

DIVERSIONS - ON CLOSER INSPECTION

Photographs by **Ronald O. Krieger**

I call many aspects of my photography "Diversions". Most everyone whose eye is behind the viewfinder of their camera sees the "big picture", or the full screen. That is the image that is photographed. I still am party to this technique at times; however, several years ago my eye began to see beyond the big picture and began to pick apart and dissect that image into smaller segments - or "diversions". This quickly became for me a fascination, almost an obsession. I was in essence focusing on what I believed were very interesting details in the whole picture. That is what you are seeing in these photographs - my focus on the diversions. They may appear abstract or realistic.

Titling the result completes the artistic endeavor. It has become almost a game to select titles for these images - do they remind me of something or someone, or are they vague and subject to my imaginative interpretation? If you are a photographer, I challenge you to look for diversions. CAUTION! - they can become an addictive pleasure.

Ronald O. Krieger has been photographing as a hobby for over fifty years, mostly travel photography. After submitting a photo slide to "France Today" magazine over thirty years ago and having it accepted for the cover of their publication, he was hooked. Even though the magazine went defunct a couple of months later and the photo shot was never published, he was encouraged to submit entries to contests and juried art shows. After honorable mentions in "Gourmet" and "Islands" magazines, his big break came in 2000 when his photo was selected as a grand prizewinner (a \$17,000 trip) by National Geographic's "Traveler" magazine.

Since then he has been accepted at several shows in St. Louis area churches and has exhibited at the St. Louis Artists' Guild, Grafica Gallery in Webster, United Missouri Bank in Kirkwood and an early KAC exhibit on Bhutan at the Kirkwood train station. Besides the UMB exhibit, he also has a semi-permanent exhibit at Kirkwood United Methodist Church on "Churches of Iceland" and "Roadside Tabernacles in Tuscany".

Ron considers himself a traditionalist - he does not manipulate or change his shots. He shoots with an old Canon EOS/T3 camera. Printing is done by Grafica in matte finish on heavy art paper.