



photography

Monte Nagler

## Let free spirit of child show through in photos

When we are born, we share something in common — the innocence and free spirit of a child and the impulse in all of us to make our mark on the world around us.

Do you remember carving your initials on a tree or burying that special rock in a secret place and wondering if through the ages they'll still be there?

All of us hoped that our actions as children would make life a little more pleasant as we moved through new worlds, touched people's lives and left the message that "I was here."

Isn't it a shame that in most cases the price of growing up includes having smothered out of us the innocence, the imagination, the clear vision of the child?

We begin to let other people and social pressures tell us what to think and how to feel. We begin to mistrust our instincts and judgments and question our motivations.

WOULDN'T IT be refreshing if we could hang onto the child in all of us and not let it be smothered?

Not only would our lives be enriched, but the creative part in us will be stimulated. After all, it's the region of the mind where imagination and creativity reside — the most valuable part of ourselves.

And this applies directly to your photography which, of course, is a creative and accepted art form.

Begin to see through the viewfinder with your feelings and imagination. Reach back to the innocence of childhood and draw from the well of creativity inside you.

Try to communicate with your subject as we all did with things when we were children. Let your photographs speak for you and about you. Let them be individualized expressions of you.

WHEN YOUR emotions are stirred by a certain image in your viewfinder, nourish your feelings; don't stifle them. Don't be afraid to let people learn about you through your photography and don't fear their judgments and opinions.

Learn to trust your creative impulses and learn to welcome change as we did as children. Life is transient, and the world changes daily. The tree you photographed today will have changed by tomorrow.

Remember that as children we used to build personal relationships with things important in our lives. Do the same with your subjects. A real photographer through his art is saying:

"This is what I saw  
This is what I felt  
This is what I wish to share with you."

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MONTE NAGLER/photographer

A field of daisies is a good subject to cause you to reflect back on your youth and stir up the "child" in you.

An exhibit of Nagler's black and white photographs is at the Print Gallery, 29203 Northwestern Highway in Southfield, until the end of April. Phone the gallery at 356-5454 for further information.

Observer & Eccentric **Classified Ads Work!**

Thursday, April 9, 1981

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