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Spotlight: Scott Huck

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CR: Tell us a little about yourself.

SH: I grew up in northern Ohio, west of Cleveland, and my interest in photography began in high school. After high school, I studied photography at Ohio Institute of Photography and then moved to Evansville, Indiana, where I worked as a commercial photographer for four years. I married my wife, Roxy, and soon after took the photography position I now have at Cedarville University. I’ve been at Cedarville for twenty-four years. I love the Lord. I love my wife & girls. I am passionate about photography.

CR: Tell us a little about the process featured here.

SH: I learned the process of Polaroid Transfers in my first job. While studying and working, we often used Polaroid images as test images instead of wasting time shooting and developing film. My boss started making Polaroid Transfers, and that interested me. Overall, the Polaroid Transfer process consists of interrupting the 60-second development of a Polaroid image, separating the negative from the underdeveloped positive and physically transferring the negative image to another piece of paper (commonly water color paper). With its discontinuation in 2010, it’s become harder and harder to find Polaroid film. Polaroid Transfers are a dying art form.

CR: What interests you in this particular process, this aesthetic? Why do you do what you do?

SH: When I photograph an image, my hope is for others to get an idea of what I see, and in that sense my photography is an extension of myself. I am always creating images whether I photograph them or not. I am always looking. I’m looking at angles, light, form, contrast. Often times I don’t have a camera with me, but I am always looking for that shot, always envisioning it. That said, I sometimes feel the act of photographing an image is not creative in a physical sense, which is why I enjoy the process involved in creating a Polaroid Transfer. The need to discern still exists. I have a good idea when an image will be a good transfer and when it won’t. And there are many variations of creating Polaroid Transfers. I can have Polaroid film in a Polaroid camera and create an original Polaroid Transfer. I can also work from a 35mm color slide and create Polaroid Transfers from an enlarger. There are more opportunities for creativity, more variables involved in the physical process that will make or break a Polaroid Transfer image.