

Positioning Statement: Ross Oscar Knight - Photo-Culturalist

Written by David S. Cohen

Ross Oscar Knight is a Photo-Culturalist: An artist who uses his camera to open doors, gaining access to observe and capture the shared truths that bind us together. He is the welcome stranger, traveling near and far, visiting the social ceremonies of people both ordinary and exotic. Ross is a chronicler of rituals, ceremonies and occasions. He reveals through his work the loving heart and spiritual foundation present in all the diversity of humanity.

Ross has said, "life is lived in moments, not poses." It is an important key to understanding his work. Moments are fleeting: a smile, a tear, a gesture, an accident, the reaction to a word, or a song, or a kiss, the stirrings of joy, the sharing of strength. Moments often come without warning, but they reveal truths and genuine emotions. Poses are planned. They serve an important purpose, but they are seldom in danger of being overlooked. The art of capturing moments is one of extreme preparation, all performed at the service, in the field, of ultimate mobility.

Ross moves during a shoot. He is everywhere, observing, reacting, participating. He has done the homework to know the lay of the land and the foundation of the story. His senses are honed through years of experience and the dedication to his craft of a virtuoso, all so he can respond and react with precision of action - anticipating the moments that communicate the beauty of the human story unfolding.

The images Ross reveals evoke a sense of presence, of timelessness. They snatch the sights, sounds and emotions out from across the boundaries of time and place with such clarity that they seem to live again for the viewer. Each photograph is a portal to travel time - each an opportunity to experience the eloquent beauty of the human soul transcending all cultural context.