

# APHRA PIA

47 Agnes Street, Oakland, CA 94618  
510-655-4451

aphrapia@yahoo.com  
aphrapia.com



Aphra Pia is a native of California where she earned a B.A. in Art and Interior Design at San Jose State, and, in 1976, established her own design firm which she still maintains today. An award-winning photographer, her pictures are featured in numerous exhibitions, publications, and personal and corporate collections. Exhibitions include: the Triton Museum in Santa Clara, the World Affairs Council in San Francisco, City Hall at the Hague, Photo Central in Hayward, the EBUD Oakland Administration Gallery, San Pablo Arts Gallery, and the University of California at Davis. Books include: Wanderlust, and Silken Threads From the Past.

Aphra's photographic interests and projects have spanned a wide variety of peoples, places and things - from the Uyghur people in Eastern and Central Asia, to the beauty of the Sierras, to places where the feeling of space and freedom is the subject (Alaska, Antarctica, Africa) and to places where there is the sense of time past (China, Bhutan, Cambodia and Cuba). Her photographs present a compassionate view of old cultures and ethnic people, landscapes, and close-ups. Underlying her work is her dedication to images which are underplayed and modest, the kind of quiet, undeclared beauty that waits patiently to be discovered. They are fragmentary glimpses of our world, i.e., the relationships of color in the land, waters and sky, dimensional repetition of texture, real or implied. Subtle backgrounds on which natural, rich color introduces itself are presented as semi-abstract graphic compositions of natural elements. Her goal is to have the viewer see beneath the obvious. "I want them to empathize with a stranger, to cradle the flower in their hand, to feel the cold, to lift their faces to the sky and to see the relationship of each to the other."

## **Personal Statement**

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## **A partial list of exhibitions include:**

Triton Museum in Santa Clara,  
World Affairs Council in San Francisco,  
City Hall at the Hague,  
Photo Central in Hayward  
EBUD Oakland Administration Gallery,  
San Pablo Arts Gallery  
University of California at Davis

Books include:

Wanderlust, and Silken Threads from the Past.

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## Artist's statement

California born, I have always been drawn to the mountains. For fifty plus years, skiing, hiking and backpacking have given me the opportunity to experience all seasons of the awesome Sierras. I revel in their beauty and peacefulness as well as the fearsome, humbling power of the mountain landscape. They impose a sense of perspective onto my life and provide a perfect background for contemplation and photography.

I feel the power of wilderness, but also a sense of joy and of peace. My photographs, are fragmentary glimpses of our world, i.e. the relationships of color in the land, waters and sky; dimensional repetition of texture, real or implied. Subtle backgrounds on which natural, rich color introduces itself are presented as semi-abstract graphic compositions of natural elements. My goal is to make photographs which are underplayed and modest, the kind of quiet, undeclared beauty that patiently waits to be discovered.

My goal is to have the viewer see beneath the obvious. I want them to feel the cold, to lift their faces to the sky, to cradle the flower in their hand, to empathize to with a stranger and to see the relationship of each to the other and to themselves.

## Golden Water - #1 of 5

Yosemite National Park – Yosemite Valley - 2012



## Serenity - #1 of 5 – Jokulsarlon glacier, Iceland – 2012

## Experiencing the Fury - #1 of 5 –Iceland - 2012



24" X 18" \$300.00 framed Archival pigment print on Epson Hot Press Bright