in their work flow. Shoot with your head; ask yourself why you're taking a photograph? What made you stop to do so? If its a good reason work the subject. Remain unsatisfied until you are tired of the subject. Then go home; edit your take and manipulate the best image until its something you're proud of. If you show it to others, listen to them, then accept what you want out of it, ignore the rest and continue to make photographs that you love to take.