

Artist Statement

Howard Lewis

A photographic artist whose practice explores science, engineering, technology and innovation. My intention is to create work that communicates the importance of the search for truth based on science and how the physical world looks and works. My images engage physics, mechanics and creative thinking that often evokes an innovation process such as in *Origami Folds*. Origami, the ancient art of Japanese paper folding, has a modern history of being used as a creative tool for engineering feats from rapidly unfolding automobile airbags to heart stents. The series is the foundation for exploration of the simplicity of paper folding to deep technology and mathematics.

I produce multiple series with smaller quantities such as 12 to 25 images over a short period of time. This allows me to investigate the multitude of topics that interest me. For example, the series *Building our Destruction* focused on still life and the carbon output of cement and steel manufacturing. This later led to the series *Fading Blue Marble*, the possible future scenarios of too much carbon in the atmosphere.

The intent of each project dictates whether I use film or digital, large format, a toy camera or anything in-between. Most of my life I've been shooting with only one "normal" lens. That's just how I see, not a self-imposed restriction. Black and white is my preferable choice for most photographs but there are exceptions: For the *Fading Blue Marble* series my choice was to apply a muted color palette.

When starting a new series, I seek external stimulus from reading and experimentation, organically combine disparate parts for intuitive moments that lead to a greater possibility of novel outcomes.

It is my hope that the viewer engages with the photographs for a greater appreciation of science and innovation as well as the way mechanical principals and physics underlies our everyday lives, both in the natural and man-made world.